

SW IC 105309801

### Letter to vessel owners the contractor was not able to contact by phone and who did not respond to an earlier mailing

Date

Dear <<pre><<pre>potential respondent's name>>,

We are writing to ask for your help in improving the understanding of the west-coast swordfish fisheries by participating in a voluntary study by NOAA's Southwest Fisheries Science Center (SWFSC). We have enclosed the survey in this mailing with a postage paid addressed envelope addressed to the study contractor, Doyle Hanan of Hanan&Associates, who will keep all data confidential. I hope that you will help in this study by taking the time to complete and return the survey.

The most recent data the SWFSC has on the costs and earnings of swordfish fishing businesses in California is from 2011. We are asking you to help provide the information needed to produce updated and accurate estimates of these fisheries' economic contributions to local communities and the West Coast. We will also use this information to estimate the impacts that changes in economic, environmental and management conditions have on these fisheries. The survey focuses on two primary types of information: (1) business costs and earnings, which we will use for assessing the economic contribution and financial performance of this fleet, and (2) *your* opinions about the economic state of swordfish fisheries.

Over the last several months, Doyle has tried to reach you to schedule a confidential telephone or video call interview. Please contact Doyle at (858) 832-1159 or by email at <a href="mailto:doylehanan@gmail.com">doylehanan@gmail.com</a> to indicate whether you prefer to provide the requested survey information during a phone or video interview or by mail.

Data collected with this survey will not be released for public use except in aggregate statistical form without identification as to its source. To protect the confidentiality of the information you provide, the information will be aggregated (averaged with at least two other businesses) in all reports to either resource managers or the public.

While your participation is voluntary, we hope you will help us in this effort to provide better economic information to understand and manage these important fisheries.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Stephen Stohs, PhD NOAA Fisheries, Southwest Fisheries Science Center Fisheries Resource Division, Economics Group 858-546-7084 (Stephen.stohs@noaa.gov)





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE Southwest Fisheries Science Center 8901 La Jolla Shores Drive La Jolla, CA 92037-1508

#### First mailing/intro letter with survey included

Date

Dear <<pre><<pre>potential respondent's name>>,

NOAA's Southwest Fisheries Science Center has contracted with Dr. Doyle Hanan to conduct an economic survey of vessel owners, pilots and processors participating in the swordfish fisheries. This survey is similar to one conducted a few years ago. We need the requested economic information to produce updated and accurate estimates of these fisheries' economic contributions to local communities and the West Coast, as well as to estimate the impacts changes in economic, environmental and management conditions have on these fisheries. The Pacific Fishery Management Council will use the estimates for these important fisheries to make informed management decisions based on the economic impacts on fishery participants and local communities. Doyle will call you in the next two weeks to set up a phone or video interview for the survey or to determine if you prefer to submit the information requested in the attached survey by mail. Please look for his call or call him at (858) 832-1159.

Thank you,

Stephen Stohs, PhD NOAA Fisheries, Southwest Fisheries Science Center Fisheries Resource Division, Economics Group 858-546-7084 (Stephen.Stohs@noaa.gov)



# Section 1: Vessel Information for Drift Gillnet, Harpoon, Longline or Deep Set Buoy Gear <u>Only</u>

1	Owner: Ope	rator:				
2	Captain:					
3	Vessel Name:					
4	Position of person filling out form:					
5	Contract captain used? 2018-2019	□ Yes □ No	2019-202	<b>20</b> □ Yes □ No		
	2018-2019	% of time:	2019-202	<b>20</b> % of time:		
6	Year current captain was born		19			
7	Captain: years fishing		y.	rs		
8	Captain: years operating current fishing vessel		y.	rs		
9	Year vessel purchased					
10	Purchase price	\$				
11	Estimated market value of vessel	\$				
12	Insured replacement value of vessel	\$				
13	Vessel purchase loan principle balance	\$				
14	Vessel loan payments	\$		yr/mo?		
15	Time remaining on this loan		Yrs	Mos		
16	Vessel depreciation and amortization	201	8-2019 \$	2019-2020 \$		
17	Capital Construction Fund (CCF) contributions	201	8-2019 \$	2019-2020 \$		
18	Total Insurance cost: (vessel, liability, and health co	ombined) <b>201</b>	2018-2019 \$ 2019-2020 \$			
19	Do you participate in a cooperative fishermen's p	ool?	□Yes □N	lo		
20	Electronics (Check all on vessel): $\Box$ INMARSA					
	□ Video plotter □ Autopilot □ Satellite navigation	□ Computer □	Depth sounder $\Box$ R	adar □ Sonar □ GPS		
21	☐ Doppler Radar ☐ Temperature sensor ☐ Weather for Total Electronics Cost		8-2019 \$	2019-2020 \$		
22			·	2019-2020 \$		
	Refrigeration: ☐ Brine Spray, ☐ Chiller, ☐ Blast I	reeze	uier			
a) b)	Year purchased	\$				
c)	Purchase price  Maintenance Costs	,	8-2019 <b>\$</b>	2010 2020 €		
23	Icemaker?		<b>8-2019 </b> \$ ∃Yes □ No	2019-2020 \$		
a)	Year purchased		165 110			
b)	Purchase price	\$				
24	Total crew per trip (exclude captain)		Crew:			
25	Fishing shares (percentage or actual cash)		2018-2019	2019-2020		
a)	Boat /Vessel		_% or \$	% or \$		
b)	Captain		_% or \$	% or \$		
c)	2 <sup>nd</sup> Captain			% or \$		
d)	Engineer		_% or \$	% or \$		
e)	Crew		_% or \$	% or \$		
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OMB Control Number: 0648-0773 Expiration Date: XX/XX/20XX

#### **Section 1: Continued**

		2018-2	<b>2019</b> ↓	2019	<b>-2020</b> ↓
26	Annual mooring or slip / berthing fees (if charged separately)	\$		\$	
27	Shipping costs	\$		\$	
28	Annual fuel and oil costs / amounts If Total:	\$	gal	\$	gal
a)	Fuel If Separate:	\$	gal	\$	gal
<b>b</b> )	Oil If Separate:	\$	gal	\$	gal
29	Annual food costs	\$		\$	
30	Engine replacement costs Year	\$		\$	
31	Annual total vessel repairs and maintenance	\$		\$	
a)	Does this include haul out fees?	□Yes	□No	□Yes	□No
b)	Haul out fee if charged	\$		\$	
32	Fishing association membership dues (Please circle month or year)	\$	Mo/Yr	\$	Mo/Yr
33	Total license fees (local, state, federal, combined)	\$		\$	
34	Total County or Landing, vessel and berthing fees	\$		\$	
35	Total business travel (car, airplane, train, other)	\$		\$	
36	Total vehicle expenses	\$		\$	
a)	Cost of new vehicle if purchased	\$		\$	
37	Off-vessel fish storage/refrigeration expenses	\$		\$	
38	Office expenses	\$		\$	
39	Total fishing trips per year this vessel (all types of commercial fishing)		trips		trips
40	Total days per trip on average		days		days
41	Total days fished per trip on average		days		days
42	Did you use a spotter plane?	□Yes	$\square$ No	□Yes	□No
43	For how many trips did you use a spotter plane?		trips		trips
44	Do you own the plane? (If yes please fill out Section 6)	□Yes	$\square$ No	□Yes	□No
45	If rental plane, what was the rental fee?	\$	per	\$	per
46	Who is responsible for paying for fuel and oil for the plane?				
a)	Total fuel cost (if known):	\$		\$	
b)	Total oil cost (if known):	\$		\$	
c)	Total if combined (if known):	\$		\$	
47	If pilot was paid a share or percentage of catch/gross/etc. please provide:	% 0	r \$	% c	or \$
48	If pilot was paid a flat-rate, please provide:	\$	per	\$	per
49	Do you share the cost of a spotter plane or pilot with others? □Yes□ No indicate your share as a percentage or dollar amount (please circle units)	% or per: Day		% coper: Day	or \$ //Mo/Yr
50	How did you decide to use the spotter plane? ☐ Weather ☐ Availability ☐ Spotter Ability ☐ Cost ☐ Increased catch (Check all that apply)	□ Other	•	□ Other	
51	Did increased catch justify the cost of using the plane?	□Yes	□No	□Yes	□No

Section 2: Questions for Drift Gillnet Fishery (DGN) Participants Only

#### **2018-2019** \( \perp \) **2019-2020** \( \perp \)

						.UIU + 2	ZU13-ZUZU ↓	
1	Total fishing trips per year this ves	ssel (DGN :	fishing)			trips	trips	
2	Total days per trip on average (DG	GN)				days	days	
3	Total days fished per trip on average	ge (DGN)				days	days	
4	Net configurations used during <b>20</b> ?	18-2019 an	nd 2019-2020	and Targeted	species:			
	In <b>2018-2019</b> net used for what fis	hery/specie	es (SWD, Sha	rk, Bluefin, Ye	ellowfin, othe	r) <b>List</b> '	Target Fish↓	
a)	Net 1: Length (ft/fm)	Depth	(ft/fm)	Mesh	(inches)			
<b>b</b> )	Net 2: Length (ft/fm)	Depth	(ft/fm)	Mesh	(inches)			
c)	Net 3: Length (ft/fm)	Depth	(ft/fm)	Mesh	(inches)			
	In <b>2019-2020</b> net used for what fis	hery/specie	es (SWD, Sha	rk, Bluefin, Yo	ellowfin, othe	r) <b>List</b> T	Γarget Fish↓	
d)	Net 1: Length (ft/fm)	Depth	(ft/fm)	Mesh	(inches)			
e)	Net 2: Length (ft/fm)	Depth	(ft/fm)	Mesh	(inches)			
f)	Net 3: Length (ft/fm)	Depth	(ft/fm)	Mesh	(inches)			
5	How much extra net (auxiliary or f	for repair) l	kept on vessel	? Length:			(ft/fm)	
6	Current drift net total initial cost				\$			
7	Current drift net year purchased				Year:	Year:		
a)	Current drift net remaining useful li	ife expectai	ncy				years	
b)	Current pingers brand and remaini	ng useful						
	life expectancy						years	
c)	Drift net annual equipment costs		2018-2019	\$	2019-202	0 \$		
d)	Drift net annual maintenance & re	pair cost	2018-2019	\$	2019-202	0 \$		
e)	Lost gear, depredation, other costs	, Please	2018-2019	\$	2019-202	0 \$		
	Specify:							
0	Tatal Catalog D		2010 2010	2010 201	2019-2020		2010 2020	
8	Total Catch & Revenue		<b>2018-2019</b> CATCH	<b>2018-201</b> 9			<b>2019-2020</b> Revenue	
	Drift Gillnet Fishery		(Specify Unit		(Specify U	nits)	REVENOE	
a)	Swordfish		(Specify Cilit	\$		\$	5	
b)	Shark			\$		\$		
c)	Tuna			\$		\$	5	
<u>d)</u>	Other (list)			\$		\$		

### Section 3: Questions for Harpoon Fishery Participants Only

				201	8-2019 ↓		<b>2019-20</b>	20 ↓
1	Total fishing trips per year this	vessel (HPN fishin	g)		trips			trips
2	Total days per trip on average		days			days		
3	Total days fished per trip on av	verage (HPN)			days			days
4	Why do you harpoon? (Check □ Recreational □ Tax write-of □ Other:	110/						tal
5	Percentage of your fishing inco	ome from harpoonin	g	2018-2019	%	2019-202	20	%
6	How many harpooning trips di	d you fish other gea	r?	2018	3-2019	2	019-2020	
a)	Troll				Trips			Trips
b)	Hook and Line				Trips			Trips
c)	Longline				Trips			Trips
d)	Pots			Trips			Trips	
e)	Other			Trips Tri				Trips
7	Total harpoon gear costs? (gun	, retrofitting, plank,		\$		\$		
	floats, line, and other		_)_					
8	Other fishing costs, Please Spe	city:		\$		\$		
9	Total Catch & Revenue	2018-2019		2018-2019	2019-2020	0	2019-202	20
	Harpoon Fishery	CATCH Specify	]	REVENUE	CATCH Spe	cify	REVENU	JE
		Units			Units	41-1		
a)	Swordfish	(#, lbs, or both)	\$		(#, lbs, or bo	\$		
b)	Shark		\$			\$		
c)	Tuna (Specify)		\$			\$		
d)	Other (please list):		\$			\$		
,								

### **Section 4: Questions for Longline Participants Only**

				201	8-2019	<b>↓</b>	20	19-2020 ↓
1	Total fishing trips per year this	vessel (LL fishing	)	trips				trips
2	Total days per trip on average	(LL)		days				days
3	Total days fished per trip on av	verage (LL)			d	ays		days
4	Longline gear purchase price					\$		
a)	Year purchased							
<b>b</b> )	Expected longevity							Yrs
c)	Longline length							Miles
5	Annual longline operating cost	:S	Τ	otal if co	mbined:	\$		
a)	Gangion/branch lines			If	separate:	\$		
<b>b</b> )	Hooks			If	separate:	\$		
c)	Bait			If	separate:	\$		
d)	Trans-shipment costs			If	separate:	\$		
6	Total Catch & Revenue	2018-2019	2018-2		2019-2			2019-2020
	Longline Fishery	CATCH (Specify	REVE	NUE	CATCH (		]	REVENUE
2)	Swordfish	Units)	\$		Uni	is)	ď	
a)							\$	
b)	Shark		\$				\$	
c)	Tuna		-				\$	
d)	Other (list)		\$				\$	

# Section 5: Questions for Deep Set Buoy Gear Participants Only 2018-2019 $\downarrow$ 2019-2020 $\downarrow$

1	Total fishing trips per year this	wossel (DSBC fich	ina)		trips		tring
	0 1 1 0	•			trips		
2	Total days per trip on average		days		days		
3	Total days fished per trip on av	rerage (DSBG)			days		days
4	Buoy Gear purchase price					\$	
a)	Year purchased						
b)	Expected longevity						Yrs
c)	Main Line length						Miles
5	Annual buoy gear operating co	sts		Total i	f combined:	\$	
a)	Gangion/branch lines				If separate:		
b)	Hooks				If separate:	\$	
c)	Bait				If separate:	\$	
d)	Trans-shipment costs				If separate:	\$	
6	Total Catch & Revenue	2018-2019		018-2019	2019-202		2019-2020
	Longline Fishery	CATCH (Specify	R	EVENUE	CATCH (Sp	ecify	REVENUE
		Units)			Units)		
a)	Swordfish		\$				\$
b)	Shark		\$				\$
c)	Tuna		\$				\$
d)	Other (list)		\$				\$

### Section 6: Questions for Spotter Plane Pilot or Owner Only

1	Owner:		Operator	1:			
2	Year pilot was born						_
3	Years as a spotter pilot				yrs		
4	Type of airplane						
5	Year built						
6	Year purchased						
7	Purchase price					\$	
8	Estimated replacement value of airplan	ne				\$	
9	Insured replacement value of airplane					\$	
10	Airplane purchase loan principle balan	ıce				\$	
11	Airplane loan payments					\$	per
12	Time remaining on this loan						yrs mos
13	Airplane depreciation and amortization					\$	
14	Electronics (Check all on airplane): $\Box$			ılar phone 🗆 🛚	VHF radio	□ CB R	Radio □ SSB
	Radio □ Computer □ Radar □ GPS		Other:				
15	Total Electronics Cost						
16	Total Insurance cost: (vessel, liability,			2018-2019			2020 \$
	Total Annual Cost (book keeping and	tax <sub>I</sub>	oreparation)	2018-2019	-	2019-2	2020 \$
17	Engine(s) horse power				hp		hp
18	Fuel consumption				gal/hr		gal/hr
19	Annual Operating Costs:						
a)	Number of gallons of fuel and				gal.		gal.
<b>b</b> )	Total fuel and oil costs while fi	ishin	g (combined)	2018-2019			2020 \$
c)	Maintenance				2018-2019 \$		2020 \$
d)	Parts (tires, brakes, engine, etc.	.)			2018-2019 \$		2020 \$
f)	Transit of the plane to/from fis	hing	grounds	2018-2019 \$		2019-2020 \$	
g)	Equipment (GPS, binoculars, s	oftw	are, etc.)	2018-2019	\$	2019-2	2020 \$
20	Total Flight Days and Hrs Spotting:		2018-201	9	!	2019-20	020
a)	Swordfish	Day	ys Ave H	rs/day	Days	Ave	Hrs/day
b)	Shark	Day	ys Ave H	rs/day	Days	Ave	Hrs/day
c)	Tuna	Day	ys Ave H	rs/day	Days	Ave	Hrs/day
d)	Small Pelagics (Anch/Sard/Mac)	Day	,		Days		Hrs/day
e)	Other	Day			Days		Hrs/day
21	Total Catch & Revenue Spotter Plane		2018-2019	2018-2019	2019-20		2019-2020
			CATCH (Specify Units)	Spotter Plane Revenue	CATCH (S Units		Spotter Plane Revenue
a)	Swordfish	+	Onits)	\$	Offics	)	\$
b)	Shark	+		\$			\$
c)	Tuna			\$			\$
d)	Small Pelagics			\$			\$
e)	Other:			Ψ			Ψ
	Explain:						
	пурані.						

### Section 7: Questions for Processor Participants Only

1	Owner:		
2	Operator:		
3	Business Name:		
4	Position of person filling out form:		
5	Corporation Type:		
6	Year incorporated:		
7	Year purchased:		
8	Purchase price: \$		
		2018-2019	2019-2020
9	Annual accountant fees	\$	\$
10	Annual Rent, Lease, or Mortgage costs (circle which applies)	\$	\$
11	Outstanding loan amounts	\$	\$
12	Total annual labor costs	\$	\$
13	Building & equipment maintenance	\$	\$
14	Insurance costs:		
a)	FDIC	\$	\$
<b>b</b> )	Workers comp	\$	\$
c)	Health insurance costs	\$	\$
d)	Longshore & Harbor workers	\$	\$
e)	Pension funding	\$	\$
15	Harbor fees	\$	\$
16	Telephone costs	\$	\$
17	Vehicle costs		
a)	Maintenance (non-vehicular)	\$	\$
b)	Insurance	\$	\$
c)	Fuel	\$	\$
d)	New purchases	\$	\$
18	Maintenance costs	\$	\$
19	Total swordfish purchased (please specify number or weight)		
20	Total cost swordfish purchased	\$	\$

### Section 8: Questions for Former Swordfish Participant/Operator Only

1	Name owner/operator:		
2	Were you the Captain	□ Yes □ No	
3	Vessel Name	·	
4	Position person filling out form		
5	Last year fished		
6	Year captain was born	19	
7	Captain: years fishing	у	rs
8	Captain: years operating fishing vessel		rs
9		yes, which fishery(s)	
10	Why did you leave the Swordfish fishery (please briefly describe)?		
	Economics? □Yes □No		
	Degulations? Was Ma		
	Regulations? □Yes □No		
	Other? □Yes □No		

# Section 9: Additional West Coast Swordfish Fishery Survey <u>Questions for All Participants</u>

1.	How have you participated in the swordfish fishery either up to the present or in the past? Check all that apply.
	□ Longline fisherman
	□ Drift gillnet fisherman
	□ Harpoon fisherman
	□ Spotter pilot
	□ Processor plant manager or equivalent
	□ Skipper
	□ Vessel owner
	□ Other
2	From your perspective, what impact has regulation of the west coast swordfish fishery had on the fishery in which
۷.	you participate? (Please be specific regarding regulations and their impacts.)
	you participate: (Flease be specific regarding regulations and their impacts.)
3	What gears should be authorized for use to target swordfish off the West Coast?
<b>J.</b>	□ Longline
	□ Drift gillnet
	□ Harpoon
	•
	□ Buoy □ Other
	□ Other

### **Section 9: Continued**

4.	Are hard caps for marine mammal and sea turtle species an effective by catch management tool? $\square \ No$
	In a few words, please explain why you answered "Yes" or "No"
5.	Did you know the PFMC is soliciting applications for, and has issued Exempted Fishing Permits to target swordfish using deep-set buoy gear in California over the last few years?
6.	Do you have any interest in applying for an Exempted Fishing Permit to target swordfish using deep-set buoy gear? $\Box$ Yes $\Box$ No
	In a few words, please explain why you answered "Yes" or "No"

#### **Section 9: Continued**

7.	Should the level of commercial swordfish fishing activity on the West Coast of the U.S. change?  ☐ Yes, commercial swordfish fishing activity on the U.S. West Coast should increase.  ☐ No, commercial swordfish fishing on the U.S. West Coast should stay the same or decrease.
	In a few words, please explain why you answered "Yes" or "No"
8.	Are you concerned that changing environmental conditions (weather, local target or protected species abundance, etc.) will affect the operation of the West Coast Swordfish Fishery or the related fishing community?  ☐ Yes, environmental change will affect the operation of the West Coast Swordfish Fishery.  ☐ No, environmental change will have no effect.
	If yes, in a few words, what are some impacts that you expect?

#### **Section 9: Continued**

9.	If the Pacific Fishery Management Council amended the Highly Migratory Species Fishery Management Plan to authorize shallow or deep-set longline fishing within the West Coast Exclusive Economic Zone to target swordfish, would you potentially be interested in participating?
	☐ Yes, I would potentially be interested to participate in a West Coast Shallow-set Longline Swordfish Fishery.
	$\square$ No, I would not be interested to participate.
	Explain in a few words why or why not.
	The next group of questions are intended to help capture the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic response on fisheries.
10.	How have you changed your fishing activities due to COVID-19?
11.	What are the main reasons you made those changes?
12	By how much did your total annual fishing costs change in 202X-202X due to COVID-19? \$00
13	By how much did your total annual fishing revenue change in 202X-202X due to COVID-19? \$00

The Southwest Fisheries Science Center (SWFSC) is collecting this economic information to improve its ability to conduct the analyses required by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) and other applicable law. The SWFSC and the Pacific Fishery Management Council will use this information to monitor, explain and predict changes in the economic performance and impacts of the West Coast Swordfish Fishery. Among other things, this will enable fisheries managers and the public to more fully consider the economic effects of proposed and existing regulations for this important fishery.

A Federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, nor shall a person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with an information collection subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 unless the information collection has a currently valid OMB Control Number. The approved OMB Control Number for this information collection is 0648-0773 and its expiration data is XX/XX/20XX. Without this approval, we could not conduct this information collection. Public reporting for this information collection is estimated to be approximately 30 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the information collection. All responses to this information collection are voluntary Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other suggestions for reducing this burden to Dr. Stephen Stohs, NMFS SWFSC, 8901 La Jolla Shores Drive, La Jolla, CA 92037-1508, Stephen.Stohs@noaa.gov.

We appreciate the confidential nature of the data being collected by this survey. The SWFSC will handle individual survey data as confidential business information and a form of protected personal information and will maintain the confidentiality of the information consistent with legal authorities available to it, including but not limited to the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. Section 552a) and the Trade Secrets Act (18 U.S.C. Section 1905). The SWFSC will protect individual survey data from public disclosure to the extent permitted by law and it has instituted procedures to provide that protection.