

Exemptions from TRP regulations

False Killer Whale Take Reduction Plan regulations apply to **“vessel owners and operators, and vessels registered for use with Hawaii longline limited access permits”** (50 CFR 229.37(a)).

- Should exemptions from TRP regulations be available for research associated with Hawaii longline fishing?
 - How is “research” defined?
 - What types of research would be considered?
 - False killer whale bycatch and/or depredation reduction research
 - Other protected species bycatch and/or depredation reduction research
 - Other
- Should exemptions from TRP regulations be available for any other reason? (e.g., longline fishing associated with a Community Development Plan)
- Should exemptions be available from any/all TRP regulations, or only from particular requirements (e.g., allow exemptions from gear requirements but not area closures)?
 - Should there be specific additional criteria for exemptions from the SEZ trigger? (e.g., research objectives must directly support TRP goals or must be identified in the Draft TRP as a priority project)
- What would an exemption process look like?
 - Proposal submission requirements, timeline, approvals, monitoring/reporting, etc.