GROUNDFISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON
SHORE-BASED WHITING MONITORING PROGRAM

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) heard a presentation from Ms. Yvonne deReynier on
the suite of alternatives for the shoreside monitoring program. She further noted the NMFS
preferred alternative (Option 4B).

The GAP appreciates the importance of catch reporting information and biological data
collection for the whiting fishery. Having said that, the GAP recommends that the Council select
Alternative 4 as the preferred alternative with the following adjustments:

Monitoring Shoreside Processors:

1. Utilize shoreside catch monitors, trained by NMFS to NMFS certification, who are
   responsible for ALL shoreside observation, species composition, fish ticket verification,
   and biological sampling instead of the combination of three different individuals
currently outlined in Alternative 4.
2. The initial shoreside level of sampling for the catch monitors defined in number 1 above
   will be determined based on using the current level of program funding available for
   shoreside observation. Evaluation of this level of sampling will be conducted using the
data collected through the program.

Requiring several different individuals to collect various amounts and types of information is
duplicative and potentially cost prohibitive. If the industry is responsible for funding the
shoreside processor monitoring program – then the system should be streamlined to collect
the optimum amounts and types of information in the most cost-effective manner.

Fish Overages:

1. Overages will be reported on fish tickets and abandoned to the state. Prohibited species
   will be donated. State enforcement will track compliance (status quo).

While exploring a plan for a donation program for overage fish is admirable (and has been
considered on several occasions in the past), the GAP believes that incorporating this possibility
into Amendment 10 could delay the implementation of this important amendment.