

GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON NATIONAL SYSTEM
OF MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) has reviewed this agenda item and has the following comments and concerns:

1. We do not know what benefits would be derived from a Federal Marine Protected Area (MPA) registry.
2. National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has sole authority over fishery management within MPAs. NMFS can create, alter, or remove these MPAs without outside consultation. We would like that authority to remain.

The GAP feels that until all jurisdictional authority questions, including the issues listed above, are resolved there is no need to supply a list of sites for nomination to the Federal MPA registry.

PFMC
09/13/09