The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) considered proposed changes submitted by Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) to the Pacific halibut catch sharing plan and the present regulations of the halibut fishery in IPHC area 2A. A presentation was given to GAP members by representatives from WDFW and ODFW.

GAP Recommendations:

The GAP supports all of the requested changes in the WDFW Report and ODFW Report contained within agenda item H.1.b.

If the 40 fathom proposal by ODFW is shortened to Oregon waters only, the GAP feels that this is a viable option. It is the understanding of some GAP members that the majority of landings inside 40 fathoms in Oregon would be made in Oregon ports located within management areas where an inside 40 fathom fishery is in place. There is only one Washington port (Ilwaco) where a conflict could occur and may in fact be minimal. This would not be a conflict during all-depth seasons.

PFMC
09/15/09