

GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON
SCOPING OF TRAWL SECTOR QUOTA POUNDS TRADING

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) received a presentation from Mr. Brett Wiedoff on scoping trawl sector quota pound trading, and offers the following comments:

The GAP supports identifying solutions to alleviate the severely constraining nature of Pacific ocean perch (POP) and Darkblotched Rockfish in the at-sea sectors, and to improve attainment rates of target species across all sectors. Therefore, the GAP agrees that the current purpose and need statement is sufficient, but notes that the purpose and need could be further refined as the process moves forward.

The GAP notes that this agenda item is affected by other on-going Council items:

- 1) Amendment 21 At-Sea Sector Set-Asides (final action September 2016)
- 2) 5-Year Catch Share Program and Intersector Allocation Review Update (potential for Regional Operating Agreement [ROA] Nov 2017 and Final Preferred Alternative [FPA] April 2018)
- 3) POP Rockfish Stock Assessment (Stock Assessment Review [STAR] Panel July 2017)
- 4) Multi-year Average Catch Policy (FPA potentially November 2018)

The GAP recommends balancing the need to expedite solutions to at-sea constraints and improving attainment rates across sectors with the logical step of coordinating solutions in conjunction with the four other items listed above. Therefore, detailed scoping and range of alternatives are not necessary at this time, and the proposed Council process timeline on this item beginning in June 2017 aligns relatively well with the timing of the related four items.

PFMC
09/16/16