

Moved by: Michele Culver/Richard Lincoln

I move that at their October meeting, the GEMs review the supplemental EC Report and discuss specifically the 2 recommendations of:

1. A “phased in approach” starting with midwater trawl and FG in the 1st phase; bottom trawl as a separate phase; and
2. A data logger system (e logbook) as a component of the EM program.

Also, for the GEMs to discuss:

1. How maximized retention could be feasible (i.e., provide specific alternatives for what could be discarded); and
2. With regard to allowing safety discards to explore limiting tow times to reduce the necessity of safety discards.

And, request the NWFSC to provide a report on how the WCGOP program may move forward with an EM program in place for midwater trawl, fixed gear, and potentially bottom trawl at the November meeting. Specific questions for the WCGOP are:

1. What level of coverage would be needed to meet biological sampling goals, particularly for rare species, such as yelloweye rockfish?
2. What level of coverage would be needed to assess halibut size and viability?

Motion carried unanimously.