

GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) heard a presentation from Ms. Jennifer Gilden about the Legislative Committee's actions, the status of the Magnuson-Stevens Act (MSA) reauthorization and other legislative issues.

The GAP agrees with the Legislative Committee's selection of issues for prioritization as referenced in [Agenda Item I.2.a, Supplemental Revised Attachment 2](#). These are summarized as:

- #1/15: Revise the rebuilding time requirements and addressing social and economic issues by changing "possible" to "practicable";
- #2: Stocks later determined to have never been overfished should not be held to rebuilding provisions;
- #5: Include a carryover exception to ACLs;
- #6: Explore more flexibility for data-poor stocks;
- #16: Streamlining the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and MSA section 204(i); and
- #17: Provide flexibility in requirements for observers.

The GAP also requests the Council add one more item to the list:

- #3, Include a viable mixed-stock exception. Though there is a vague reference to this in the National Standard 1 guidelines, the statute is not explicit in allowing an exception. The GAP suggests that if it is referenced and available to use, a clear allowance should be included in the MSA.