

## FUTURE GROUND FISH MANAGEMENT PROCESS AND SCHEDULE

Situation: In response to apparent problems in the Council's annual process for managing groundfish fisheries, a committee was appointed to "... evaluate the adequacy of the existing groundfish management process and schedule, and develop recommendations to improve the process." The Groundfish Management Process Committee (GMPC) met January 11-12, 2001 and February 14, 2001. The results of these meetings will be reported to the Council for discussion. At the Council's discretion, options may be put forward for public and Council advisory body review. These options would be considered for action at the April 2001 Council meeting.

### **Council Action:**

1. **Consider directing review of the GMPC options by Council advisory bodies for use in further considerations at the April meeting.**

### Reference Materials:

1. Exhibit D.3.b, GMPC Summary Minutes.
2. Exhibit D.3.b, Supplemental GMPC Report.

### **Groundfish Fishery Strategic Plan Consistency Analysis**

The Plan includes , as part of a problem statement in Section II.C. ***Council Process and Effective Public Involvement***, the sentence "the fundamental trust and credibility relationship between industry, the public, and management is strained and the process is not serving its intended purpose." Directing advisory bodies to review GMPC options for an altered process would be consistent with the goals in Section II.B. in the Plan.