

GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL STATEMENT ON
BYCATCH FULL RETENTION OPTIONS

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) met with the Groundfish Management Team (GMT) to review the GMT's proposal for full retention options for rockfish.

The GAP generally supports the concept of full retention, but notes there are many details that need to be worked out before any such proposal is made final. The GAP recommends a committee comprising appropriate members of the GAP and GMT be established to develop the proposal before the Council takes any final action.

Further, the GAP notes the Council has already approved establishment of a voluntary full retention program for all groundfish, which has not been acted upon by NMFS. The GAP recommends this program be unearthed from the Northwest Region office and reviewed before embarking on a new effort at full retention.

PFMC
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