

GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL COMMENTS ON
FULL RETENTION MEASURES

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) met with the Groundfish Management Team (GMT) to discuss full retention measures for rockfish.

The GAP agrees with the GMT that mechanisms for mandating full retention of rockfish species need to be explored. The GAP specifically endorses the GMT recommendation that a sub-group consisting of GMT, GAP, and Enforcement Consultant representatives be charged with analyzing past efforts and suggesting options for future Council action. This would include consideration of industry and enforcement impacts as well as presumed benefits for rockfish management. In order to reduce costs, the GAP believes the sub-group meetings should be held in conjunction with Council meetings or regularly scheduled GMT meetings.

When considering full retention, the GAP urges that procedures be investigated which would allow funds received from rockfish overages to be dedicated to scientific research on rockfish. The GAP notes this same recommendation was made as part of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Retention of Overages which submitted a report to the Council over a year ago.

PFMC
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