

ENFORCEMENT CONSULTANTS REPORT ON
FINAL ACTION ON GROUND FISH INSEASON MANAGEMENT

The Enforcement Consultants (EC) reviewed the Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) and GMT statements related to inseason adjustments. The EC requests clarification of how management measures relate to B Platoon vessels. In the case of B Platoon vessels, we understand that trip limits lag by two weeks; however, confusion exists relative to how other management measures should be applied. One example is a restriction based on fishing depth. We raised this issue with the GAP, and they requested status quo until 2004.

The issue for the EC is that we would have to maintain two sets of lines for two weeks. Where these vessels may have incurred benefits when a fishing area was further restricted, under the 200 fathom curve scenario, they would actually lose opportunity.

The EC also understands that a change in depth regulation could occur mid-period, further confusing the situation.

PFMC
04/10/03