

GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL STATEMENT ON
FINAL ADOPTION OF FMP AMENDMENT 16-1 AND AMENDMENT 16-2

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) reviewed the alternatives identified for fishery management plan (FMP) Amendments 16-1 and 16-2 and offers the following comments.

For FMP Amendment 16-1, under issue 1, the GAP recommends the Council adopt Option 1d, which would numerically specify T_{TARGET} and the harvest control rule in regulations. The GAP has consistently advocated that the Council leave itself as much flexibility as possible under the law and believes this option provides the most flexibility among the options presented.

For FMP Amendment 16-2, the majority of the GAP recommends adopting alternatives which correspond to the use of $P_{MAX} = 60\%$. This is consistent with the advice the GAP has provided to the Council when reviewing rebuilding plans. Referring to the chart found on page 2-3 of Exhibit B.13, Attachment 2, this corresponds to the "Other Intermediate Alternatives" for darkblotched rockfish and Pacific ocean perch; and the "Council Interim Alternative" for canary rockfish and lingcod.

A minority of the GAP recommends adopting alternatives corresponding to $P_{MAX} = 80\%$ since these alternatives are more precautionary, and thus, more appropriate for rebuilding species.

PFMC
06/17/03