

GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL STATEMENT ON
GROUND FISH BYCATCH PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) received reports from Mr. Jim Glock and Mr. Marcus Hartley regarding development of the bycatch Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The GAP applauds both Mr. Glock and Mr. Hartley for the amount of effort they have put into preparing the document.

The GAP believes the EIS is complete enough to go forward for further public review in order to meet the legal time frame. The GAP encourages the Council, when considering the alternatives developed in the document, to ensure the capability exists to mix and match portions of the alternatives. Our fishery is changing rapidly, and additional management measures, which could lead to reduced bycatch, are being developed. The Council needs to have the flexibility to respond to changes in the fishery as they occur.

PFMC
11/06/03