

GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL STATEMENT ON  
GROUND FISH FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN AMENDMENT 16-3:  
REBUILDING PLANS FOR  
BOCACCIO, COWCOD, AND WIDOW AND YELLOWEYE ROCKFISH

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) reviewed the range of alternatives identified for fishery management plan Amendment 16-3 and provides the following comments.

In regard to the range of rebuilding alternatives which need to be analyzed, the GAP agrees that for bocaccio rockfish, yelloweye rockfish, and widow rockfish only those alternatives in the range of  $P_{60\%}$  to  $P_{90\%}$  need be analyzed, as lower and higher rebuilding probabilities are unlikely to be adopted. This is consistent with GAP rebuilding recommendations for other species. In the case of cowcod, the GAP recommends that an additional alternative -  $P_{55\%}$ , the Council Interim - also be analyzed, due to lack of data on other alternatives.

In regard to mixed stock analysis, the majority of the GAP believes such an analysis is appropriate for yelloweye rockfish, bocaccio rockfish, and widow rockfish. All three of these species are harvested in close association with other species, and restrictions on their harvest have seriously curtailed the ability to achieve optimum yield for other more abundant species.

A minority of the GAP believes that a mixed stock exception is inappropriate, and precaution demands we maintain necessary harvest restrictions on these species in order to rebuild them.

PFMC  
11/06/03