

**GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL STATEMENT
IN MEMORY OF RANDY FRY**

Mr. Chairman, last month the Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) lost a conscientious member, a respected colleague, and for some of us, a good friend.

Randy Fry had not served on the GAP for long, but for the short time he was with us he consistently demonstrated not only his ability to ably represent the recreational fishermen of California, but also willingness to work with all representatives of all fisheries sectors in achieving a well-managed fishery that would provide a livelihood to thousands of coastal residents.

To put it less formally, Randy was one of us. He fought with us against the frustrations of a cumbersome management system weighed down by unreasonable laws. He sat in the bar and drank with us as we all tried to make our system work. He stood up and volunteered to broker the compromises necessary to keep our system going. He was somebody we could all count on to watch our backs.

All of us have had friends, perhaps family, lost at sea. There is no easy way to deal with it, so we mourn and then try to move on. But we always take the time to remember those who may be with us in spirit, even when they are no longer with us personally. The GAP will not forget Randy Fry.

PFMC
09/14/04