

GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL STATEMENT ON  
MID-TERM OPTIMUM YIELD ADJUSTMENTS POLICY

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) reviewed the information provided on a mid-term optimum yield (OY) adjustment policy, including the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Groundfish Information Policy Committee (GIPC).

The majority of the GAP agreed with the recommendations of the GIPC that mid-term adjustments not be made, unless the ability to meet rebuilding targets is jeopardized. While concerns were expressed about potential exposure to lawsuits, the GAP believes that scientific information - not fear of litigation - should be the guiding factor in determining appropriate OY levels.

A minority of the GAP argued that if science shows an increase or decrease is warranted, that change should be made at the first available opportunity. They suggested the standard of using the best scientific information available mandates such changes.

PFMC  
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