

GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL STATEMENT ON  
REBUILDING PLAN REVISION RULES

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) reviewed the information provided on rebuilding plan revision rules and makes the following comments.

The GAP examined how to address the four possible cases listed on pages 2 and 3 of Agenda Item C.6.a, Attachment 2. We appreciate the technical assistance provided by Dr. John Field and Ms. Yvonne de Reynier of NMFS in stepping through this exercise. The GAP suggests the following options:

1. If the probability of rebuilding is more than 7.5% above the probability assumed under the existing rebuilding schedule, then the Council should revise the rebuilding harvest rate, so the excess can be applied to total catch.
2. If the probability of rebuilding is no more than 7.5% below the probability assumed under the existing rebuilding schedule, then the existing schedule should be retained.
3. If the probability of rebuilding is more than 7.5% below the probability assumed under the existing rebuilding schedule, or the rebuilding probability falls below 50%, then the Council will take appropriate action to change the rebuilding rate or modify the rebuilding plan.
4. If we cannot rebuild even at zero fishing, then we need to completely investigate the failure and determine whether necessary changes should be applied to other rebuilding plans to avoid similar failures.

The GAP chose the 7.5% tolerance figure because it is in between the standard probability for rebuilding advocated by the GAP (P=60%) and the minimum allowed under law (P=50%).

PFMC  
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