

GROUND FISH MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON
LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) has not had sufficient time to comprehensively evaluate the proposed whiting bill. However, in preliminary discussions, numerous concerns have been voiced by GMT members. The GMT and other Council advisors have devoted considerable time and effort to developing a comprehensive Trawl IQ program, and the GMT questions whether the Council's goals and objectives for a Trawl IQ program would be met by a separate program crafted outside the Council process. The GMT is also concerned about the process that would be required for modifying a legislatively mandated program in order to address inevitable post-implementation operational problems.

If the Council wishes to have the GMT provide additional specific feedback, this can be accomplished by the November Council meeting.

PFMC
09/22/05