

**GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON INCIDENTAL CATCH
REGULATIONS FOR THE SALMON TROLL AND FIXED GEAR SABLEFISH FISHERIES**

Salmon Troll

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) is recommending status quo catch/retention of halibut in the salmon troll fishery (Option 1). Public testimony reported that trollers are not currently discarding halibut unless they are undersized. So it was unclear to the GAP how the additional halibut would be encountered and whether fishing behavior would change, especially with reduced salmon opportunities. The GAP is also concerned that there is not bycatch information to inform our decision. While GAP members feel the plight of salmon fishermen, we would require a finding of no increased yelloweye impacts in order to reexamine this issue.

Sablefish Fishery

The GAP is recommending status quo catch / retention of halibut in the sablefish fishery (Option 1).