

GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN
AMENDMENT 22: OPEN ACCESS LICENSE LIMITATION

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) heard a presentation from Mr. LB Boydston on the preliminary draft Environmental Assessment for Amendment 22, Open Access License Limitation.

The GAP concurs with the Groundfish Allocation Committee (GAC) recommendation to delay final action on this agenda item until the March 2009 Council meeting.

A majority of the GAP (two abstentions) recommends the Council identify a preliminary preferred range of alternatives to be further analyzed between now and the March 2009 Council meeting. The GAP recommends the range go from a registration program (A-2) to a limited access program with a capacity goal of 580 vessels.

The GAP would like to see analysis of an alternative which separates sablefish from the remaining B species and includes a sablefish endorsement. Additional analysis on a length endorsement and transferability options should be considered.

Lastly, more attention and detail should be given to the analysis of coastal community impacts which include the effects of the proposed alternatives as well as the effects of other ongoing fishery management measures and restrictions.

PFMC
9/10/08