

GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON
FINAL CONSIDERATION OF INSEASON ADJUSTMENTS

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) reviewed the Groundfish Management Team's (GMT) inseason adjustment recommendations and generally agrees with the GMT. The GAP is concerned about the outlook for petrale sole and the precautionary inseason adjustments considered to keep the stock above an overfished threshold in 2011. While these inseason adjustments are disruptive to the limited entry trawl fishery, the GAP agrees the threat of driving the stock to an overfished condition could be more disruptive for a longer period of time. The GAP acknowledges that the petrale sole assessment is still not final and potential inseason adjustments for period 6 this year and for the entire fishing season in 2010 will be revisited in September. However, period 5 inseason adjustments need to be considered at this meeting. The GAP simply wants to point out that lower cumulative landing limits in period 5 this year that would accommodate incidental bycatch could be considered to allow more flexibility for deciding period 6 in 2009 and 2010 management measures.

PFMC
06/16/09