

GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON FINAL ACTION TO IMPLEMENT  
2016 PACIFIC WHITING FISHERY UNDER THE  
U.S.-CANADA PACIFIC WHITING AGREEMENT

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) was briefed about the 2016 Total Allowable Catch (TAC) determination by the U.S./Canada Whiting Agreement Joint Management Committee (JMC). The JMC process addressed issues relevant to setting the 2016 TAC and reached a consensus recommendation, which was forwarded to the Parties for implementation (Agenda Item F.2.a, Supplemental JMC Report). The GAP is pleased that once again the JMC provided a consensus recommendation.

Council action is required to establish a set-aside amount for incidental catches of whiting in non-whiting fisheries and catches in research surveys. The GAP recommends 1,500 metric tons be established as the 2016 set-aside to accommodate research and incidental catch. From data provided to the GAP (Agenda Item F.2, Attachment 2: Table 1. Estimates of Pacific whiting mortality from 2007-2014 for Research and the Pink Shrimp Fishery), this amount is sufficient to cover research and incidental catches.

PFMC  
04/10/16