

GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON  
AMENDMENT 21 AT-SEA SECTOR SET-ASIDES FINAL ACTION

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) received a presentation from Ms. Jessi Doerpinghaus that summarizes the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's (WDFW) impact analysis for this proposed action ([Agenda Item F.7.a, WDFW Report](#)). The GAP is extremely appreciative of WDFW stepping up and making their staff available to conduct the analysis. After reviewing the impact analysis the GAP believes the analysis is complete and provides the Council with useful information to adopt a Final Preferred Alternative (FPA) for this issue at this time.

The GAP requests the Council adopt as its FPA Alternative 1, which establishes darkblotched and Pacific ocean perch (POP) rockfish as set-asides for the at-sea sectors. This is consistent with our April 2016 and June 2016 reports to the Council on this issue.

The GAP appreciates the risk-type framework of the analysis, as it provides the Council with useful information of the risk of the at-sea sectors exceeding the harvest specifications of POP and darkblotched if these two species are established as set-asides. The analysis also provides information on risk of the at-sea sectors of not achieving harvest of their annual whiting allocations for the two alternatives. The impact analysis shows the risk of the at-sea whiting sectors causing the annual catch limits (ACLs) of POP and darkblotched rockfish to be exceeded is extremely low and alleviates the severely constraining nature of insufficient amounts of POP and darkblotched rockfish in the at-sea sectors. The GAP believes the benefit of this action of minimizing the risk of forgone whiting harvest by the at-sea whiting sectors far outweighs the extremely minimal risk of exceeding their harvest specifications of POP and darkblotched rockfish.

PFMC  
09/17/16