GROUNDFISH MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON MEMBERSHIP APPOINTMENTS AND COUNCIL OPERATING PROCEDURE

The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) has a vacant seat, which is normally filled by the National Marine Fisheries Science Center (NMFS) Southwest Fisheries Science Center (SWFSC). The GMT is cognizant of staff shortages and hiring freezes within NMFS and that many science center staff are heavily involved in this year's stock assessments. That being said, the GMT benefits from having science center representatives, with varying expertise (stock assessment, socioeconomics, etc.), especially as we are preparing to start work on the 2019-2020 biennial harvest specifications and management measures process.

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