## GROUNDFISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON STOCK ASSESSMENT METHODOLGY REVIEW

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) was briefed by Mr. John DeVore on stock assessment methodology review. The GAP offers the following comment.

The GAP supports moving forward with a methodology review of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) fishery-independent visual survey methodology for nearshore groundfish species (Agenda Item E.3.a, Supplemental ODFW Report 1, September 2017. The goal of the review would be to determine whether results produced using the visual survey could be incorporated into future stock assessment models to better inform current biomass, density, and spatial distribution of nearshore species. The GAP appreciates the work of ODFW to develop and use innovative research methods to improve the science. In general, the GAP believes it is important that fishery-independent surveys be developed, particularly in areas where habitat limits the use of trawl sampling gear, and that this research should be done to inform future stock assessments.

PFMC 09/13/17