

GROUNDFISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT  
CONSULTATION ON EULACHON

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) received a presentation from Mr. Kevin Duffy (National Marine Fisheries Service [NMFS] West Coast Region) and reviewed the relevant Briefing Book materials. The GAP also reviewed the supplemental Groundfish Management Team (GMT) report for this agenda item ([Agenda Item I.3.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1, September 2018](#)).

The GAP agrees with the GMT that the new approach for calculating, tracking, and responding to eulachon interactions with the groundfish fishery, particularly the use of abundance-based thresholds, is an improvement from the prior Biological Opinion (BiOp). The GAP appreciates that, in developing the new BiOp, NMFS has been responsive to previous input from the GAP, GMT, and fishery stakeholders. The GAP supports the work to date on the reinitiated Section 7 consultation for eulachon; the process appears to be on track and moving in the right direction. Timely completion of this BiOp should facilitate implementation of groundfish rulemakings in the regulatory pipeline.

PFMC  
09/09/18