

GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON
PHASED IN APPROACHES TO CHANGING CATCH LIMITS - SCOPING

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) received an overview of this item from Mr. John DeVore, Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) groundfish staff officer, and Aja Szumylo, with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Groundfish & Coastal Pelagic Species Branch, and reviewed the documents under this agenda item.

The GAP appreciates the work that both NMFS and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife put into this issue. Referring to both the [NMFS Report 1](#) and the [Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Report 1](#), the GAP suggests moving all six approaches forward for further discussion.

The GAP understands the new sigma values applied to a select few stocks are going to be problematic for our fisheries, as we discussed in our [March 2019 GAP statement](#) on this issue. Therefore, we recommend moving forward with analysis to amend the fishery management plan (FMP) to incorporate approaches #5 and #6 presented in [NMFS Report 1](#). This will take the most time and analysis, but the GAP recognizes this could move forward with the 2021-2022 biennial harvest specifications and management measures cycle. GAP members fully support this process, as the FMP amendments will likely provide the greatest flexibility to mitigate short-term negative economic impacts into the future.

PFMC
06/22/19