GROUNDFISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SEABIRD MITIGATION MEASURES

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) received a review of Agenda Item 1.5 from Dr. Kit Dahl, Pacific Fishery Management Council Staff.

The GAP also reviewed the Groundfish Management Team (GMT) recommendations and support their proposed actions for seabird mitigation. The GAP additionally supports allowing those vessels that deploy floating gear during daylight hours to use the 300-foot streamer line as mitigation. This seems to be adequate to deter bird strikes.

The GAP and fixed gear representatives encourage testing different gear designs through Sea Grant and other agencies in the future that may result in better mitigation measures when vessels use floating longline gear. The GAP was unanimous in these recommendations.

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