

GROUND FISH MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON HUMPBACK WHALE  
ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT CONSULTATION

The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) reviewed the materials provided in the advanced briefing book on this agenda item and received a briefing from Mr. Brian Hooper and Mr. Robert Markle from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) West Coast Region.

The GMT understands that this is a preliminary scoping process and a time for the Pacific Fishery Management Council and advisory bodies to provide feedback on the potential conservation measures listed for further examination in the NMFS report. The GMT recommends all these measures be considered, including identifying the degree to which they are applicable to the sablefish fishery. The GMT has not identified anything in the NMFS report that would be considered items of major concern, however would note that some of the measures may be limited by resources in funding and/or staffing capacity. We encourage continued avenues for public and stakeholder feedback during this process, including potential collaborations with tools in development by state agencies.

PFMC  
9/10/20