

## GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON MEMBERSHIP APPOINTMENTS AND COUNCIL OPERATING PROCEDURES

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) appreciates the thoughtful Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) discussion under Agenda Item H.2 about our recommendation to add a GAP seat to the Groundfish Endangered Species Workgroup (GESW). The intent of our recommendation was for a GAP seat to be created and that an industry representative who is the best fit for the current priorities being addressed would occupy that seat at GESW meetings. As envisioned by the GAP, that industry person might or might not be a GAP member depending on expertise, experience, and availability. Our recommendation was based on our experience with the Stock Assessment Review Panel process where the GAP representative has been either a GAP member or GAP representative, whichever was the best fit. As for Stock Assessment Review Panels, the GAP chair would recommend an individual to serve on the GESW for consideration and appointment by the Council.

In the current situation, the priority issue to be addressed by GESW at their [April 26-28, 2021](#) meeting are the Terms and Conditions required under the current humpback whale [Biological Opinion](#). National Marine Fisheries Service also identified this as a priority in their [presentation](#) to the Council under Agenda Item H.2. The primary gear type potentially affected by new management measures would be fixed gear, which means the GAP representative should have knowledge and experience with the use of this gear – this would include open access and limited entry fixed gear, trawl, and "gear switchers."

The GAP discussed individuals to recommend to the Council taking into account the priority issue (that is, the humpback whale Terms and Conditions) and the necessary experience and expertise that would best provide meaningful input to the GESW. Based on this discussion, the GAP recommends Mr. Bob Eder be considered to represent the GAP on the GESW at their upcoming meeting.

Mr. Eder owns and operates F/V Timmy Boy, has fished with pot gear for over 40 years, and has experience with longline gear. He currently participates in the fixed-gear limited entry fishery with pots, as well as using pot gear in the trawl Individual Quota Share fishery. Mr. Eder also has extensive experience with monitoring programs in these fisheries, via both observers and electronic monitoring. He has served as an industry representative in an Oregon working group of scientists, agency staff, and industry focused on whale entanglement and season and gear modifications in the Dungeness crab fishery. He has served on the [Tri-State Dungeness Crab Committee](#) since its inception. Finally, Mr. Eder also has more than 20 years of direct, on-the-grounds experience in collaborative research with scientists from universities and management agencies.