

GROUND FISH MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON THE FIXED GEAR CATCH SHARE REVIEW - SCOPING

The Groundfish Management Team (GMT or team) reviewed briefing book materials, received a briefing on Agenda Item G.2, [Attachment 1](#) from Dr. Jim Seger and Ms. Jessi Doerpinghaus of Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) staff, and offers the following thoughts for consideration during this scoping phase.

The GMT commends the work done thus far to move the review forward. The findings of the last review indicated that the programmatic objectives were met. Sector operations have not changed significantly since the last review, so the GMT is confident that the objectives continue to be met. The GMT believes that the data analysis in the scoping document is sufficient to answer the questions posed by Council staff, and does not believe that a deeper dive will provide significantly different information or change the outcome of this review. The team does, however, look forward to the additional ad hoc data on sale prices for tier permits, which the draft document highlights as potentially forthcoming. These data could provide insight in understanding the profitability of this fishery during recent years of depressed sablefish prices.

The GMT discussed whether new management measures that arise out of the Fixed Gear Catch Share Review should be taken up by the Council as a follow-on action or in a process parallel to the Review. The Council considers new management measures that could improve groundfish fisheries through the workload prioritization process, which is intended to streamline and equitably consider potential actions. The GMT sees merit in utilizing this process for any management measures proposed as a result of the Fixed Gear Catch Share Review, so that the associated benefits and workload are considered in concert with other groundfish management measures. However, the team concurs with the Groundfish Advisory Subpanel's that some lower workload management measures, such as a season extension or the collection of permit price information (as recommended during the 2014 Review), could be examined in parallel with the Review process.

PFMC
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