

GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON
INSEASON ADJUSTMENTS FOR 2021 – FINAL ACTION

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) met with the Groundfish Management Team (GMT) to discuss progress of this year's fishery and possible inseason adjustments. The GMT discussion was led by Ms. Melissa Mandrup. The GAP offers the following recommendations and comments on proposed inseason adjustments to ongoing groundfish fisheries.

Fixed Gear Open Access Canary Rockfish North of 40°10'N. Latitude

Fixed gear open access (OA) fishermen north of 40° 10' N. latitude have requested an increase in the trip limits of canary rockfish. Fishermen report large numbers of canary rockfish have moved into their traditional fishing grounds and there are concerns they will have to start discarding canary. Increasing the canary trip limits would reduce the regulatory discarding the fishermen are anticipating will occur once better sea conditions arrive this summer.

The OA canary trip limits were just recently increased in this area from 300 lb. per 2 months up to 1,000 lb. per 2 months as part of the 2021/2022 biennial harvest specifications process. The GAP agrees with the GMT to delay any further trip limit increases of canary rockfish until that time at which landings data from 2021 can be analyzed. Following that analysis there may be room for an increase in the canary trip limits for open access fixed gear for 2022.

PFMC
06/25/21