

GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON THE NATIONAL MARINE
FISHERIES SERVICE REPORT

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) reviewed the briefing book documents and received presentations from Ms. Keeley Kent and Ms. Lynn Massey, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) West Coast Region; and Mr. Craig Russell and Ms. Erin Steiner, Northwest Fisheries Science Center, under this agenda item and offers the following comments.

Fixed gear logbooks

The GAP appreciates the NMFS emphasis on moving forward with groundfish fixed gear logbooks, last considered during Council action in 2008 for the 2009-2010 harvest specifications.

Generally, the GAP supports moving forward with Federal logbook rulemaking, anticipated by the end of 2022 for implementation in 2023. As noted in the Supplemental [NMFS Report 2](#) under this agenda item, logbooks would help inform opening areas of the non-trawl Rockfish Conservation Area, an issue that is important to many GAP members. Logbooks may also be key to retaining access to groundfish stocks in which comingling species may be taken incidentally.

However, the GAP would also appreciate more outreach to the fixed gear fleets in the form of workshops this fall and held regionally (i.e., Seattle, Newport, northern California and southern California). Fishermen anticipate asking questions to clarify which fleets would require logbooks, how and when paper logbooks would transition to electronic logbooks, etc. At the same time, the fishing fleets could provide valuable input on the logbook design.

The GAP appreciates the thought put into the design and testing of the logbooks so far and would like to see this effort move forward.

PFMC
9/08/2021