

GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2022  
PACIFIC WHITING FISHERY UNDER THE U.S./CANADA AGREEMENT

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) received an overview of the 2022 Total Allowable Catch (TAC) determination by the U.S./Canada Whiting Agreement Joint Management Committee (JMC) from participants in the treaty process. The GAP is pleased that the JMC provided a consensus recommendation on the whiting TAC for 2022. Whiting fishery participants highlighted for the GAP that the bilateral scientific research and analysis process that is the foundation of determining the annual whiting fishery TAC is strong and working well. We were also informed that efforts made in 2021 to improve the working relationship between the parties were helpful in facilitating a successful JMC TAC determination in March 2022. The whiting fishery is a critically important piece of the groundfish fishery portfolio, and the GAP very much appreciates the collaborative approach among scientists, managers, and fishery participants.

The GAP anticipates timely implementation of the JMC recommendation by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). As reported during the NMFS Report (Agenda Item F.1), it is our understanding that the proposed rule should publish soon, interim allocations will be provided in advance of the May 15 season start, and final allocations (consistent with the JMC TAC) will be provided when the final rule is published (likely in June 2022).

It is the understanding of the GAP that the Pacific Council took action under Inseason in November 2021 to establish a 750 metric ton set-aside amount for 2022 research and incidental catch, as recommended by the GMT ([Agenda Item E.7.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1, November 2021](#)) and we continue to support this set-aside amount.

PFMC  
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