

## GROUND FISH MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON MEMBERSHIP APPOINTMENTS AND COUNCIL OPERATING PROCEDURES

As mentioned in March ([Agenda Item E.3.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1, March 2022](#)), the Groundfish Management Team (GMT) believes that the workload and expertise needed to conduct the review of stock complexes and defining stocks are beyond the capacity of the GMT alone. Additional expertise will need to be brought in to conduct the necessary analyses, including experts on biology and life history, habitat associations, geographic ranges, and productivity and susceptibility analysis. To ensure that the workload is manageable and conducted in a timely manner, the necessary expertise is included, and the various interested groups (GMT, Groundfish Advisory Subpanel [GAP], National Marine Fisheries Service [NMFS] West Coast Region [WCR], and Science Centers) are all part of the process; the GMT believes that forming an ad hoc workgroup may be the best path forward. The GMT does not currently have recommendations on the full membership for the workgroup as that is up to the Council to determine, but suggests membership include at least:

- One GMT representative from each state
  - Ensuring at least one commercial and one recreational representative among those three
- One commercial and one recreational GAP member
- Representative(s) of the Scientific and Statistical Committee
- NMFS WCR policy/regulatory staff
- NMFS science center staff, with a variety of expertise
- One Tribal representative
- State agency staff with needed expertise, as needed

The GMT thinks that some of the work and associated meeting(s) should be able to be accomplished virtually (via RingCentral, or similar platform) to save on travel times and costs. However, one in person meeting may be necessary to accomplish the tasks and finalize any analysis and reports.