

GROUND FISH ADVISORY PANEL REPORT ON STOCK DEFINITIONS – FINAL
ACTION

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) discussed this agenda item with Dr. Chantel Wetzel (Groundfish Management Team) and Mr. John DeVore (Council staff) and offers the following comments and recommendations.

The GAP understands that the issue ripe for Council action at this meeting is to develop a plan for reviewing how stocks are defined in the groundfish Fishery Management Plan, especially relative to making stock status determinations. The GAP supports moving forward with the initiative. The GAP supports the concept of establishing an Ad-Hoc Workgroup on Groundfish Stock Definitions, and requests that if this workgroup is established that it includes two GAP members. If another approach is pursued, such as a workshop, the GAP recommends that GAP members be included as formal participants.

The GAP also discussed challenges with the [2009 Productivity and Susceptibility Analysis](#), and recommends that this analysis needs to be reviewed and, if necessary updated, as a first order of business. Finally, the GAP thinks it is important to prioritize those species assessed in 2021 (where status determinations have not been made) and slated for possible assessment in 2023 and 2025 for consideration under the groundfish Stock Definitions effort.

PFMC
6/10/2022