

GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON TRAWL CATCH SHARE
PROGRAM – COST PROJECT

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) received a briefing on this agenda item from Dr. Jim Seger, Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) staff, and Mr. Darrell Brannan, Brannan & Associates.

The GAP offers the following comments and recommendations.

- 1) The GAP appreciates and supports this project.
- 2) The GAP recommends the project scope be expanded to include offshore whiting sectors and shoreside processors.
- 3) Since there is a general impression that the program has been beneficial for shoreside whiting trawl and challenging for bottom trawl, the GAP recommends that data and evaluation for these sectors be separable.
- 4) The GAP expects monitoring costs to be not only one of the biggest program cost categories, but also one with substantial potential savings. The GAP requests all monitoring direct costs (observers, catch monitors, electronic monitoring (EM)) and indirect costs (observer program oversight, EM review, catch monitor program oversight) be captured and costs per sea day be calculated and compared to costs per sea day for other Limited Access Privilege Programs (LAPP).
- 5) The GAP suggests two programs of particular interest for comparison could be the British Columbia multi-species trawl program and the New England sector fishery.
- 6) The GAP has long advocated for two areas of focus for program costs that are not part of the proposed scope of this project: the first is to compare pre- and post- program costs to credit savings and the second is to streamline recoverable activities such as social science research to only what is absolutely necessary to fulfill program mandates.
- 7) The GAP appreciates the intent to reach out to industry participants for an understanding of concerns.
- 8) The GAP looks forward to the process with a desire to ultimately get to concrete recommendations on how costs could be minimized.