GROUNDFISH ADVISORY PANEL REPORT ON TRAWL CATCH SHARE PROGRAM AND INTER-SECTOR ALLOCATION REVIEW – PLANNING

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) received an update on this agenda item from Dr. Jim Seger, Pacific Fishery Management Council staff, and reviewed the Catch Share Program Review Planning document. The GAP offers the following comments and recommendations.

In general, the GAP supports the proposed approach as described in the situation summary. The GAP strongly supports the idea of field hearings to foster maximum public participation and input. The GAP recommends careful consideration of the process, timing, and location of field hearings while developing the overall timeline for the review. The GAP also supports convening a stakeholder group – a newly comprised Community Advisory Board – to consider and recommend possible new management measures emerging from the information in the review. The GAP recommends that field hearings and stakeholder group meetings be in person.

While it is currently implicit, the GAP recommends adding explicit consideration of both opportunities to reduce program costs and opportunities to increase revenue to the Catch Share Program Review Planning document.

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