GROUNDFISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON CALIFORNIA CURRENT ECOSYSTEM STATUS REPORT

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) attended the briefing held during the Ecosystem Working Group webinar. In addition, many members attended the Marine Planning Committee virtual meeting during which time Dr. George Watters, Northwest Fisheries Science Center (NWFSC) and Kelly Andrews, Southwest Fisheries Science Center (SWFSC) reviewed the offshore wind portion of the California Current Integrated Ecosystem Assessment report (Report), particularly Appendix Q.

The GAP always respects the work that goes into the Report and the results. The results frequently mirror what fishermen observe while at sea.

As in the past, the GAP appreciates the interest in characterizing conditions in current and future offshore wind energy areas and the oceanographic processes contained in those areas. The GAP continues to believe that future work in this area, as planned by the NWFSC and SWFSC, will become increasingly valuable to both establish baselines of human uses (both fishing and non-fishing) and the effects of those uses on the California Current ecosystem and its changes over time.

PFMC 03/08/24