GROUNDFISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON MARINE PLANNING

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) agrees with the <u>Supplemental Habitat Committee (HC)</u> <u>Report 1</u> under this agenda item, specifically, that it is premature for the Pacific Fishery Management Council to propose comments on the California Energy Commission (CEC) Suitable Sea Space for Wave and Tidal Energy Projects Draft Phase 2 Consultant Report. The GAP does support the Marine Planning Committee (MPC) and Habitat Committee reviewing the Consultant Report, when it is available, to determine whether a comment letter developed via the quick response process is warranted. Additionally, the GAP appreciates the time, thought, and effort the MPC put into the Cumulative Impacts Framework document and sees value in continuing to develop that framework. However, given the current cessation of federal offshore wind leasing efforts, this work could be stopped until more clarity about the progression of offshore wind is available.

Lastly, the GAP suggests the MPC remain involved in any plans regarding offshore aquaculture. The GAP is concerned about the potential for non-native species to be introduced into domestic waters and become naturalized.

PFMC 03/07/25