GROUNDFISH MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON CORDELL BANK CONSERVATION AREA REVISIONS - FINAL PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) recommends the Preliminary Preferred Alternative as Final Preferred Alternative with the additions of the administrative modification to the action alternative recommended by National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) to move the existing 100 fm coordinates outlined in the NMFS Report under this Agenda item (Agenda Item H.5 NMFS Report 1 March 2025). As described in the GMT's November report on Cordell Bank (Agenda Item I.5.a GMT Report 1, November 2024), the GMT does not anticipate concerning increases in mortality of yelloweye rockfish and California quillback rockfish nor adverse impacts to the projected rebuilding timeline for these stocks. Adoption of this measure will be deregulatory, reducing stakeholder confusion regarding regulations in the area around Cordell Bank, which will benefit fishing communities.

PFMC 03/07/25