

GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON
CURRENT ENFORCEMENT ISSUES

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) received a report on the NOAA Office of Law Enforcement (OLE) priorities and a request for comments on what those priorities should be for the coming year.

The GAP expressed its appreciation for the good working relationship between OLE, State enforcement agencies, the Coast Guard, and fishery stakeholders that has been developed in the Pacific Council region. The GAP believes that our Council should be looked at as an example of how a cooperative relationship should work.

In general, the GAP endorses the comments made by the Council to OLE last year. The only potential concern expressed by the GAP is that OLE not allow its new deployment model to jeopardize cooperation with State enforcement agencies or undermine the existing Joint Enforcement Agreements. Fishery participants are able to work closely with State enforcement agents and the GAP encourages OLE to have its new uniformed patrol agents develop similar ties with local communities.

PFMC
11/04/12