

GAP Meeting Motions – June 10, 2013

Motion 1 (Parker/Soule):

Amendment 18

Goals to support a forward-looking management approach.

The primary objective of the goals for Amendment 18 is to prioritize and advance industry leadership and participation in achieving federal management goals. Sectors and permit banks are maturing as a valid mechanism to formally interface with industry groups. They are uniquely suited to manage/facilitate the regional application of the necessary and built-in flexibility of national rules and guidance. The goals of Amendment 18 will be best approached from the most local level with Council and NOAA oversight.

1. Promote a diverse groundfish fishery, including different gear types, vessel sizes, geographic locations, and levels of participation through sectors and permit banks.
2. Enhance sector management to effectively engage industry to achieve management goals and improve data quality
3. Promote resilience and stability of fishing businesses by encouraging diversification, quota utilization and capital investment.

The motion carried 9/1/0.

Motion 2 (Raymond/Soule): The GAP makes the following recommendations regarding Amendment 18:

- 1) Conduct an analysis of an ownership cap on multispecies permits. Any ownership cap should not disenfranchise current owners.
- 2) Do not impose restraints on the flow of allocation trades or leases between individuals, sectors, and/or vessel classes.
- 3) In fisheries with high bycatch of groundfish, including State waters fisheries, allocate sub ACLs of groundfish and establish AMs.
- 4) Allow entire groundfish allocation to be split off from other permits.
- 5) Revise upgrade restrictions to allow permits to be placed on larger, safer platforms to increase vessel range in response to ACL volatility.

The motion carried 6/3/0.

Motion 3 (Odell/Raymond): Any analysis and consideration of ownership caps in the multispecies fishery must take into account the full range of potential ACL reductions current and future to ensure such caps do not prevent businesses from remaining viable.

The motion carried 5/2/3.

Motion 4 (Odell/Raymond): Develop mechanisms for flexibility in any cap concepts in order to address unintended obstacles to profitability – survival of fishing businesses that may result from ACL reductions.

The motion carried 7/0/3.

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Motion 5 (Parker/Odlin): to request Council staff assess and provide examples of US solutions that provide access to capital for individuals, new entrants, sectors and community entities, e.g. halibut new entrant finance program called Community Quota Entities, NMFS fishery obligation fund financing for quota

The motion carried 10/0/0.

Motion 6 (Raymond/Bouchard): The GAP recognizes the following as an urgent issue that need to be addressed: the GOM/GB haddock spillover problem - that is the extreme difference between the ACLs for each stock, and the strong potential for GB haddock spillover to cause an overrun of GOM ACL

The motion carried 8/2/0.

Motion 7 (Raymond/Bouchard): The GAP recognizes the following as an urgent issue that need to be addressed: return the eastern US/CA reporting to statistical areas as has been the practice since Amendment 16, but is not currently in place

The motion carried 5/1/4.

Motion 8 (Raymond/Bouchard): The GAP recognizes the following as an urgent issue that need to be addressed: address the problem of assumed discards especially on stocks with very low ACLs - that is assumed discards are being applied at the sector level, and vessels that don't ever encounter certain species (e.g. GOM YT are charged discards if they fish anywhere in the Gulf of Maine). Potential solutions to explore are full retention of allocated groundfish species, or area specific discard rates.

The motion carried 10/0/0.

Motion 9 (Raymond/Odell): For the Georges Shoals and Great South Channel habitat management areas, include an option for modified ground cables that would not exceed 45 fathoms in length per side and that would be elevated off the seafloor using 20 cm diameter discs at 5 fathom spacing

The motion carried 6/0/4.

Motion 10 (Odlin/Raymond): In the no ground cable option that the maximum length of bridles be 30 fathom per side

The motion carried 8/0/2.

Motion 11(Raymond/Odlin): Because the clam fishery is prosecuted only in substrate comprised of high energy sand, the clam fishery should be exempt from all HMAs in the GB regulated mesh area

The motion carried 5/1/4.

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Motion 12 (Raymond/Canastra): GAP recommends that the Habitat PDT analyze the different substrate impacts between geographically proximate bottom types in open and closed areas to determine actual differences between fished and non-fished areas to better inform decision making

The motion carried 9/0/1.