D4 Motion

The Advisory Panel recommends the Council select Option 2 and take no further action on the Groundfish Programmatic. As a result, the AP notes that the Council will need to update the IRA workplan and resume the Triennial Groundfish Management Policy Review Process.

Motion passes 20-0

Rationale in Favor of Main Motion

- Resuming work on the Programmatic is a huge undertaking demanding a lot of agency staff involvement. As the agency streamlines its activities, there are fewer resources (human and financial) available for this type of work.
- The Programmatic is not required, and it is not done by other regional management councils.
- Continuing the Triennial Groundfish Management Policy Review allows the Council to review and change goals and objectives without an updated Programmatic.
- No further action is responsive to broad public comment which cuts across different stakeholder groups including various groundfish fisheries and tribes.
- Off-ramping from the Programmatic will allow the Council to redirect resources toward a more practical and accountable path.
- AP members voiced a clear desire for a no-steps-backward commitment, in support of public comment and reiterated their support for the Council to strengthen its responsibilities to tribes, communities and the Bering Sea ecosystem