

MARINE RESERVES

Situation: At this meeting the Ad-Hoc Marine Reserve Committee will provide a progress report (Ad-Hoc Marine Reserve Committee Report E.1.). The progress report provides an opportunity for the Council to provide additional guidance to the committee, if necessary.

The committee is midway through the first of a two-phase process for the consideration of marine reserves. Phase I involves the conceptual development and evaluation of marine reserve options. The Council currently has three committees working on issues related to marine reserves. In addition to the Ad-Hoc Marine Reserve Committee, the Ad-Hoc Allocation Committee may include marine reserves among the management measures eventually recommended for rebuilding Pacific ocean perch, bocaccio or lingcod and the Habitat Steering Group will be developing recommendations related to the designation of habitat areas of particular concern. Attachment E.2. outlines each committee's responsibilities as they pertain to marine reserves and summarizes the two-phase process under which the Ad-Hoc Marine Reserve Committee work is proceeding.

In order for work to proceed on an analysis of marine reserve options, technical assistance will be needed to address the following:

1. How does the creation of marine reserves change the impacts of harvest on the stock outside the reserves?
2. What adjustments to harvest policies outside the reserves might be appropriate and what are the biological impacts of those adjustments?
3. What are the best projections of impacts of reserves in terms of larvae export, adult spillover, and stock recovery and protection of nontarget species?

NMFS has been asked to identify one or more scientists to assist the Council in this effort.

Council Action: Provide additional guidance to the committee, as necessary.

Reference Materials:

1. Ad-Hoc Marine Reserve Committee Report E.
2. Development of Council Marine Reserve Policy Options—Council Bodies and Definitions (Attachment E.1.).

PFMC
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