

MARINE RESERVES PHASE I CONSIDERATIONS REPORT

Situation: The Council has specified a two-phase process for considering whether or not to recommend marine reserves be created on the West Coast. The first phase is a conceptual evaluation that is scheduled to conclude at this meeting with a Council decision on whether or not marine reserves should have a role in management of the groundfish fishery. A draft analysis and cover letter with recommendations from the Ad-Hoc Marine Reserve Committee (MRC) was distributed to the public in August. Marine reserves are also covered as part of the Council's draft groundfish strategic plan.

During the second phase, if pursued by the Council, options for the design and location of marine reserves would be developed (see analysis cover letter with attachment). The details of Phase II would be taken up under the next agenda item.

Council Action:

- 1. Decide whether or not marine reserves should play a role in management of West Coast groundfish fisheries.**

Reference Materials:

1. Cover letter for phase I technical analysis and attached design and policy issues paper by the Ad-Hoc Marine Reserve Committee (Exhibit B.1, Attachment 1).
2. Marine Reserves to Supplement Management of West Coast Groundfish Resources, Phase I Technical Analysis (**please bring your copy with you**).
3. Exhibit B.1.b, National Ocean Service Comment.
4. Exhibit B.1.c, Public Comment.

PFMC
08/28/00