

CHANNEL ISLAND NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY PROGRAM

Situation: The Channel Island National Marine Sanctuary Program (CINMSP) has been facilitating a process for the consideration of marine reserves within its boundaries. The process was initiated in December 1998 with the establishment of the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council (SAC). Advising this group are a Marine Reserves Working Group, representing the full range of interests in the affected communities, and a Marine Reserves Science Panel.

Presently there are a number of alternative reserve configurations under consideration. The reserves would be no fishing areas. The CINMSP does not have the authority to control fishing within its boundaries. Once the SAC develops a consensus around a single marine reserve proposal, the CINMSP sanctuary manager will approach the Council and the California Department of Fish and Game with a request for adoption of the needed fishing restrictions.

At this meeting, representatives from the CINMSP will present the Council with additional background on the CINMSP process (Attachments 1-4) and the alternatives developed to date. This agenda item provides the Council with an opportunity to comment on the proposals prior to the SAC's development of a consensus recommendation.

Council Action:

1. Provide comment to the CINMSP.

Reference Materials:

1. Channel Islands Marine Reserves Process (Exhibit C.1, Attachment 1).
2. Draft Summary Estimating Reserve Size (Exhibit C.1, Attachment 2).
3. Questions for the Science Advisory Panel (Exhibit C.1, Attachment 3).
4. Marine Reserves Working Group Analysis of Reserve Concepts Using Ecological Criteria (Exhibit C.1, Attachment 4).

PFMC
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