

STATUS OF MARINE RESERVE PROPOSALS FOR THE CHANNEL ISLAND
NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

Situation: The California Fish and Game Commission (CFGF) has authorized the department to publish notice on five scenarios for identifiable marine reserves in the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (CINMS), a no action alternative, and an alternative that would role the CINMS marine reserves process into the process for consideration of a state-wide system of marine protected areas. The state-wide system of marine protected areas are being pursuant to under California's Marine Life Protection Act. The scenarios being considered for the CINMS include delineation of marine reserves in federal waters (see maps in Exhibit F.1.b, Attachment 1). As of publication of the briefing book, the full regulatory package for the CINMS marine reserve scenarios was not available. Representatives from the California Department of Fish and Game will update the Council on the California process. The CFGF could take final action as early as its February 2002 meeting. If final CFGF action is taken at that time, then this Council meeting will be the only opportunity the Council will have to provide the CFGF with comments on CFGF alternatives.

The procedures to be followed for considering federal regulations for federal waters in the CINMS area have not been completely delineated. The staff from the CINMS will address the Council on alternative approaches for federal consideration of marine reserves for the CINMS.

One of the major issues of contention in the CINMS process has been the appropriate size for marine reserves. At the request of the Council and Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC), Dr. Satie Airame of the CINMS staff provided documentation on how the CINMS Science Panel arrived at its determination that a 30%-50% area set aside was required to meet fishery management objectives within the CINMS. At the June Council meeting, the Council authorized the establishment of an SSC ad hoc subcommittee to evaluate the justification for large marine reserves to achieve fisheries management objectives for Council fishery management plan species. This subcommittee met October 1 and 2 with the CINMS Science Panel to review this issue. The SSC will review its subcommittee analysis and expects to report the results of its review to the Council at this meeting.

At the meeting, the staff will present some options for directions the Council might proceed under this agenda item.

Council Action:

1. Consider the SSC report and provide guidance, if needed.
2. Decide on a response to the CFGF Marine Reserve Alternatives *state process on Attachment 2*
3. Respond to the CINMS staff report on procedures for federal consideration of marine reserves in the CINMS, if appropriate.

Reference Materials:

1. Exhibit F.1.b, Attachment 1 (Maps).
- ~~2. Exhibit F.1.b, Supplemental CINMS Report.~~ *oral report.*
- ✓ 3. Exhibit F.1.c, Supplemental SSC Report. *Received 10-31-01*
4. Exhibit F.1.e, Public Comment 1.
5. *Draft Summary of the Joint Meeting science Advisory Panel to the Marine Reserves Working Group SSC Ad hoc MRC (Exhibit F.1.c, Supplemental MRWG Science Panel Report).*
6. *Options for Council Action Under Agenda Item F1 (Exhibit F.1, Supplemental Attachment 2).*
7. *Exhibit F.1.d, Supplemental GAP Report.*