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PFMC

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Fish and Game Commission



January 3, 2002

D.O. McIsaac, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 200
Portland, Oregon 97220-1384

Jim
Dear Dr. McIsaac:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your recent letter sent on behalf of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) requesting the Commission not take any final action on the proposal to create marine protected areas within the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary. Your letter also transmitted the Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee's (SSC) "Report on Status of Marine Reserves Proposals For Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary" and comments of the Groundfish Advisory Panel. Copies of your letter and attached reports will be provided to the Commission for its information and consideration.

The Commission will be receiving public comments on the identified options at its February 8, 2002, meeting in Sacramento. No date for possible adoption has been set. We would appreciate it if Ms. Cindy Thomson or another member of the SSC could attend our meeting to summarize the SSC's report and analysis of the Science Panel's recommendations to the Marine Reserve Working Group as well as answer questions from the Commission and the public. I anticipate a member of the Science Panel will present a summary of their recommendations.

Once the draft regulatory language for each option and the draft environmental document are completed, I'll provide you copies to distribute to your Council members and Council advisors for their review and comments.

The Commission looks forward to receiving the Council's comments. To allow time for review and adequate consideration, the Commission would appreciate receiving the Council's comments and any recommendations at least 15 days prior to a Commission meeting, one preferably located in a coastal community. I have enclosed a copy of the Commission's 2002 Meeting Schedule for your use. In addition, the Commission would appreciate the Council giving appropriate consideration of any regulations which the Commission may adopt regarding marine protected areas.

Mr. McIsaac
January 3, 2002
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On behalf of the Commission, thank you for providing the Council's comments, the SSC's report, and comments from the Groundfish Advisory Panel. The Commission also looks forward to working with the Council on this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Treanor". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Robert R. Treanor
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: All Commissioners
Deputy Director Brazil
LB Boydston, Intergovernmental Affairs Office
Patty Wolf, Regional Manager-Marine Region
John Ugoretz, Marine Region-Santa Barbara

2002 FISH AND GAME COMMISSION MEETING SCHEDULE

http://www.dfg.ca.gov/fg_comml/

DATE	LOCATION
February 8 (Fri. 10:00 a.m.) February 9 * (Saturday 8:30 a.m.) (Receive Mammal Hunting Recommendations)	Resources Building Auditorium 1416 Ninth Street Sacramento
March 7 (Thurs. 10:00 a.m.) March 8 * (Fri. 8:30 a.m.) (Discuss Mammal Hunting Proposals)	Hubbs-Sea World Research Institute Shedd Auditorium 2595 Ingraham Street San Diego
April 4 (Thurs. 10:00 a.m.) <hr/> April 5 * (Fri. 8:30 a.m.) (Discuss Mammal Hunting Proposals)	California State University Office of the Chancellor, Dumke Auditorium 401 Golden Shore, Long Beach <hr/> City Council Chambers 333 W. Ocean Boulevard Long Beach
<hr/> April 25 (Thurs. 10:00 a.m.) (Adopt Mammal Hunting Regulations)	<hr/> Resources Building Fish and Game Commission 1416 Ninth St., Room 1320 Sacramento - Teleconference Call
May 7 (Tues.) Jt. Field Trip w/Board of Forestry May 8 (Wed. 8:00 a.m.) Jt. Mtg w/Bd. of Forestry May 9 (Thurs. 9:00 a.m.) Commission Meeting	Fresno
June 20 (Thurs. 10:00 a.m.) (Receive Resident Game Bird/Waterfowl Recommendations) June 21 (Fri. 8:30 a.m.) Jt. Mtg. with Nevada	South Lake Tahoe
August 1 (Thurs. 10:00 a.m.) August 2 (Fri. 8:30 a.m.) (Discuss Waterfowl Hunting Proposals) (Adopt Resident Game Bird Regulations)	City Hall, City Council Chambers 990 Palm Street San Luis Obispo
August 29 (Thurs. 10:00 a.m.) August 30 (Fri. 8:30 a.m.) (Adopt Waterfowl Hunting Regulations)	Elihu Harris State Building 1 st Floor Auditorium 1515 Clay Street Oakland
October 24 (Thurs. 10:00 a.m.) October 25 (Fri. 8:30 a.m.)	Board of Supervisors Chambers 981 "H" Street, Suite 100 Crescent City
December 5 (Thurs. 10:00 a.m.) December 6 (Fri. 8:30 a.m.)	Monterey

* Meeting location and/or date set in Fish and Game Code.

January 4-6, 2002	Mid Winter WAFWA-Las Cruces, New Mexico
April 2-3, 2002	Portland/Five State Meeting with Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington
April 3-7, 2002	North American Wildlife Natural Resources-Dallas, Texas
July 11-17, 2002	WAFWA-Albuquerque, New Mexico
Sept. 11-14, 2002	IAFWA-Big Sky, Montana

PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Portland, Oregon 97220-1384

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November 29, 2001

Mr. Robert R. Treanor, Executive Director
California Fish and Game Commission
PO Box 944209
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090

Dear Mr. Treanor:

At its recent meeting in San Francisco, California, the Council reviewed the maps of scenarios for marine reserves in the Channel Island National Marine Sanctuary (CINMS) area and received presentations from the California Department of Fish and Game and CINMS staff on the next steps in the process for considering reserves for the CINMS area. Additionally, the Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) presented a review of the scientific basis for recommendations on size of marine reserves for the CINMS area. The Council has been receiving ongoing updates on this process and feels there are important issues of merit and precedent at stake. Please consider the following Council comments to the Commission on this matter.

The Council would like to request that you not take final action on any of the Channel Island National Marine Sanctuary area marine reserve scenarios you have sent out for public review until after the Council has a chance to review supporting environmental analysis. Marine reserves in the CINMS area will likely require both federal and state actions. The Council anticipates serious involvement in the consideration of fishing restrictions for marine reserves in the federal waters of CINMS area and has direct responsibility for any complimentary or compensatory regulations in contiguous federal waters outside the CINMS area. The Council respects the strong interest of the state on this issue. In the event state action proceeds in advance of federal action, reserves implemented for state waters will substantially limit and determine the scope of reasonable options for reserves in federal waters. Therefore, the opportunity to fully participate in the state public review process may be the most effective way for the Council to exercise its responsibility with respect to the consideration of marine reserves in contiguous federal waters of national marine sanctuaries. Further, Council participation in the review would provide an opening for communication that may reduce the potential for conflict between the Council and commission when it comes time to consider reserves for contiguous federal waters. Our request also provides the administrative opportunity for the state to address any serious and legitimate concerns identified by the Council prior to the time the state takes final action.

Council opportunity for consideration of policy issues occurs during Council meetings. I have enclosed a schedule of the meetings for the coming year. In order to have a meaningful opportunity for review by Council members and Council advisors, photocopy ready documents should be received at the Council office at least 11 working days prior to the start of the Council meeting. When you have analytical or other documents appropriate for our consideration, we would appreciate receiving them by this deadline.

Mr. Robert R. Treanor
November 29, 2001
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This fall, the Council's SSC reviewed the recommendations of the Science Panel established to support the Marine Reserve Working Group process for considering marine reserves in the CINMS area. The SSC had previously reviewed siting algorithms developed by the Science Panel and provided positive comments on that work. The focus of the review this fall was the Science Panel recommendations on reserve size. The SSC found that in making its recommendation on reserve size, the balancing of goals by the Science Panel made the recommendation a policy rather than science recommendation. However, the SSC review concluded that "Given the mandate of the Science Panel and the constraints under which they conducted their deliberations, the SSC is generally supportive of their reserve size recommendation as it relates to the biodiversity and sustainable fisheries goal as defined in the specific context of the CINMS. Beyond that context, however, the methodology used by the Science Panel will require substantial modifications and extensions to be more broadly useful to the Council in considering marine reserves for the groundfish fishery and other resources under its authority." A complete copy of the SSC report is enclosed. Also enclosed are the comments of the Council's Groundfish Advisory Subpanel on this issue. The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel is comprised of private citizens representing members of the commercial and recreational fishing industry as well as environmentally oriented interest groups.

Thank you for considering the Council's comments. We look forward to working with you on this issue.

Sincerely,

D. O. McIsaac, Ph.D.
Executive Director

JLS:kla

c: Ms. Jennifer Bloeser, Co-Chair, Habitat Steering Group
Dr. Matthew Cahn, CSU Northridge
Congresswoman Lois Capps
LT David Cleary, Chair, Enforcement Consultants
Dr. John Coon, Council Staff
Council Members
Council Staff Officers
Mr. Steve Croke, Co-Chair, Highly Migratory Species Plan Development Team
Mr. Brian Culver, Co-Chair, Groundfish Management Team
Mr. Robert Fletcher, Chair, Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel
Dr. James Hastie, Co-Chair, Groundfish Management Team
Dr. Kevin Hill, Chair, Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team
Rod Moore, Chair, Groundfish Advisory Subpanel
LCDR Matthew Pickett, CINMS
Ms. Michele Robinson, Co-Chair, Habitat Steering Group
Mr. John Royal, Chair, Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel
Dr. Dale Squires, Co-Chair, Highly Migratory Species Plan Development Team
Cindy Thomson, Chair, Scientific and Statistical Committee

Enclosures

