

GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL STATEMENT ON THE  
CHANNEL ISLANDS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) reviewed the Scientific and Statistical Committee's (SSC's) draft report on the proposal for marine reserves in the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (CINMS) and offers the following comments.

The GAP believes the SSC's report demonstrates the inadequacies of both the science surrounding development of marine reserves and the process that has been employed in examining marine reserves in the CINMS. The GAP advises that substantially more work be done prior to moving forward on a reserve designation, including better efforts to include affected users.

In regard to further Council participation in the Channel Islands reserve process, or other processes, the GAP again recommends to the Council that a marine reserve policy committee be established which contains representation from all appropriate Council advisory bodies. This will facilitate analysis of documents and allow more efficient coordination by the Council and its advisory bodies.

PFMC  
06/19/02