

## UPDATE ON OTHER MARINE RESERVES PROCESSES

**Situation:** State level processes for considering marine reserves in ocean areas are ongoing in Oregon and California. The Oregon process is proceeding through Oregon's Ocean Policy Advisory Council and the current phase will culminate with a set of recommendations to the Governor. The California process is proceeding under California's Marine Life Protection Act. To date, processes in Washington have focused primarily on Puget Sound. Alaska has also begun a marine protected area (MPA) planning process (Exhibit E.2.a, Attachment 1). The National Marine Sanctuary Program is continuing its review of the sanctuary management plans for Cordell Bank, Gulf of the Farallones, and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuaries. The Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary (OCNMS) intends to review its sanctuary management plan, however, the OCNMS staff indicates their review will lag the California sanctuary processes by a few years. The National Marine Protected Areas Center (a NOAA interagency coordinating body created under the Executive Order 13158 on MPAs) is cosponsoring a Pacific MPA Clearing house [PacificMPA.org] and will be convening periodic meetings of federal, state, and tribal agency program staff engaged in MPA planning on the West Coast (Exhibit E.2.a, Attachment 2).

Last year, the Council requested approximately \$1.5 million per year over three years to support Council led consideration of marine reserves for the West Coast. The Executive Director is continuing to pursue funding to support a more active role for the Council in processes for considering marine reserves and is in ongoing discussion with the NOAA National Ocean Service and NOAA Fisheries on this issue.

### **Council Task:**

- 1. Discussion and direction to staff as appropriate.**

### **Reference Materials:**

1. Alaska Department of Fish and Game Marine Protected Area Program web page on their Marine Protected Area Task Force Report (Exhibit E.2.a, Attachment 1).
2. E-mail message on Pacific MPA Clearing House from Charlie Wahle and George Leonard, June 25, 2002 (Exhibit E.2.a, Attachment 2).
3. Public Comment (Exhibit E.2.c, Public Comment)

### **Agenda Order:**

- a. Agendum Overview
- b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- c. Public Comment
- d. Council Discussion

Jim Seger

### **Groundfish Fishery Strategic Plan (GFSP) Consistency Analysis**

The GFSP calls for the Council to "use marine reserves as a fishery management tool that contributes to groundfish conservation and management goals, has measurable effects, and is integrated with other fishery management approaches."

PFMC  
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