

MARINE RESERVES IN THE FEDERAL WATERS PORTION OF THE
CHANNEL ISLANDS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

Situation: At the June 2003 Council meeting, staff from the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (CINMS) briefed the Council on the timeline for the environmental review process for (1) considering marine reserves in federal waters of CINMS, and (2) the process for changing the Sanctuary designation document (Exhibit E.2 Attachment 1). On July 14, the Council forwarded advisory body statements and an April 24 letter from the Council as formal scoping comments to CINMS (Exhibit E.2, Attachment 2). In addition, the Council directed that its Ad Hoc Channel Islands Marine Reserve Committee meet to review the CINMS preliminary draft environmental document, the draft CINMS management plan, and a summary of scoping comments to be provided by CINMS, and to provide recommendations to the Council as appropriate.

The Council has not yet received the documents referred to above, so the Ad Hoc Channel Islands Marine Reserve Committee has not met. It was originally expected that the Council would hear from the Ad Hoc Channel Islands Marine Reserve Committee at the September Council meeting and provide comments to the Sanctuary on the preliminary range of alternatives. The Council would then consider a preferred alternative at the November Council meeting, and also consider preparing draft fishing regulations, as indicated in the National Marine Sanctuaries Act.

At this meeting, CINMS staff will update the Council on the progress of developing the preliminary draft environmental document and will provide a summary of scoping comments received during the environmental review process (Exhibit E.2, Supplemental Attachment 3). They will also respond to the scoping comments provided by the Council and will discuss how the Council can best participate in developing alternatives for the environmental impact statement.

Council Task:

1. Receive an update on the CINMS environmental review process.

Reference Materials:

2. Proposed Activities and Timeline (Exhibit E.2, Attachment 1).
3. Letter from the Council to CINMS dated July 14, 2003 (Exhibit E.2, Attachment 2).
4. Summary of CINMS Scoping Comments (Exhibit E.2, Attachment 3).

Agenda Order:

- a. Agendum Overview
- b. Presentation by CINMS Staff
- c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- d. Public Comment
- e. Council Discussion

Jennifer Gilden

PFMC
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