

REVISED
Proposed Activities and Timeline -
Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary
Environmental Review Process to Consider Marine Reserves

1999-2001 Channel Islands Marine Reserves Community Based Process –
Joint Partnership between the State of Calif. and NOAA to
consider marine reserves in the sanctuary

Aug. 2001 – Fish and Game Commission and Department of Fish and
Oct. 2002 Game State Environmental Review Process and Decision

April 2003 Channel Islands Marine Protected Areas implemented in state
waters of the sanctuary

March 2003

- Sanctuary prepares Notice of Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). *(completed)*
- Brief Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) on Sanctuary initiation of Environmental Review Process. *(completed)*
- Brief Sanctuary Advisory Council (SAC) on Sanctuary initiation of Environmental Review Process. *(completed)*

April 2003

- Sanctuary submits letter to PFMC describing Environmental Review Process for discussion at April PFMC meeting. *(completed)*

May/June 2003

- Sanctuary releases Notice of Intent to prepare DEIS in Federal Register. *(completed)*
- Sanctuary hosts scoping meetings in Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties. *(completed)*

November 2003

- Sanctuary briefs PFMC, State of CA, and Sanctuary Advisory Council on progress.
- Sanctuary begins drafting of Preliminary DEIS.

Early 2004

- Sanctuary sends consultation letters to PFMC, NOAA Fisheries, State of California and other entities regarding a potential change to the terms of designation of the Sanctuary (60 day response period).

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Early 2004 (continued)

- Sanctuary notifies PFMC of opportunity to prepare draft National Marine Sanctuaries Act (NMSA) fishing regulations for the Exclusive Economic Zone portion of the Sanctuary (NMSA regulations allow for 120 days for PFMC response)

Spring/Summer 2004

- PFMC considers preparing draft NMSA fishing regulations and if it chooses prepares draft NMSA regulations (March/April 2004 PFMC meetings).
- Sanctuary, in cooperation with PFMC, State of Calif. and SAC, finalizes DEIS, appropriate proposed regulatory changes and related proposed change to the terms of designation.
- Sanctuary releases to the public and Congress the DEIS, proposed regulations and related proposed change to the terms of designation
- Conduct public review of the DEIS, and proposed regulations and related proposed changes to the terms of designation. This will include an opportunity for public comment of at least 45 days and must include at least one public hearing if the rulemaking necessitates a change in a term of designation

Fall 2004

- Sanctuary prepares responses to comments
- Sanctuary drafts Final EIS, and if necessary for chosen action, drafts final regulations and revises terms of designation

Winter 2004

- Sanctuary releases the Final EIS by publishing a notice of availability in the Federal Register and by providing copies to interested parties.

After a 30-day "cooling off" period, the final regulations appear in the Federal Register and the Sanctuary sends the final regulations and revised terms of designation to Congress and to the governor's office, if State waters are involved. The final regulations will take effect after the close of a review period of 45 days of continuous session of Congress. If State waters are involved, and the governor certifies that the change in terms of designation (and therefore the final regulations or portions thereof) is unacceptable, the affected final regulations will not take effect in State waters.