

## GUIDELINES FOR REVIEW OF MARINE RESERVES ISSUES

The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) Marine Reserves Subcommittee has developed a white paper to facilitate Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) consideration of marine reserve initiatives in relation to West Coast fishery management. The white paper evaluates the implications of marine reserves for contemporary fishery management on the West Coast, taking into consideration reserve objectives and uncertainties associated with both reserves and traditional fishery management. The goals of the SSC document are to:

- describe the rationale underlying various marine reserve objectives and provide an SSC perspective on the scientific basis for applying reserves to address these objectives;
- discuss the implications of reserves for fishery management, taking into consideration the objectives of the reserves; and
- establish SSC guidelines and standards regarding the technical content of proposals initiated by the Council (or submitted for Council consideration by other entities) that involve changes in fishery regulations associated with establishment of marine reserves in Federal waters.

The Council reviewed and considered a draft of the SSC white paper at the June 2004 Council meeting. At that meeting, the Council also reviewed several comments received from agencies and the public about the draft SSC document. Based on this input and the SSC's request to delay adoption of the document, the Council directed the SSC to thoroughly review comments received and finalize the document for Council consideration at the September 2004 meeting. The current draft of the report is included in the briefing book as Agendum E.1.b, Attachment 1.

Ms. Cindy Thomson, SSC Marine Reserves Subcommittee Chair, will summarize the contents of the report.

### **Council Action:**

**Consider adopting guideline recommendations.**

### **Reference Materials:**

1. Agendum E.1.b, Attachment 1: SSC white paper – *Marine Reserves: Objectives, Rationales, Fishery Management Implications and Regulatory Requirements.*

Agenda Order:

- a. Agendum Overview
- b. Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) Report
- c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- d. Public Comment
- e. **Council Action:** Adopt Guideline Recommendations

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