

FEDERAL WATERS PORTION OF THE CHANNEL ISLANDS
NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

Situation: The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduled to comment on the range of alternatives, analytical content, and revised timeline being considered by the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (CINMS) in their preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) on the topic of marine reserves and marine conservation areas within federal waters of the CINMS. Unlike the Council definitions, CINMS defines marine reserves as no-take areas with regard to fishing; they define marine conservation areas as areas where some, but not all, fishing is prohibited. The Council's Ad Hoc Channel Islands Marine Reserves Committee (CIMRC) met October 5-6, 2004 to prepare recommendations for Council consideration.

Since June 2004, Council staff has worked with CINMS staff to coordinate Council advisory body review of a preliminary working draft document developed by CINMS on the matters references above. The Scientific and Statistical Committee met June 19-20, 2004 to receive information from CINMS and review the preliminary working draft document. Each Council advisory subpanel, the Habitat Committee, and Enforcement Consultants have reviewed and considered the information (including draft alternatives) developed by CINMS staff. These advisory committees reported their findings to the CIMRC at their October meeting. Based on their review of the CINMS materials, guidance from Council advisors, and public comment, the CIMRC developed several recommendations for Council consideration (Agenda Item H.1.c, CIMRC Report).

Beyond the CINMS action, the Council also requested the CIMRC consider how to develop policies and procedures for developing and reviewing marine protected area proposals subject to Council action, as a complement to the recent SSC terms of reference for scientific review if marine reserve proposals. The CIMRC report also includes recommendations related to a committee structured to address this task.

Council Task:

Consider CIMRC Recommendations for Preparation of a DEIS for Marine Reserves and Conservation Zones within CINMS.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item H.1.a, CINMS Staff Update.
2. Agenda Item H.1.a, Council Advisory Body Reports.
3. Agenda Item H.1.c, CIMRC Report.
4. Agenda Item H.1.c, Supplemental CIMRC Meeting Summary.
5. Agenda Item H.1.e, Public Comment.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agenda Item Overview
- b. Report of the Sanctuary Staff
- c. Report of the Ad Hoc Channel Islands Marine Reserve Committee
- d. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- e. Public Comment
- f. **Council Action:** Recommend a Range of DEIS Alternatives for Marine Reserves and Conservation Zones within the Sanctuary

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