

MONTEREY BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

The Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS) will present information about proposed measures for the protection of benthic habitats on Davidson Seamount. The Sanctuary is consulting with the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) because the proposed measures could affect Council-managed fishing activities. MBNMS will discuss its goals and objectives, the potential benefits of the proposed sanctuary protections, and the potential impacts on fishing activities. As per the National Marine Sanctuaries Act, the MBNMS will be requesting that the Council prepare draft sanctuary regulations to achieve these goals and objectives.

Based on the information presented by MBNMS, guidance from advisory bodies, and public comment, the Council could provide guidance relative to the proposed management alternatives, analytical components of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) being developed by MBNMS, and proposed regulatory language. In response to the Sanctuary's request, the Council will also consider preparing draft sanctuary regulations for the proposed management actions related to Davidson Seamount. If the Council should decide to draft these regulations, they would be considered as part of the Draft EIS for the Sanctuary's revised management plan, which will be released in Spring of 2005.

Council Task:

- 1. Council Guidance on CBNMS Proposals to Protect Davidson Seamount.**
- 2. Council Guidance for Developing Draft Regulatory Language.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item H.3.b, Supplemental MBNMS Report: Inclusion of Davidson Seamount.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agenda Item Overview Dan Waldeck
- b. Report of the Sanctuary Staff
- c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- d. Public Comment
- e. Council Guidance on a Range of Alternatives to Protect the Davidson Seamount

PFMC
10/18/04