

HABITAT COMMITTEE REPORT ON
FEDERAL WATERS PORTION OF THE CHANNEL ISLANDS NATIONAL MARINE
SANCTUARY

The Habitat Committee (HC) supports the proposed changes in the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (CINMS) designation document as a necessary step in the process of developing marine reserves, marine parks, and/or marine conservation areas in the federal waters of CINMS.

The Council's consideration of new fishing regulations to address the CINMS objectives is a separate step that will precede publication of a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) by CINMS.

There are complex legal and policy considerations related to changing the designation document that are outside the scope of the HC, but we support the process as laid out in the Sanctuaries Act.

PFMC
03/07/05