

## **CINMS Sanctuary Advisory Council Major Highlights, 2002**

### **Major Achievements and Milestones (i.e., what did your Council do that you are most proud of? What major milestones did you meet?)**

While not reflecting a Council action that occurred in 2002, perhaps the year's most significant achievement for the SAC, the CINMS and the region was the final adoption of a network of marine reserves within the Sanctuary. From 1999-2002, the SAC was instrumental in the creation, participation, and management of a community-based process to consider the designation of marine reserves (no-take zones) within the Sanctuary. The SAC and its former Marine Reserve Working Group, Marine Reserve Science Advisory Panel, and Marine Reserve Socio-Economic Panel combined efforts for nearly 3 years to provide a scientifically robust, open, public process that enabled stakeholders to help shape final recommendations. This work laid a solid foundation upon which a final regulatory decision was made by the California Fish and Game Commission on October 23. Throughout 2002, the SAC remained closely involved in the implementation planning for marine reserves.

### **SAC Recommendations and Sanctuary Decisions (e.g., what major recommendations did your Council make and what decisions/actions did that lead to for Sanctuary management?)**

This year the SAC made a number of important recommendations that helped shape the Sanctuary's role in implementation of marine reserves within the Sanctuary. In May, the SAC provided recommendations on initial steps for development of an effective marine reserve biological monitoring program. These SAC recommendations included advice on approaches for gathering relevant data, as well as specific suggestions on task force membership needed for developing an effective monitoring program. These recommendations have subsequently become the foundation of a multi-agency effort between the Sanctuary, the California Department of Fish and Game and the Channel Islands National Park in development of a monitoring program for the newly-adopted marine reserves.

In November, the SAC provided CINMS with a set of vital recommendations on how to provide effective notification and educational messages about the Sanctuary's newly established marine reserves. The timely advice was developed by the SAC's Sanctuary Education Team (SET), which met diligently all year to produce a comprehensive recommendation. These recommendations are now being implemented by the Sanctuary office with help from the California Department of Fish and Game and other partners.

The SAC provided valuable input to Sanctuary staff concerning how best to prioritize socio-economic monitoring program ideas to support marine reserves. This information

is being used by Sanctuary staff to plan a workshop on monitoring program development scheduled for early 2003.

In November, the SAC provided important input on the Sanctuary's Action Plans within the Staff Working Draft Management Plan. The SAC's advice is helping staff to prioritize development of performance measures for management actions, and to better identify potential partnerships the Sanctuary should pursue.

**Major Administrative Changes (Add a seat? Amend or revise a Charter? Add or take away working groups? Come up with any unique problems?)**

2002 was a big year for change in the membership of the CINMS Advisory Council. Nine appointments were made in January, reflecting the transition to a new three-year term and the turnover of many resigning charter members. An Education Working Group of the SAC, the Sanctuary Education Team, was formed early in 2002 and has been very active (see above).