



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE JOINT LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE AND ADVISORY PANEL ON ENFORCEMENT CRITERIA FOR ESTABLISHING MARINE RESERVES

The Council's Law Enforcement Committee and Advisory Panel discussed the marine reserve concept and enforcement criteria for establishing marine reserves at their February 19-20, 1998 meeting. There was unanimous agreement that one of the most critical aspects of establishing marine reserves, both from the scientific and enforcement standpoint, will be public support. Consensus was the Council, through its I & E Committee, should develop a plan for educating the public on the need for marine reserves and for selling the concept to the fishing community.

A motion was approved recommending that as the Council proceeds on establishing marine reserves, there should be a "threat assessment" conducted by the appropriate state, NMFS and Coast Guard enforcement personnel (potentially the AP) for each marine reserve being developed. This assessment should be presented to the Council before they take action.

The committee and advisory panel developed the following criteria for the Marine Reserve Committee's consideration:

- 1. A marine reserve should be configured in a square or rectangle.**
 - >> irregular shapes are very difficult to enforce
- 2. The bigger the better.**
 - >> wider areas are easier to enforce
 - >> **do not** include buffer zones
- 3. The boundaries should be delineated in latitude and longitude.**
 - >> where possible the boundaries should actually be latitude and longitude lines
 - >> **do not** use water depths
 - >> **do not** use County lines
- 4. Must be in an acceptable format to be included and identified on NOAA charts.**
 - >> will require coordination with appropriate NOAA personnel

Joint E-Governance & AP Marine Reserve Recommendations

5. Allowable activities in the marine reserve should be limited.

- >> No transit - best
- >> Prohibit all fishing - next best
- >> If any fishing activity or gear is allowed, enforcement becomes very difficult.

6. Locate marine reserves away from highly populated areas.

- >> the location should provide for the best possible buy-in by fishermen
- >> voluntary compliance is the most important element for insuring enforceability

7. Provide for on-site enforcement capability.

- >> there will be costs associated with this capability

Committee members:

Hartig, Chairman
Flanigan
Gay
Hass
Love
Pino
Stone

AP members:

Pendarvis, Chair
Proulx
Bryson
Garbade
Buckson
Rivenbark
RADM Saunders
Raine
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