



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

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(South Coast Commercial Fisheries)

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Recreational Fisheries)

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October 25, 2022

Governor Kate Brown
160 State Capitol
900 Court St NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for Marine Reserves 10-year Assessment and Funding

Dear Governor Brown,
On September 29, 2022, the Ocean Policy Advisory Council (OPAC) received a presentation from the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee Chair Dr. Karina Nielsen on the 2022 Assessment of Oregon's Marine Reserves (Report), which was mandated by the Senate Bill 1510. The Report was prepared by researchers at the Oregon State University, in collaboration with researchers from other universities and found that Oregon's marine reserves were, in general, effectively designed and implemented to achieve the goals and objectives outlined by the state. It puts forward key recommendations for future actions by the legislature and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) including appropriating funds to allow ODFW to continue the Marine Reserves Program at the necessary capacity with new human resources and programmatic activities, developing an adaptive management plan for the ongoing management and evaluation of the marine reserves program, and defining a detailed collaborative process through which social monitoring data can be interpreted to affect policy decisions. OPAC agreed by consensus with the findings and recommendations in the Report and wishes to express its support for the recommended actions including continued funding and additional allocations for the marine reserve program in the ODFW budget.

Thank you for your attention to these important issues,

Susan Chambers
Chair

Tara Brock
Vice Chair