



WESTERN
PACIFIC
REGIONAL
FISHERY
MANAGEMENT
COUNCIL

Precious Corals

Action Memorandum

15 June 2000

104th Council Meeting
Makena, Hawaii

Regarding Precious Corals, the Council acted to:

1. Direct staff to prepare a document evaluating alternatives regarding the Plan Team, Advisory Panel and Science and Statistical Committee recommendations to increase the exploratory permit quota to 5,000 kg per year. These alternatives will reflect recommendations from the Science and Statistical Committee and Plan Team, including buffer zones from established and conditional beds, maximum harvest from any given exploratory area bank, and possibly specific harvesting techniques.

Status: Document was prepared with background information and an analysis of the alternatives. A plan team meeting was held to finalize the recommendations to present to the Council and a public hearing occurred after the plan team meeting. The document was distributed at the 105th Council meeting and a presentation was given. At that meeting, the Council voted to recommend the measure with restrictions on harvest of gold coral, total allowable harvest at a given area, and the possibility of observer coverage.