Dr. Donald McIsaac  
Executive Director  
Pacific Fishery Management Council  
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 200  
Portland, OR 97220-1384  

Dear Dr. McIsaac:

We appreciate your efforts to date to comply with terms of the American Oceans Campaign, et al. v. Daley, et al. settlement. We see strong evidence that NMFS and Council staff in all of the Regions are working diligently to complete Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) to implement Essential Fish Habitat.

As work progresses, it remains extremely important that every effort be made to comply with the court-approved schedules regarding completion of the EISs. Schedule development was closely coordinated with each of the Regions and Councils party to the lawsuit, and should provide sufficient time to complete the documents, while allowing for the thorough analysis required by the National Environmental Policy Act.

I have been keeping Dr. Hogarth apprised of progress on the EISs, and he has made it clear that this is an issue of great importance to him. Both Dr. Hogarth and I are counting on each of you to ensure that the schedules are met. My staff will continue to coordinate with your staff as work on the EPH EISs continues. Please let me know if there is additional assistance that we can provide throughout this process.

Sincerely,

Rolland A. Schmitthen  
Director, Office of Habitat Conservation