



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Southwest Region
501 West Ocean Boulevard, Suite 4200
Long Beach, California 90802- 4213

MAR 30 2007

151423SWR2007PR00137

Dr. Donald McIsaac
Executive Director
Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101
Portland, Oregon 97200-1384

Dear Dr. McIsaac: ^{Don,}

I am writing to make you aware of the recent publication of the 2007 List of Fisheries (LOF) (72 FR 14466, March 28, 2007). As you know, NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is required under the Marine Mammal Protection Act to publish an annual LOF categorizing all federal and state fisheries based upon levels of interactions with marine mammals. A complete list of all Pacific fisheries and their categories can be found in Table 1 of the 2007 LOF.

The process for publication of the 2008 LOF is already underway. The Southwest Regional Office and all of NMFS's regional offices are reviewing the current LOF and developing recommendations that will be incorporated into the proposed 2008 LOF, to be published in July 2007. The final 2008 LOF is scheduled to be published in November 2007.

I welcome the Council's involvement in this process through review of the current LOF and encourage submission of recommendations for the 2008 LOF. The Council may want to include review of the LOF as an agenda item at the June 2007 meeting to ensure that any recommendations can be incorporated into the proposed 2008 LOF by the close of the public comment period on September 1, 2007.

Please contact Elizabeth Petras of my staff at (562) 980-3238 if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Rodney R. McInnis
Regional Administrator