October 15, 1996

Don Hansen
Chair, Groundfish Advisory Panel
Pacific Fishery Management Council
34675 Golden Lantern
Dana Point, CA 92629-2990

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PFMC

Dear Don:

The purpose of this letter is to update the GAP regarding the Habitat Committee's request to participate in the gathering of information on the impact of fishing gear on bottom habitat.

To review, the purpose of this exercise will be to determine:

1) What information exists regarding impact of fishing gear on bottom habitat.
2) What information needs to be collected.
3) What management measures, including gear modifications, have been undertaken to reduce impacts.

Since the August 1996 PFMC meeting in Portland, I have spoken with Dave Duncan, Philip Kline and Rod Fujita. They have agreed to provide oversight, as well as contribute information that they feel should be incorporated into this effort.

I apologize for not being able to attend the last GAP meeting in Portland. I will be at the San Francisco meeting through Wednesday October 23. Please let me know if the GAP will need further information regarding this exercise.

Sincerely

Stephen Phillips
Chair, Habitat Committee
Pacific Fishery Management Council

cc: Philip Kline
Dave Duncan
Rod Fujita
Larry Six