



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

West Coast Region

1201 NE Lloyd Boulevard, Suite 1100

PORTLAND, OR 97232-1274

Agenda Item G.5

Supplemental Attachment 1

September 2016

September 12, 2016

Mr. Herb Pollard, Chair
Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101
Portland, OR 97225

Dear Mr. Pollard:

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) West Coast Region (WCR) is proud of its long-standing positive and productive partnership with the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) in managing fisheries resources off the U.S. West Coast. As transitions occur, it is important to maintain this relationship.

The WCR is thankful for the many contributions of Mr. Robert Turner, who served as the designee of the WCR Regional Administrator before the Council. We wish him and his family the best in retirement. The WCR requests that Dr. Stephen Freese of the WCR Sustainable Fisheries Division (SFD) be recognized to replace Mr. Turner as the designee of the Regional Administrator before the Council. Dr. Freese is currently the WCR's Acting Assistant Regional Administrator for Sustainable Fisheries, responsible for the staff working closely with the Council to manage the marine and anadromous fisheries resources off the U.S. West Coast.

Dr. Freese joined NMFS in 1984 and has extensive experience with the management of Pacific Coast groundfish fisheries. He has an M.A. in Economics and a Ph.D. in Marine Studies from the University of Delaware. His career evolved from being the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council economist to various positions in NMFS, such as foreign affairs officer, international trade specialist, fishery economist, and WCR Permits and Monitoring Branch Chief. Dr. Freese has also been involved with the Pacific Groundfish Buyback Program and implementation of the Council's Groundfish Catch Shares and Electronic Monitoring Programs.

The other NMFS WCR designees remain unchanged for the following fisheries:

- Mr. Frank Lockhart: Groundfish, Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS), and the Fishery Ecosystem Plan
- Mr. Kevin Duffy: Groundfish and CPS
- Ms. Heidi Taylor: Highly Migratory Species
- Dr. Peter Dygert: Pacific salmon



Thank you for the strong partnership with the WCR. We look forward to our continued work together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Barry A. Thom". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Barry A. Thom
Regional Administrator

cc: Chuck Tracy, Executive Director