

## **North Pacific Fishery Management Council**

Simon Kinneen, Chair | David Witherell, Executive Director 1007 W. 3rd Avenue, Suite 400, Anchorage, AK 99501 Phone 907-271-2809 | www.npfmc.org

April 22, 2021

Commander United States Pacific Fleet 250 Makalapa Drive Attn: Mr. Dan McNair N465 Pearl Harbor, Hawaii 96860-3131

Dear Mr. McNair

In April 2021, the North Pacific Fishery Management Council received a presentation on the upcoming Northern Edge 2021 joint training exercise in the Gulf of Alaska from Mr. John Mosher of the U.S. Pacific Fleet and a presentation on the Marine Species Monitoring Program to include telemetry and genetic identity of Chinook salmon in Alaska by Mr. Christopher Hunt of Naval Facilities Engineering Command Northwest. The presentations were very helpful to the Council and the many stakeholders in the fishing industry operating the Gulf of Alaska. The Council appreciates the ongoing telemetry and genetic identification of Chinook salmon research and the mitigation measures, as well as the adaptive management and planning approach that is used throughout the exercises to address concerns from the fishing industry and the different communities in the Gulf of Alaska regarding the impacts of the exercise.

I would like to invite Mr. Mosher and Mr. Hunt to present the results of the 2021 training exercise, and continuing research on Chinook salmon at our December Council meeting. We are scheduled to meet December 6-14 in Anchorage, Alaska. If you have any questions or would like to discuss scheduling a presentation at either of the meetings, please contact Jon McCracken at Jon.McCracken@noaa.gov.

I am pleased to take this opportunity to personally thank Mr. Mosher and Mr. Hunt for their clear presentations and answers to questions on the Northern Edge 2021 joint training exercise. We look forward to the continuing dialogue with the Pacific Fleet as the Navy prepares for future Northern Edge training exercises.

Sincerely,

David Witherell
Executive Director

cc: John Mosher Christopher Hunt