

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

October 21, 2021

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

Dear Mr. McNair.

In October 2021, the Council received a presentation on the May 3-14, 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 presentations of the Northern Edge exercise and the ongoing telemetry and genetic identification of Chinook salmon research and the mitigation measures combined with the adaptive management that are continuing to be utilized 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.

The Council finds these presentations very useful and looks forward to the continuing dialogue with the Pacific Fleet as the Navy prepares for future Northern Edge training exercises. If you have any questions, please contact Jon McCracken at Jon.McCracken@noaa.gov.

Sincerely,

David Witherell Executive Director

cc: Mr. John Mosher Mr. Christopher Hunt