



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northwest Region
7600 Sand Point Way N.E., Bldg. 1
BIN C15700
Seattle, WA 98115-0070

Refer to:
OSB1999-0012-EX

July 9, 2001

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Re: Response to Request for Extension of the June 4, 1999 Programmatic Biological Opinion
and Incidental Take Statement

Dear Agency Administrators:

This responds to your letter, dated April 20, 2001, requesting a second extension of the incidental take statement provided with a biological opinion issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service on June 4, 1999 (Opinion). Unfortunately, we cannot comply with your request without reinitiating consultation because, among other reasons, new project design criteria have been developed for the actions underlying the Opinion that may cause effects to listed species that were not previously considered. Nonetheless, in a previous letter dated April 13, 2001, you requested consultation on eighteen programmatic activities, i.e., the "Southwest Oregon Programmatic." Your request included all updated actions previously covered by the Opinion. Thus, we look forward to meeting the substance of your request by completion of the Southwest Oregon Programmatic consultation in the near future.



If you have any questions about this letter or the progress of the Southwest Oregon Programmatic consultation, please contact Nikki Moore of my staff in the Oregon Habitat Branch at 541.751.4420.

Sincerely,

Michael R Crouse

Donna Darm
Acting Regional Administrator

cc: Bill Hudson, Coos Bay BLM District
Tom Mendenhall, Roseburg BLM District
Dan Delany, Rogue-Siskiyou National Forest
Mike Clady, Siuslaw National Forest
Travis Hunt, BIS
Craig Tuss, US Fish and Wildlife Service