



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

National Marine Fisheries Service

P.O. Box 21668

Juneau, Alaska 99802-1668

January 18, 2006

Colonel Timothy J. Gallagher
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 898
Anchorage, Alaska 99506-0898

Re: Campbell Lake
POA-1989-293-P

Attn: Maureen McCrea

Dear Col. Gallagher:

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has reviewed the above referenced proposed project by the Municipality of Anchorage (MOA). The proposed project involves partial draw down of Campbell Lake six feet to an elevation of approximately 13 feet. The project would then excavate approximately 150,000 cubic yards of sediment deposited by Campbell Creek and seven municipal storm-drain outfalls, inspect and maintain an earthen dam, and control macrophytes by freezing roots. The purpose of the project is to control growth of weeds and remove sediment to reduce navigational hazards to boats and floatplanes and to inspect the dam and perform necessary maintenance work.

The project site is Campbell Lake, which is fed and drained by Campbell Creek. Campbell Lake and Campbell Creek provide Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) for the migration, spawning, rearing, and/or over-wintering of Chinook salmon, sockeye salmon, coho salmon, and pink salmon and are listed anadromous (ADF&G anadromous catalog).

The proposed project had the potential to cause adverse effects to EFH and anadromous fishery resources. However, due to early coordination between Municipality of Anchorage, Campbell Lake Homeowners Association and NMFS in the scoping phase of this project, NMFS conservation recommendations were incorporated into project design. This process greatly reduced potential impacts to EFH and NMFS trust resources. We applaud this collaborative work by the applicants, and we have no further comments on the project. Brian Lance (907) 271-1301 is the NMFS contact for this project.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Mecum
Acting Administrator, Alaska Region



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