



DEC 11 2007

Dear Reviewer:

In accordance with provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), we enclose for your review the Cook Inlet Beluga Whale Subsistence Harvest Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS). This DSEIS is prepared pursuant to NEPA to assess the environmental impacts associated with NOAA's implementation of a management plan to govern the subsistence harvest. NOAA's proposed action is to implement the plan and based on periodic population assessments determine whether a subsistence harvest can be permitted under the terms and conditions of the management plan. Harvests will be controlled by federal regulations and co-management agreements with Alaska Native organizations.

Additional copies of the DSEIS may be obtained from the Project Manager identified below. The document is also accessible electronically through the NOAA Fisheries, Alaska Region website at <http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/analyses/beluga/eis/default.htm>.

Written comments should be submitted through mail, or email to the Responsible Program Manager identified below. Written comments submitted during the agency's public comment period must be received by March 4, 2008. When submitting email comments please include the following document identifier in the comment subject line: **Cook Inlet Beluga Harvest DSEIS**.

Send letters or email to:

Responsible Program Official: James W. Balsiger, Ph.D.
Regional Administrator, Alaska Region
Attn: Ellen Sebastian
National Marine Fisheries Service
709 W. 9th Street
P.O. 21688
Juneau, AK. 99802-1668
Telephone number: (907) 271-3448
Facsimile number: (907) 586-7557

Commenting Email Address: CIB-Harvest-SEIS@noaa.gov

Public meetings have been scheduled on this Draft SEIS at the following dates and locations

January 29, 2008: from 4 to 7 pm. at the Loussac Public Library, Wilda Marston Room, 3600 Denali Street, Anchorage, AK.

January 30, 2008: from 4 to 7 pm. at the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly chambers, 144 North Binkley Street, Soldotna, AK.

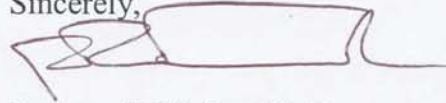



For further information or to request a copy of the DSEIS in paper or CD format contact:

Project Manager:

Barbara Mahoney
National Marine Fisheries Service
222 West 7th Ave., #43
Anchorage, AK 99513
907-271-3448

Sincerely,



Rodney F. Weiher, Ph.D.
NOAA NEPA Coordinator

Enclosure