

NATIVE VILLAGE OF EKLUTNA

January 26, 2004

Mr. James Balsiger
U.S. Dept. of Commerce
NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service
P.O. Box 21668
Juncau, AK 99802-1668

Re: "Draft Harvest Plan"

Dear Mr. Balsiger,

We are in receipt of your January 15, 2004 mailing of above noted plan.

Be informed the tribes of the "Cook Inlet Treaty Tribes", by resolution of Eklutna and Chickaloon filed with you for exemption under the MMPA, also submitted their recovery plan offering 2% harvest of "the net recruitment rate of Beluga," as the tribes resolve. If this is in the draft we have no problem.

Further in your last paragraph the words "with one or more participating Alaska Native Organizations," need to be changed to "with one or more Alaska Native Tribes, through their respective tribal governments."

Should their be a problem we'd gladly refer this to legal counsel to revise the areas needed.

Sincerely,

Native Village of Eklutna

Lee Stephan

Chief Executive Officer

Cc:

Peter Merryman

Cook Inlet Treaty Tribes