



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

*National Marine Fisheries Service*

*P.O. Box 21668*

*Juneau, Alaska 99802-1668*

August 21, 2002

Magalie R. Salas, Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street N.E.  
Washington, DC 20426

Re: Cooper Lake Hydroelectric Project (Cooper Creek); Cooper  
Landing, Alaska  
FERC No. 2170-000-Alaska

Dear Secretary Salas:

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) submits the following study and information requests for the Cooper Lake Hydroelectric Project in response to the initial consultation package submitted by the Chugach Electric Association, Inc.

The Chugach Electric Association Inc. (CEA) filed a Notice of Intent to relicense the Cooper Lake Hydroelectric Project, FERC No. 2170. CEA distributed the Initial Consultation Package (ICP) in June and conducted a joint meeting on the ICP on July 9-10, 2002. We hereby responds to the ICP, in accordance with 18 C.F.R. 385.214.

NMFS is responsible for protecting and managing a variety of marine animals, including Pacific salmon, groundfish, halibut, and marine mammals and their habitats under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) (16 U.S.C. §§ 1531 *et seq.*), Federal Power Act (18 CFR § 10(j)), the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act) (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*), Reorganization Plan Number 4 of 1970, and other laws.

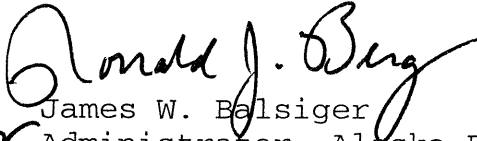
Service of process and other communications concerning this Motion should be made to:

Jon Kurland, Assistant Regional Administrator for Habitat Conservation, National Marine Fisheries Service, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802.



Please contact Larry Pelz, Habitat Conservation Biologist, at 907-271- 1332 or [Lawrence.Peltz@noaa.gov](mailto:Lawrence.Peltz@noaa.gov) with any questions regarding this project.

Sincerely,

  
For James W. Balsiger  
Administrator, Alaska Region