

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

National Marine Fisheries Service P.O. Box 21668 Juneau, Alaska 99802-1668

August 14, 2003

Theresa Svancara
Project Environmental Coordinator
Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
6860 Glacier Highway
Juneau, Alaska 99801-7999

Dear Ms. Svancara,

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has reviewed the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Assessment prepared by the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT&PF) for modifications to the Cordova ferry terminal. NMFS previously reviewed the project scoping document and provided comments and concerns to ADOT&PF.

NMFS finds the "Analysis of Effect" section to be an accurate description of EFH impacts for this project. ADOT&PF has incorporated all of the conservation measures previously recommended by NMFS. These measures will help minimize impacts to EFH resulting from this project.

NMFS agrees with ADOT&PF finding that "there will be no substantial adverse individual or cumulative effects on EFH in the project area.." NMFS has no objection to this project. Please contact Larry Peltz (271-1332) if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Jonathan M. Kurland

Assistant Regional Administrator

for Habitat Conservation

cc: Ann Rappoport Robin Willis U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Anchorage Alaska Department of Fish and Game - Anchorage

