



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

National Marine Fisheries Service

P.O. Box 21668

Juneau, Alaska 99802-1668

November 15, 2004

Debbie Roth
Deputy Division Manager, Airports Division
Federal Aviation Administration
222 West 7th Avenue # 14
Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7587

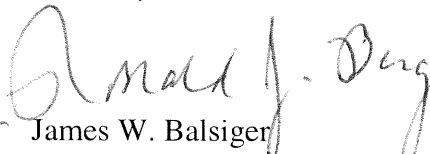
RE: Cooperating Agency Agreement

Dear Ms. Roth:

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) considered the request in your October 14, 2004, letter, to participate as a Cooperating Agency in the Sitka Rocky Gutierrez Airport Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). NMFS acknowledges the benefits to both agencies to participate in this capacity. We look forward to working with you to develop a mutually acceptable memorandum of agreement for the project that describes the objectives and roles for this process.

NMFS primary point of contact for this project is Cindy Hartmann of our Habitat Conservation Division. Cindy will coordinate internally with the Protected Resources Division and other NMFS staff as necessary in the EIS process. If you have any questions regarding our comments please contact Cindy Hartmann at (907)586-7585 or at cindy.hartmann@noaa.gov.

Sincerely,


For James W. Balsiger
Administrator, Alaska Region



cc: Patti Sullivan, FAA, Anchorage
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Kaja Brix, NMFS, PRD