

April 1, 2010

Monica DeAngelis  
NMFS/Southwest Division  
501 W Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200  
Long Beach, CA

Dear Monica

As per instructions in IHA No. 1122-190 issued to the St. George Reef Lighthouse Preservation Society, following is an interim report of activities at the lighthouse which occurred on February 26, 27, & 28, 2010, with specific emphasis on monitoring and mitigation. The IHA calls for pre-restoration and post-restoration photo documentation of marine mammal presence and a biologist's report. As the attached photos show, no animals were present pre or post and none were observed in the three day period (only two days were actually spent at the lighthouse). An attempt to land was made on the 26<sup>th</sup> and the aerial photo was taken but wind conditions were to severe and work did not start until the next day. Due to shortness of preparation time no biologist was available for the flight. However, we have recruited Dr. Woods for the position. Since no animals were present on the last flight, we are requesting an exemption for the next trip which is scheduled for April 9, 10, 11. We previously reported a flight for April 2, 3, and 4 but it has been cancelled because of weather.

Mitigation: A work crew of 15 were flown to the site. Prior to each session at the lighthouse a briefing was conducted at the airport in which the helo pilot reviews safety issues and each person is assigned their work. As part of this briefing, a copy of the IHA was given out to each worker, including the helo pilot and important points discussed. Compliance by the work crew to IHA standards will have to be judged when we have animal presence. A total of 25 people toured the lighthouse on Sunday. Each were given a special pamphlet prepared by crew member/docent Susan Davis, an interpretive specialist at the local National Park Office, title "Pinnipeds, People and Protection", which summarizes the role played by St. George in the protection of threatened species and points out the responsibility of the visitor as well. Education of work crew and tourists will be an ongoing process.

Guy Towers, President

Interim report of Activities at St. George Reef Lighthouse for restoration flight of April 9, 10, 11, 2010 Work crew flew to LH on April 9 and there was no helicopter use on April 10. On the first flight out on the 9th, pictures were taken of the site from an altitude above 900 meters and other observations made by the photographer, Rich Heiser, as required by the IHP. As the attached photos show, there were no animals on the rock and none were observed for the entire three days period. Thirty five visitors toured the LH on April 11. As on the previous restoration flight, work crews and visitors were educated about mitigation issues and given the pamphlet "People, Penipeds and Protection" which addresses marine mammal protection and the IHP issued to cover activities at St. George Reef. Dr. Dennis Wood, who is our biologist was not available for this flight but will accompany us on the next flight which will occur in November 2010.