



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
Washington State Habitat Office  
510 Desmond Drive SE/Suite 103  
LACEY, WASHINGTON 98503

Refer to  
NMFS Tracking No:  
F/NWR/2007/00357

January 7, 2008

Dale Hom, Forest Supervisor  
Olympic National Forest  
U.S.D.A. Forest Service  
1835 Black Lake Blvd. SW, Suite A  
Olympia, WA 98512-5623

Re: Endangered Species Act Section 7 Formal Consultation and Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act Essential Fish Habitat Consultation for the Olympic National Forest Invasive Plant Treatment Project, , Jefferson, Clallam, Grays Harbor, and Mason Counties, Washington (HUCs 1711002001, 1711002002, 1711002003, 1711002004, 1711002005, 1711001908, 1711001802, 1711001803, 1711001804, 1711001805, 1711001806, 1711001807, 1711001908, 17110021, 1711002101, 1711002102, 1710010101, 1710010102, 1710010103, 1710010104, 1710010105, 1710010108, 1710010201, 1710010204, 1710010402, 1710010403, 1710010404, 1710010501)

Dear Mr. Hom:

On October 10, 2007 NMFS issued a Biological Opinion (Opinion) for the above referenced action as proposed by the Olympic National Forest. The Opinion included a Take Statement expressed in aerial extent and Terms and Conditions (T&C) to support the Reasonable and Prudent Measures.

Subsequent to issuance of the Opinion NMFS has become aware of an error in one of its acreage extent calculations. The Take Statement expressed an upper limit of 250 acres for riparian treatment above bankfull for EDRR sites. Without providing the mathematics, the correct number should have been 553 acres. Please utilize this number as the upper limit of take for riparian treatments on a yearly basis for EDRR sites.

Additionally, as you know, NMFS is consulting with several forests on this subject matter. Effectiveness monitoring was an element that was included in the Regional EIS consultation; however the final monitoring plan was not completed when we issued this Opinion. Consequently a Forest specific monitoring plan was proposed for this consultation with the Olympic National Forest. We now are aware of substantive progress to complete the Regional monitoring plan and our Assistant Regional Administrator, Mike Crouse (recently retired) has requested that we put our efforts into the Regional plan and not try to conclude individual plans with all of the Forests. T&C 3b is deleted and reference to a Forest specific plan in 3c is also purged.



In an attempt to be consistent with the Gifford Pinchot consultation we also recognize that T&C 4c is requested in summary format and that 4c(1) should actually read "Project completion Reports will be provided. This report should contain elements of terms and conditions of 3c above, as well as the following:"

Renumbering due to the deletion occurs and also requires changes in the EFH section. The EFH recommendations on page 113 should now read:

1. 1a to 1g
2. 2a to 2c
3. 3a to 3d
4. 4a to 4c

Forest Service personnel have expressed concern about having a common understanding of the T&Cs and how words are defined as they move forward in implementing the action. I would like to assure you, Dale, that I and my staff will make every effort to work cooperatively with your staff to ensure the successful implementation of your efforts to control invasive species on the Forest and to restore healthy native habitats while at the same time fulfilling our obligation to ESA listed salmonids.

Please assume the above noted changes in the Opinion. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me at (360) 753-6054.

Sincerely,



Steven W. Landino  
Washington State Director  
for Habitat Conservation Division

cc: Lynn Burditt, USDA/NF/GP