



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
P.O. Box 21668
Juneau, AK 99802-1668

January 24, 2024

Dear Reviewer:

In accordance with provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), we request your review of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) *Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Issuance of an Incidental Take Statement under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) for Salmon Fisheries in Southeast Alaska Subject to the Pacific Salmon Treaty and Funding to the State of Alaska to Implement the 2019 Pacific Salmon Treaty Agreement.*

This DEIS is prepared pursuant to NEPA to assess the environmental impacts associated with NOAA Fisheries issuing an incidental take statement under Section 7 of the ESA that would exempt take of threatened or endangered ESA-listed species by participants in Southeast Alaska salmon fisheries subject to the 2019 Pacific Salmon Treaty Agreement and funding to the State of Alaska to implement the 2019 Pacific Salmon Treaty Agreement.

This document is expected to be published on January 26, 2024 and will be available on the NOAA Fisheries Alaska Region website at:
<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/resource/document/environmental-impact-statement-issuance-incidental-take-statement-salmon>.

NOAA Fisheries will be accepting public comments on this DEIS for 45 days beginning on the date of publication. We anticipate the comment period will close on March 11, 2024. Please check the Alaska Region website noted above for updates on the comment period dates. Written comments on the DEIS should be directed to the responsible official identified below by the end of the comment period. Written comments may also be submitted electronically through the www.regulations.gov portal by entering "NOAA-NMFS-2023-0152" in the search box.

Responsible Official: Jonathan M. Kurland
Regional Administrator
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Sincerely,

Gretchen Harrington
Assistant Regional Administrator
for Sustainable Fisheries

