



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

National Marine Fisheries Service

P.O. Box 21668

Juneau, Alaska 99802-1668

January 30, 2009

Colonel Kevin J. Wilson
District Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 6898
Anchorage, Alaska 99506-0898

Re: POA-2006-1811-M1
Auke Lake

Attn: Richard Jackson

Dear Colonel Wilson:

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) reviewed the above referenced United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) public notice for the permit application submitted by Mr. Dick Somerville, PND Engineers, Inc., agent for the City and Borough of Juneau (CBJ). The project site is located within Section 23, T. 40 S., R. 65 E., Copper River Meridian; United States Geological Survey Quadrangle Map Juneau B-2 NW; Latitude 58.382,550° N., Longitude 134.632,382° W.; at the Auke Lake Wayside just south of Fritz Cove Road on Glacier Highway, in Juneau, Alaska.

Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) for several salmon species is present within the project area and would be adversely affected if the proposed project is implemented as designed. The NMFS and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service have scheduled an interagency meeting with the agent in February to discuss modifying the boat ramp design and size. NMFS is requesting an additional 30 day time extension beyond the current January 30 end of comment period to enable the parties to discuss and hopefully resolve outstanding issues regarding the project's effects on EFH.

The enclosed comment letter responds to the current public notice for the project as proposed. If a 30 day time extension is granted, and/or a new public notice is issued, NMFS will submit a new comment letter within the specified time limit.

If you have any questions regarding our extension request for this project, please contact Chiska Derr at 907-586-7345 or Chiska.derr@noaa.gov.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Mecum
Acting Administrator, Alaska Region



cc: Mr. Dick Sommerville, Agent
PND Engineers, Inc.
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Juneau, Alaska 99801

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Enclosure: 30 January 2009 NMFS public notice comment letter.