



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE
OFFICE OF NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARIES
Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary
115 East Railroad Avenue, Suite 301
Port Angeles, WA 98362-2925

August 8, 2017

Christine Psyk, Acting Director
Office of Water and Watersheds
USEPA Region 10
1200 6th Ave.
Suite 900, OWW-191
Seattle, Washington

Dear Ms. Psyk:

Thank you for your response, dated June 19, 2017, to our recommended alternatives for conditions on the proposed National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Offshore Seafood Processors Discharging in Federal Waters of the Washington and Oregon Coast (Permit No. WAG520000). We determined that your response honors the intent of our recommended alternatives 2 (hypoxia mitigation) and 3 (improved monitoring and reporting). However, we note that you selected not to incorporate our recommended alternative 1 (harmful algal blooms mitigation).

Under Section 304(d) of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act (NMSA; 16 U.S.C. 1434 (d)) federal agencies must consult with NOAA regarding any action or proposed action (including private activities authorized by licenses, leases, or permits) that is likely to destroy, cause the loss of, or injure any sanctuary resource. The NMSA further states that when an agency does not follow a proposed alternative and such actions result in the destruction of, loss of, or injury to a sanctuary resource, the agency shall promptly prevent and mitigate further damage and restore or replace the sanctuary resources in a manner approved by the Secretary of Commerce.

While this letter concludes the consultation process under Section 304(d) of the NMSA, we look forward to collaborating with you in the future during the renewal of the NPDES general permit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carol Bernthal".

Carol Bernthal
Sanctuary Superintendent

