



Kate Swails <kate.swails@noaa.gov>

Fwd: FW: Harbor Porpoise Rules

David Gouveia <david.gouveia@noaa.gov> Tue, Sep 11, 2012 at 4:13 PM
To: Mike Asaro <michael.asaro@noaa.gov>, Kate Swails <Kate.Swails@noaa.gov>, Amanda Johnson <amanda.johnson@noaa.gov>

FYI

----- Forwarded message -----
From: Tim Ragen <tragen@mmc.gov>
Date: Tue, Sep 11, 2012 at 10:24 AM
Subject: FW: Harbor Porpoise Rules
To: Sam Rauch <Samuel.Rauch@noaa.gov>
Cc: David Laist <DLaist@mmc.gov>

Hi Sam,

I understand that the National Seafood Coalition has requested a change to the months and boundaries of the contingency closures in the Harbor porpoise take reduction plan. The closures were recommended by consensus by the take reduction team and adopted by the Service. The Commission participated on that team and voted in favor of the developed measure. We urge you to not change the months and boundaries of the closure, as we think that would undermine the management process not only in this case, but in all cases where take reduction teams are used --- that is, it would set an unfortunate precedent. If the consequence closures are changed at the last minute without opportunity for other team members to comment on the proposal, team members could reasonably conclude that the take reduction process is not fair and does not provide the necessary assurance that agreed positions are likely to be implemented. We strongly encourage the Service to remain faithful to the legislatively established take reduction team process and will be happy to provide full support to the Service for doing so.

Please let us know how we can help.

Best regards, Tim