

Chapter 5 – Consultation and Coordination  
Response to Comments



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
Southwest Region  
501 West Ocean Boulevard, Suite 4200  
Long Beach, California 90802- 4213

May 3, 2005

**In Response Refer to:** MAY 3 - '05  
151422SRW05SR00250:DI

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Point Reyes National Seashore
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Don L. Neubacher, Superintendent  
National Park Service  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
Point Reyes, California 94956

Dear Mr. Neubacher:

This letter is in response to your request for written concurrence from the NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) regarding the National Park Service's (NPS) three determinations related to its Non-native Deer Management Plan for the Point Reyes National Seashore: 1) the project is not likely to adversely affect threatened California Coastal (CC) Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), Central California Coast (CCC) coho salmon (*O. kisutch*), or CCC steelhead (*O. mykiss*); 2) the project is not likely to result in adverse effects to designated critical habitat for CCC coho salmon or the proposed critical habitat of CC Chinook salmon and CCC steelhead; and 3) the project is not likely to result in adverse modification of Essential Fish Habitat. NPS proposes to eradicate nonnative axis deer (*Cervus axis*) and fallow deer (*Cervus dama*) on its holdings throughout the Lagunitas Creek watershed in Marin County California. The proposed eradication efforts will occur in grassland or scrub areas where deer can be handled or culled safely. No management actions will occur in streams or riparian areas. Therefore, I concur with NPS's three determinations stated earlier in this paragraph.

This concludes informal section 7 consultation for this proposed project in accordance with 50 CFR section 402.14(b)(1). Consultation must be reinitiated if new information becomes available revealing the effects of the action on listed species in a manner or to an extent not previously considered, the project plans change, if the action is subsequently modified in a manner that causes an effect to listed species that was not considered, or if a new species or critical habitat is designated that may be affected by this action.

If you have questions concerning this consultation, please contact Daniel Logan at (707) 575-6053.

Sincerely,

Rodney R. McInnis  
Regional Administrator

cc: ARA-PRD, NMFS

