## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Secretary for Administration Washington, D.C. 20230

AUG 8 2003

The Honorable Judd Gregg Chairman Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State and the Judiciary Committee on Appropriations United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed is the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) report on the status of the International Dolphin Conservation Program (IDCP) as requested in the Conference Report accompanying the Consolidated Appropriations Resolution, 2003 (H. Rpt. 108-10).

The agreement on the IDCP went into force in February 1999, and established a legally-binding international instrument for dolphin conservation and ecosystem management in the Eastern Tropical Pacific Ocean. The subject report provides an evaluation of compliance with several components of the Agreement, including the IDCP On-Board Observer Program and national observer programs, dolphin interactions and mortality, international requirements for vessels, and actions by Parties to the Agreement to follow-up on cases of non-compliance by vessels identified by the International Review Panel. NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service prepared this report in consultation with the U.S. Department of State and key U.S. stakeholder groups.

Please contact me at (202) 482-4951 if you have any questions. Thank you for your continued support of the Department of Commerce and its programs.

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Assistant Secretary for Administration

AUG 8 2003

The Honorable Ernest F. Hollings Ranking Minority Member Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State and the Judiciary Committee on Appropriations United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Hollings

Enclosed is the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) report on the status of the International Dolphin Conservation Program (IDCP) as requested in the Conference Report accompanying the Consolidated Appropriations Resolution, 2003 (H. Rpt. 108-10).

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Sincerel<sup>3</sup>

Chief Financial Officer and

Assistant Secretary for Administration

AUG 8 2003

The Honorable Frank R. Wolf Chairman Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, the Judiciary and Related Agencies Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515-6017

Dear Mr. Chairman

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Sincerely.

hief Financial Officer and

Assistant Secretary for Administration

AUG 8 2003

The Honorable José E. Serrano Ranking Minority Member Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, the Judiciary and Related Agencies Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515-6017

Dear Representative Serrano

Enclosed is the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) report on the status of the International Dolphin Conservation Program (IDCP) as requested in the Conference Report accompanying the Consolidated Appropriations Resolution, 2003 (H. Rpt. 108-10).

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