



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dr. Frank Parrish
Protected Resources Division
Pacific Islands Fishery Science Center
NOAA Inouye Regional Center (IRC)
1845 Wasp Boulevard, Building 176
Honolulu, HI 96818

Dear Dr. Parrish: *Frank,*

I wanted to let you know how much our office appreciated George Balazs' participation on the Green Turtle Status Review Team.

This team spent an appreciable amount of time on the review in a relatively short time period, not only travelling to two meetings in La Jolla but holding more than 20 lengthy conference calls – often at an early hour for the Hawaii participants. George participated in both meetings and every call, even calling in while on vacation.

George's vast knowledge of Pacific sea turtles was an asset to the team, and the status review is a better and more complete document due to his participation. The Green Turtle Status Review would not be as thorough a document without his input and efforts.

We thank George for his hard work and your office for making this possible. I believe the result is as comprehensive a review as has been conducted by our agency, and that it will be used by many within and outside of our agency as a reference document for years to come.

Sincerely,

Donna Wieting
Director, Office of Protected Resources

Cc: George Balazs
Michael Seki

