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

SEP 5 2012

George Balazs
National Marine Fisheries Service
Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center, Protected Species Division
1601 Kapiolani Boulevard
Honolulu, HI 96814

Dear Mr. Balazs:

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service invite you to participate in a status review team for the green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*). In response to a petition to classify the Hawaii population of green turtle as a Distinct Population Segment (DPS) and delist that DPS, and pursuant to our previous plans to review all global sea turtle listings, we plan to revisit all listings of the green turtle. This will include an assessment to determine the application of the DPS policy to the green turtle, a status review of the species either globally or for any identified DPSs, and the identification of potential critical habitat within the United States, as appropriate.

Participation on this team will require attendance at two or more team meetings and participation in numerous teleconferences, active participation in gathering and assessing information on the species and its habitat, and writing a status review report.

Location and meeting times will be agreed upon by team members and we will make every attempt to schedule meetings at times convenient to all. Thank you in advance for your interest in and commitment to serving on this team. If you have any questions or if you cannot serve in this capacity, please contact Susan Pultz at susan.pultz@noaa.gov or 301-427-8472, or Sandy MacPherson at sandy_macpherson@fws.gov or 904-731-3328.

Sincerely,


Helen Golde
Acting Director
Office of Protected Resources

cc: Dr. Samuel Pooley