



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Pacific Islands Regional Office
1845 Wasp Blvd., Bldg 176
Honolulu, Hawaii 96818
(808) 725-5000 • Fax: (808) 725-5215

Mirabai Galashan
83-5294 Painted Church Road
Captain Cook, HI 96740

DEC 16 2016

Dear Ms. Galashan:

Thank you for your letter dated October 24, 2016, in which you make a request for correction of information under Section 515 of the Data Quality Act with regard to the proposed Protective Regulations for Hawaiian Spinner Dolphins under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the associated draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and regulatory impact review. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has reviewed your request for correction and has made a preliminary determination that the request meets the necessary requirements to be deemed a “proper” request pursuant to NMFS Policy Directive 04-108 Policy on the Data Quality Act (www.nmfs.noaa.gov/op/pds/documents/04/04-108.pdf). However, because your letter was received between the opening of the first comment period on August 24, 2016, and the close of the second (re-opened) comment period on December 1, 2016, and we are accepting all comments between these dates, your request will be treated as a comment filed on the proposed rulemaking and will be addressed in issuance of any final rule. As such, we will respond to your comments in the final rulemaking, which is expected to be issued in approximately one year.

We appreciate your concerns, and will consider them as we develop the final rule.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. P. Tosatto".

Michael D. Tosatto
Regional Administrator

