



October 23, 2019

Kitty Simonds
Executive Director
Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council
1164 Bishop Street, Suite 1400
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Ms. Simonds,

The U.S. Department of Commerce Office of Inspector General has selected the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA's) Western Pacific Sustainable Fisheries Fund grants awarded to the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council (Council) for an audit.

The objectives of our audit will be to determine whether the Council (1) claimed allowable, allocable, and reasonable costs under the grant awards; and (2) received the goods and services paid for by the grant awards. We will also determine whether NOAA provided adequate oversight and monitoring; if we have findings in this area, we will issue a separate memorandum to NOAA.

The audit will be conducted under the authority of the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, and Department Organization Order 10-13, dated April 26, 2013 as amended.

We will contact you to schedule an entrance conference, at which time we will discuss our objectives in more detail. Please have key staff members available at the conference. If you have any questions regarding this audit, please call either Chris Kapek, Audit Manager, at (206) 220-4717 or Patricia McBarnette, Director of Audits, at (202) 482-3391.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carol N. Rice".

Carol N. Rice
Assistant Inspector General for Audit and Evaluation

Enclosure

Cc: Jeffrey Thomas, Director, Acquisition and Grants Office, NOAA
Arlene Porter, Director, Grants Management Division, NOAA
Michael Tosatto, Regional Administrator, Pacific Islands Regional Office, NOAA
Scott Bloom, Program Officer, Pacific Islands Regional Office, NOAA
Rhonda Lawrence, Audit Liaison, NOAA