



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
P.O. Box 21668
Juneau, Alaska 99802-1668

June 1, 2017

Stan Eliason
617 Katlian St.
Sitka, AK 99835

Dear Mr. Eliason:

On behalf of NOAA Fisheries Protected Resources Division, thank you for your many efforts in making the City of Sitka's harbor safer for people and marine mammals.

We very much appreciate your proactive efforts to:

- 1) Educate harbor users about the negative impacts of feeding Steller sea lions and discouraging the practice when possible;
- 2) Encouraging a "no feeding of marine mammals" policy in the Sitka harbor; and
- 3) Encouraging everyone to keep a clean dock and boat by not leaving whole fish or discarded fish pieces where sea lions can reach them.

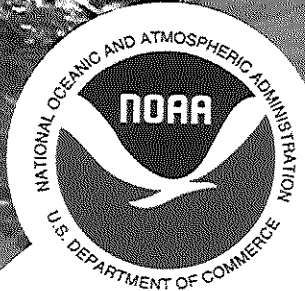
Your dedication, cooperation, and open communication have been instrumental in preventing negative human-sea lion interactions. Your encouragement for additional outreach was a driving force behind NOAA Fisheries' production of new educational materials describing the consequences of feeding sea lions.

Thank you for your continued efforts and for your exemplary stewardship of Sitka-area harbors.

Sincerely,

Jonathan M. Kurland
Assistant Regional Administrator
for Protected Resources





NOAA
FISHERIES

Alaska Region

Certificate of Appreciation

Presented to

Stan Eliason

Harbormaster

City of Sitka

*For Dedication & Commitment to Human Safety
For Effective Outreach and Education on Steller Sea Lion behavior*

Jonathan M. Kurland

Assistant Regional Administrator for Protected Resources
NOAA Fisheries, Alaska Region