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April 8, 2009

Eileen Maher
Assistant Environmental Director
Environmental Services Department
San Diego Unified Port District
PO Box 120488
San Diego, CA 92112-0488

Dear Ms. Maher,

This letter serves as our progress report for the first quarter of 2009 for our project "Movement and population size of spiny lobsters in San Diego Bay" (Hovel and Neilson).

Because our budget was just awarded in March of 2009, we have not yet commenced with our research. Dr. Neilson and I have been acquiring equipment for the project, which we plan to begin within a few weeks. We have contracted with a fisherman to produce lobster traps for the study, we have ordered t-bar tags for tagging lobsters (due to arrive in two weeks), and we have worked with your staff at the Port of San Diego to order sonic tagging and tracking equipment from Sonotronics. I understand from our conversation today (April 8th) that the sonic tags, receivers and tracking equipment has just arrived in your office, and I will be picking these up from you shortly.

Dr. Neilson and I also have been arranging for vessel support for the project. Small boats owned by SDSU for use on San Diego Bay are in place, and a small vessel owned by the DFG has been moved to a secure facility near San Diego Bay and is ready to be deployed when the project commences.

We look forward to working with the Port of San Diego on this project and on future projects in San Diego Bay.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kevin A. Hovel