Aleut Marine Mammal Commission



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May 1, 2023

Anne Marie Eich

Assistant Regional Administrator, NOAA Alaska Region

Submitted electronically via email to: annmarie.eich@noaa.gov

Re: Authorizing Northern Fur Seal Hunts in the AMMC region

Aang, Greetings Dr. Eich:

The Aleut Marine Mammal Commission (AMMC) consists of 11 Tribes from Atka in the western Aleutians to Unga in the east. AMMC has been in discussion and collaboration with the Tribal Government of St. Paul Island and St. George Tribal Council regarding the legalization of Laaqudan (Norther Fur Seal) hunts in the AMMC region. The AMMC would like to respectfully request the legalization of laaqudax hunts in our region from November 1 – April 30 with a total of no more than 100 Laaqudan hunted annually. AMMC has the support of all 11 member Tribes in the form of Tribal Resolutions. Additionally, the Tribal Governments in the Pribilofs are in favor of this endeavor and have been very transparent and helpful with these potential changes that are being requesting.

Thank you for your consideration with this request.

Sincerely,

Josephine Shangin, Executive Director Aleut Marine Mammal Commission