



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

May 23, 2012

Dear Harvesters and Buyers/Processors of Oregon Pink Shrimp:

In 2005, harvesters in the Pacific Coast Groundfish fishery agreed to repay a loan of about \$35.7 million to fund a fishing capacity reduction (buyback) program. The program is composed of 7 sub-loans for pink shrimp, Dungeness crab, and groundfish species.

The Oregon pink shrimp sub-loan in the amount of \$2,228,844.53 has been repaid in full. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has received \$3,253,336.34 in Oregon pink shrimp buyback fees to repay the principal and interest (6.97%) on this sub-loan since fee collection began September 8, 2005. Landings in the Oregon pink shrimp fishery increased in recent seasons, particularly in 2011, which resulted in this sub-loan being repaid on May 17, 2012. Therefore, buyback loan fees will no longer be collected in the Oregon pink shrimp fishery.

Based upon the best available data from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, landings after April 19, 2012 will not be subject to the buyback fee. Any funds submitted to NMFS for landings after this date will be refunded on a pro-rata basis to the fish buyers/processors. The fish buyers/processors should return excess fees collected to the harvesters, including buyback fees collected but not yet remitted to NMFS.

**Please note that all other buyback fees for the remaining six sub-loans in the Pacific Coast Groundfish Capacity Reduction Program remain in effect.**

If you have any further questions, please contact the NMFS Capacity Reduction Program staff listed below.

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Sincerely,

Paul Marx, Chief  
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