



Australian Government

Department of the Environment and Water Resources

The Hon Tony Rundle
Chairman
Australian Fisheries Management Authority
PO Box 7051
CANBERRA BUSINESS CENTRE ACT 2610

Dear Mr Rundle,

I refer to my letter of 14 November 2006 advising of my intention to reaccredit the amended *Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery Management Plan 2005* (the Plan), as described in the *Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery Management Plan Amendment 2006 (No. 1)*, under section 33 and Part 13 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). I also advised that a number of legislative steps were required before these decisions could be finalised.

I am pleased to advise that these legislative processes have been completed and that the reaccreditation of the amended Plan has been finalised.

In my letter of 14 November 2006, I made statements to the effect that actions provided for or taken in accordance with the amended Plan would not be expected to contravene the protected species provisions of the EPBC Act. The legislative instrument formalising the accreditation of the amended Plan under the protected species provisions of Part 13 of the EPBC Act was signed on 14 November 2006.

On 27 November 2006 I tabled in Parliament a notice of intent to accredit the amendments to the Plan under section 33 of the EPBC Act. The disallowance period for the notice has now elapsed and, as a Delegate of the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, I have recently signed a declaration formally reaccrediting the amended management plan pursuant to section 33 of the EPBC Act.

I would like to thank you for the constructive way in which your officers have engaged in notifying the Department of the Environment and Water Resources of changes to the *Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery Management Plan 2005* and ensuring that the decisions made under the EPBC Act, relating to the fishery, remain valid.

Yours sincerely

[signed]

Andrew McNee
Assistant Secretary
Marine Environment Branch
Department of the Environment and Water Resources

14 May 2007