United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service	United States Department of Commerce National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries	United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management	United States Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 9, 2004

TO: Forest Supervisors and District Rangers, USFS
District Managers and Field Managers, BLM
Project Leaders, USFWS
State Habitat Directors, NOAA Fisheries
Level 1 and Level 2 Team Members

FROM: Jack Troyer, Regional Forester, USFS
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SUBJECT: Proposed Award and Recognition Process for Section 7 Streamlining Teams

Consultation between land management and regulatory agencies is a critical component of the decision-making process. The partnership between the regulatory and land managing agencies is vital to accomplishing our land management objectives, including the conservation of listed species.

The Regional Executives want to encourage and promote an ongoing program of recognition for the critical work being done in consultation. We believe that Level 2 managers within the streamlining process will be most adept at recognizing and rewarding outstanding performance. Toward that end, we have asked the Interagency Coordinators Subgroup (ICS) to develop an awards program. They will provide specific information on the type of awards available, the schedule and timing for issuing awards, and nomination procedures. As they develop this program, we have asked the ICS to seek input from field units and various levels of the streamlining organization.

It may be appropriate to consider group awards as well as individual awards and both monetary and non-monetary awards. Regardless of the type of award, we have identified several consistent criteria and considerations that should be weighed in selecting recipients. Here are a few suggestions:

1. Efficient and timely completion of consultation through the use of programmatic approaches; and
2. Innovation through the use of new information, new technical means or new analysis procedures to complete consultation; and
3. Collaborative approaches that maximize efficient use of people that results in timely completion of consultation.

Our goal is to set a reward and recognition program in place quickly and begin to acknowledge those people that are working so hard to make consultation among agencies function successfully.

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cc:
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Regional Technical Team (RTT)
ICB Deputy Team