



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

JAN 05 2010

Ms. Elizabeth A. Mitchell, President
Association for Professional Observers
P. O. Box 933
Eugene, Oregon 97440

Dear Ms. Mitchell:

This letter is to acknowledge receipt of your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request for written guidelines and/or rules given to the staff of each National Marine Fisheries Service Observer Program and the National Observer Program with regard to public access to fisheries observer data and information.

Your request asks for guidelines/rules from the following timeframes and should include any updates sent to observer program staff regarding any clarification of the guidelines and/or rules.

- (1) Prior to 1993,
- (2) 1993 through 2006, and
- (3) 2007 until present.

You also requested that all fees associated with processing this request be waived. This will be taken into consideration.

Your request was received in our office on January 5, 2010. For tracking purposes, we have assigned your request **NOAA FOIA No. 2010-00126**.

If you have any questions regarding your request, please contact me at (301) 713-1364.

Sincerely,

Michael E. Justen
NMFS FOIA Liaison Officer

