



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
Southeast Fisheries Science Center  
Mississippi Laboratories  
P.O. Drawer 1207  
Pascagoula, MS 39568-1207

December 12, 2006

Ms. Kimberly Chauvin  
Mariah Jade Shrimp Company  
5248 Bayouside Dr.  
Chauvin, LA 70344

Dear Ms. Chauvin:

The Harvesting Systems Branch of NOAA Fisheries wishes to extend our sincere thanks to you and David for your assistance with our projects directed toward the development of selective commercial trawling gear. Your work in the testing of larger TED openings for the exclusion of sea turtles, as well as the development of new fish excluder designs (BRDs) have been instrumental in helping us work with the fishing industry to solve these important issues. We commend your company for its commitment toward maintaining a viable commercial shrimp industry in Gulf of Mexico through the development of more efficient and responsible fishing gear.

We look forward to continuing our working relationship with you in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dale Stevens". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dale Stevens  
Fisheries Methods and Equipment Specialist  
Harvesting Systems Branch