March 15, 2004

New Scotia Department of Environment and Labour
13 First Street
Yarmouth, NS
B5A 1S9

RE: Parker Mountain Aggregate Ltd., Quarry Development, Truro, Digby County

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Habitat Management Division (DFO-HMD) has now completed our internal review of the 'Proposed Blasting Design Plan' submitted by the proponents in support of their proposed 2004 quarry operations. The DFO-HMD review took into consideration the presence of the endangered North American Right Whale as required under the Species at Risk Act (SARA) that came into effect on June 5, 2003. DFO-HMD also considered the local presence of an identified Herring Spawning area.

After careful review of the blasting design and the set-back distance, DFO-HMD is of the opinion that there should be no adverse impacts to either of the identified endangered species or the Herring Spawning area from this activity.

If you have any questions or should there be any changes to the proposed work, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at (902) 746-0873 or (902) 527-5596.

Respectfully,

[Signature]

Thomas J. Wheaton
Area Habitat Chief

Copy: Conservation & Protection, Digby
E&MD Referrals
Navigable Waters Protection Program