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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

July 25, 2017

**MEDIA ADVISORY: NOAA Fisheries scientist's green sponge discovery in Alaska may help advance development of new treatments for deadly cancer**

Wednesday, July 26, 2017 -- NOAA will be hosting a media teleconference to discuss how the discovery of an Alaskan green sponge by a NOAA Fisheries scientist over a decade ago shows promise in identifying a treatment for pancreatic cancer. Scientists and biomedical researchers will be on the line to answer questions about the sponge discovery and what has been learned so far through this exciting medical research.

**WHAT:** Media Teleconference to discuss Alaska green sponge's potential for advancing pancreatic cancer treatment. Press materials will be available 1-hour prior to media teleconference including B-roll.

**WHO:**

- Douglas DeMaster, science director, NOAA Fisheries' Alaska Fisheries Science Center
- Bob Stone, coral and sponge biologist, NOAA Fisheries Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Auke Bay Laboratories
- Mark Hamann, biomedical cancer researcher, Medical University of South Carolina
- Fred Valeriote, cancer researcher, Henry Ford Cancer Institute Detroit

**WHEN:** Wednesday, July 26, 2017  
10:00 am AKT/11:00 am PT/2:00 pm ET

**HOW:**  
Dial-in (USA) 1-888-469-1057 (international 1-210-234-0082)  
Passcode: 5316129

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