UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
PROGRAM PLANNING AND INTEGRATION
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

MAY 10 2010

To All Interested Government Agencies and Public Groups:

Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), an environmental review has been performed on the following action.

TITLE: Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the Final 2010 Atlantic Bluefin Tuna (BFT) Quota Specifications (RIN 0648-AY77)

LOCATION: Atlantic Ocean (including Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea)

SUMMARY: The National Marine Fisheries Service is establishing the total U.S. BFT quota and subquotas for 2010 based on the 2008 International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) recommendation for the western BFT stock for 2010 (part of a two-year recommendation) and adjusting the 2010 quotas for each category as necessary based on landings from 2009. This purpose of this action is to implement the 2008 ICCAT recommendation as necessary and appropriate pursuant to the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act and to achieve domestic management objectives under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. These measures would be consistent with the 2006 Consolidated Highly Migratory Species Fishery Management Plan, including the BFT rebuilding program. This action is not expected to significantly alter current fishing practices or increase fishing effort, would not be expected to change previously analyzed endangered species or marine mammal interaction rates or magnitudes, or affect critical habitat.

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL: Emily H. Menashes
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
1315 East West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
(301) 713-2334

The environmental review process led us to conclude that this action will not have a significant effect on the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement was not prepared. A copy of the finding of no significant impact (FONSI) including the supporting SEA is enclosed for your information.

Although NOAA is not soliciting comments on this completed SEA/FONSI, we will consider any comments submitted that would assist us in preparing future NEPA documents. Please submit any written comments to the responsible official named above.

Sincerely,

for Paul N. Doremus, Ph.D.
NOAA NEPA Coordinator

Enclosure

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