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

24 Apr 2012

To All Interested Government Agencies and Public Groups:

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

TITLE: 2012 Ocean Salmon Fisheries Management Measures (XRIN 0648-XA921)

LOCATION: Exclusive Economic Zone (3-200 nautical miles) off the Coasts of Washington, Oregon, and California

SUMMARY: The proposed action is to develop the 2012 ocean salmon management measures for west coast salmon fisheries. The action would be consistent with conservation objectives in the current Salmon Fishery Management Plan and current ESA Biological Opinions that cover proposed fishing levels on all listed salmon and steelhead, as well as impacts on marine mammals. No significant impacts are anticipated.

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL: William W. Stelle, Jr.
Northwest Regional Administrator
National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
7600 Sand Point Way NE
Seattle, WA 98115-6349

The environmental review process led us to conclude that this action will not have a significant impact on the environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement was not prepared. A copy of the finding of no significant impact (FONSI) is enclosed for your information. The development of annual management measures for west coast salmon fisheries is a well documented and public process. Part of this process includes the preparation of a series of documents by the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and NMFS. These documents contain the elements of an EA. These documents together constitute the EA. The EA for this action consists of the following documents:

Preseason Report I: Stock Abundance Analysis and Environmental Assessment Part 1 for 2012 Ocean Salmon Fishery Regulations (February 2012)

Preseason Report II: Proposed Alternatives and Environmental Assessment Part 2 for 2012 Ocean Salmon Fishery (March 2012).

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Preseason Report III: Council Adopted Management Measures and Environmental Assessment Part 3 for 2012 Ocean Salmon Fishery Regulations (April 2012).

All documents are available to the public via the Council's website (www.pcouncil.org).

Although NOAA is not soliciting comments on this completed EA/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,

Patricia A. Montanio
NEPA Coordinator

Enclosure