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

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: Environmental Assessment (EA) for Framework Adjustment 3 to the Atlantic Herring Fishery Management Plan

LOCATION: Atlantic Exclusive Economic Zone

SUMMARY: Framework 3 establishes a process for setting river herring (alewife and blueback) and shad (American and hickory) catch caps for the Atlantic herring fishery. In addition, this action sets these catch caps for the 2014 and 2015 fishing years. Catch of river herring and shad includes both bycatch (discards) and incidental catch that is retained.

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL: John K. Bullard
Regional Administrator
National Marine Fisheries Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930
(978) 281-9315

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), including the supporting environmental assessment, is enclosed for your information.

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,

TRONVIG.KRISTEN.A.1365886012 Digitally signed by TRONVIG.KRISTEN.A.1365886012
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Patricia A. Montanio
NOAA NEPA Coordinator
for

Enclosure

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