



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: Temporary Final Rule for Emergency Action for the Mid-Atlantic Blueline Tilefish Fishery (RIN 0648-BE97)

LOCATION: Exclusive Economic Zone off the east coast.

SUMMARY: This Secretarial emergency action in the blueline tilefish fishery was requested by the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council to address the unregulated expansion of blueline tilefish harvest within its jurisdiction. The temporary rule implements commercial and recreational possession limits that are expected to constrain fishing mortality on the stock while the Mid-Atlantic and South Atlantic Councils develop a long-term management plan.

RESPONSIBLE

OFFICIAL: John K. Bullard
Regional Administrator, Greater Atlantic Region
National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
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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 environmental assessment (EA), 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,

Patricia A. Montanio
NOAA NEPA Coordinator

Enclosure

for

