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, an environmental review has been performed on the following action.

TITLE: Omnibus Amendment to Simplify Vessel Baselines and RIN 0648-BB40

LOCATION: Exclusive Economic Zone off the east coast of the United States

SUMMARY: This action eliminates the one-time limit on vessel upgrades and removes gross and net tonnages from the vessel baseline specifications that are considered when determining a vessel's baseline for replacement purposes. Implementing these measures reduces the administrative burden to permit holders and NMFS. This action has little effect on fleet capacity, and, therefore, no impacts to the environment are expected as a result of this action.

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL:
John K. Bullard
Regional Administrator
National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
55 Great Republic Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930
(978) 281-9200

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, 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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for Patricia A. Montanio
NOAA NEPA Coordinator

Enclosure

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