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:** Programmatic Environmental Assessment to Revise U.S. Commercial Fishing Regulations for Rebuilding Pacific Bluefin Tuna in the Eastern Pacific Ocean

**LOCATION:** West Coast Region, Long Beach, CA

**SUMMARY:** This Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) analyzes conservation and management measures that are part of an international agreement to conserve Pacific bluefin tuna caught (PBF) in the eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO). The measures would only apply to vessels that commercially catch PBF in the EPO. The average annual PBF landings by U.S. vessels fishing in the EPO represent less than two percent of the average annual PBF landings by all fleets fishing in the EPO for 2007 through 2014. While the catch and trip limits pose restrictions for the U.S. fleet, the average annual PBF catch for the U.S. fleet is below the proposed catch limit, and more than 50 percent of the trips landing PBF in that time were within the proposed trip limit. Impacts to the human environment (e.g., effects of the proposed action alternatives on the natural environment and the socioeconomic environment) were found to be insignificant.

**RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL:** William W. Stelle, Jr.
Regional Administrator, West Coast Region
National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
7600 Sand Point Way, N.E., Bldg, 1
Seattle, Washington 98115
206-526-6150

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 will not be prepared. A copy of the finding of no significant impact (FONSI) including the supporting PEA is enclosed for your information.
Although NOAA is not soliciting comments on this completed PEA/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

1. Programmatic Environmental Assessment To Revise U.S. Commercial Fishing Regulations for Rebuilding Pacific Bluefin Tuna in the Eastern Pacific Ocean