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

MAY 20 2010

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: Supplemental Environmental Assessment of the Program for Decreasing or Eliminating Predation of Pre-weaned Hawaiian Monk Seal Pups by Galapagos Sharks in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center (PIFSC), Protected Species Division (PRD), Hawaiian Monk Seal Research Program (HMSRP), Honolulu, Hawaii

LOCATION: French Frigate Shoals, Hawaii

SUMMARY: The purpose of this Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) is for NMFS to consider the potential environmental impacts of using specific additional methods and equipment, in certain identified locations, that were not included in the March 2009 Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) discussion of activities to reduce Galapagos shark predation on pre-weaned Hawaiian monk seal pups at French Frigate Shoals (FFS).

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL: Samuel G. Pooley, Ph.D.
Director, Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center
2570 Dole Street
Honolulu, HI 96821
Phone: 808-983-5301

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 Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) 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,

for Paul N. Doremus, Ph.D.
NOAA NEPA Coordinator

Enclosure

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