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

JAN 26 2012

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: Emergency Action to Revise the Fishing Year 2011 GOM Winter Flounder Catch Limits in the Northeast Multispecies Fishery

LOCATION: Exclusive economic zone off the U.S. East Coast.

SUMMARY: An emergency action was developed to revise the fishing year 2011 GOM winter flounder catch limits in the Northeast multispecies fishery. Revision to the GOM winter flounder catch limits for fishing year 2011 is warranted based upon a new stock assessment for GOM winter flounder (June 2011) and recommended specifications from the New England Fishery Management Council based on that assessment.

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL: George H. Darcy
Assistant Regional Administrator for Sustainable Fisheries
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
National Marine Fisheries Service
55 Great Republic Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930-2276
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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, 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

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