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

MAR 12 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: Framework Adjustment 47 to the Northeast Multispecies FMP Including an Environmental Assessment, Regulatory Impact Review, and Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

LOCATION: Atlantic Exclusive Economic Zone

SUMMARY: This action is part of the biennial review process established in the FMP to develop annual catch limits (ACLs) and revise management measures necessary to rebuild overfished groundfish stocks and achieve the goals and objectives of the FMP. Framework 47 was developed to respond to recent stock assessments and updated stock information, as well as to revise management measures after the fishery has operated for 1 year under ACLs and accountability measures (AMs).

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL: Daniel S. Morris
Acting Regional Administrator, Northeast Region
National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
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Gloucester, MA 01930
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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
NEPA Coordinator

Enclosure

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