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

DEC 18 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: 2013 and 2014 Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Specifications

LOCATION: Exclusive Economic Zone off the U.S. east coast

SUMMARY: NMFS issues final specifications for the 2013 and 2014 summer flounder, scup, and black sea bass fisheries, including commercial quotas and recreational harvest limits. The intent of these specifications is to establish the allowable 2013 and 2014 harvest levels and possession limits to attain the target fishing mortality rate, consistent with the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Fishery Management Plan. The specifications are not anticipated to result in any significant impacts on target and non-target fishery resources, protected resources, habitat, or the affected human communities.

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL: John K. Bullard
Regional Administrator, Northeast Region
National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930
(978) 281-9343

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,

Scott Weaver

For Particia A. Montanio
NOAA NEPA Coordinator

Enclosure

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