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## Recommend concurrence on EA for Generic Amendment for Modifications to Federally Permitted Seafood Dealer Permitting and Reporting Requirements

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Steve Kokkinakis - NOAA Federal <steve.kokkinakis@noaa.gov>

Thu, Mar 13, 2014 at 8:29 AM

To: Pat Montanio - NOAA Federal <pat.montanio@noaa.gov>

Cc: Kristen Tronvig - NOAA Federal <kristen.tronvig@noaa.gov>, Steve Kokkinakis - NOAA Federal <Steve.Kokkinakis@noaa.gov>, Jay Nunenkamp - NOAA Federal <jay.nunenkamp@noaa.gov>, Jordan Creed - NOAA Affiliate <jordan.creed@noaa.gov>

Pat (as Kris is on telework),

I recommend your concurrence on this EA/FONSI **today, March 13, 2014**, as I will be on telework Friday. This EA is titled: *Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Generic Amendment for Modifications to Federally Permitted Seafood Dealer Permitting and Reporting Requirements to the Fishery Management Plans in the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic Regions (RIN 0648-BC12)*. The EA was well written and I did not have any comments on it from my review.

The EA analyzes the environmental impacts of a range of alternatives to address reporting requirements for seafood dealers who first receive federally managed species. Currently, there are six federal dealer permits in the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic Regions based upon species purchased. In addition, the reporting requirements are different depending on the species purchased.

The action will create a single dealer permit that allows the holder to first receive any of the species managed in eight fishery management plans. Purchase and no purchase forms must be submitted weekly and electronically. Dealers reporting purchases of king mackerel landed by the gillnet sector for the Gulf of Mexico southern Florida west coast sub zone will be required to submit forms daily by 6:00 a.m., local time. Dealers will not be able to receive federally managed species if forms are not submitted. This action is intended to improve the accuracy, completeness, consistency, and timeliness of landings data reported by dealers who first receive federally managed species.

The effects of the Proposed Action on the quality of the human environment are not considered controversial. The document has been reviewed and approved by Shepherd Grimes, Attorney-Advisor SER.

Thanks,  
Steve

Year: FY14 (March 2014)

Lead on Plan: SER

Plan/Authorization: Generic Amendment to GoM and S. Atl Region FMPs

Title: Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Generic Amendment for Modifications to Federally Permitted Seafood Dealer Permitting and Reporting Requirements to the Fishery Management Plans in the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic Regions (RIN 0648-BC12)

Grant: No

NEPA Document: EA

Status: Reviewed by Steve, Signed by Pat, sent to NMFS Clearance

FONSI signed 3/11/2014

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