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

SEP 10 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: Adoption of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (ACOE) Environmental Assessment for the *Norfolk District's 2008 Regional Permit Number 19*

LOCATION: Norfolk, Virginia

SUMMARY: NOAA's Office of the Chief Administrative Officer (OCAO) proposes to: (1) install an approximately 830-foot bulkhead in front of the existing bulkhead (2 feet into the water) and (2) repair existing associated utilities and pavement at the Marine Operations Center – Atlantic. OCAO has reviewed ACOE's EA, and concludes that the impacts evaluated by ACOE are substantially the same as the impacts of the alternatives considered for installing a new bulkhead. Additionally, OCAO consulted with NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Based on written confirmations from NMFS and USFWS, it was determined unlikely that any Endangered Species Act (ESA) listed species and marine mammals would occur in the action area for this proposed action. Therefore, it was determined that consultation under Section 7 of the ESA or an Incidental Harassment Authorization (under the Marine Mammal Protection Act) are not necessary. OCAO concludes that the proposed action will have minimal individual or cumulative impacts on the human environment.

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL: William F. Broglie
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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) and the supporting ACOE EA adopted by NOAA is enclosed for your information. Although NOAA is not soliciting comments on this 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,

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

Enclosure

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