



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

Dear Reviewer:

In accordance with provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), we enclose for your review the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS) for Amendment 16 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Shrimp Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico, U.S. Waters.

This DSEIS is prepared pursuant to NEPA to assess the environmental impacts associated with NOAA proceeding with regulatory actions being considered by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council. The DSEIS analyzes the impacts of a reasonable range of alternatives intended to: (1) set the commercial annual catch limit for royal red shrimp and determine if the use of a commercial quota should continue, and (2) choose a commercial accountability measure for royal red shrimp.

Additional copies of the DSEIS may be obtained from the Southeast Regional Office Web site at http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/gulf_fisheries/shrimp/2014/am16/index.html or from the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal (see below).

Written comments on the DSEIS should be submitted via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov/#!docketDetail;D=NOAA-NMFS-2014-0030> or through mail to the responsible official identified below. Written comments must be submitted during the agency's 45-day public comment period.

Responsible Program Official: Roy E. Crabtree, Ph.D.
Regional Administrator
Southeast Regional Office
National Marine Fisheries Service
263 13th Avenue South
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Sincerely,

for Patricia A. Montanio
NOAA NEPA Coordinator

Enclosure

