



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: Environmental Assessment (EA) for Amendment 20B to the Fishery Management Plan for the Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Region (FMP) [RIN 0648-BD86]

LOCATION: Exclusive economic zone off the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic states

SUMMARY: The EA analyzed the effects of a range of alternatives identified in Amendment 20B to the FMP. These actions (1) adjust king mackerel trip limits and fishing seasons in the eastern Gulf of Mexico (Gulf), (2) allow transit of king mackerel through closed areas, (3) create regional quotas for Atlantic migratory group king and Spanish mackerel, (4) make administrative changes to the FMP, and (5) create new management areas and catch limits for Gulf cobia. None of these actions are expected to alter the manner in which the fishery is prosecuted; therefore the effects of the actions are not expected to be significant.

RESPONSIBLE

OFFICIAL: Roy E. Crabtree, Ph.D.
Regional Administrator
National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration (NOAA)
263 13th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701
727-824-5301

The environmental review process led us to conclude that these actions 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 EA, 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
NOAA NEPA Coordinator

for

Enclosure

