



JUL 14 2010

Dear Reviewer:

In accordance with provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), we enclose for your review the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for Amendment 2 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Queen Conch Fishery of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands and Amendment 5 to the Reef Fish Fishery Management Plan of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

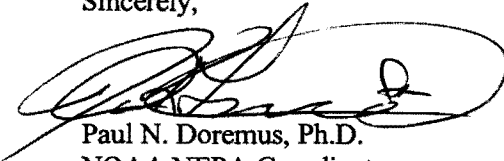
This DEIS is prepared pursuant to NEPA to assess the environmental impacts associated with NOAA proceeding with regulatory action. The DEIS analyzes the impacts of a range of alternatives intended to establish annual catch limits and accountability measures for queen conch and reef fish in the U.S. Caribbean, plus additional provisions to rearrange the grouper and snapper fishery management units, to implement various management strategies to safeguard parrotfish, and to define framework measures that allow relatively rapid response to future management needs.

Additional copies of the DEIS may be obtained from the Responsible Program Official identified below. The document is also accessible electronically from the Council's Web site at <http://www.caribbeanfmc.com> or the e-Rulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Written comments should be submitted through mail or via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov> (Docket: NOAA-NMFS-2010-0028). All comments received are part of the public record and will generally be posted to <http://www.regulations.gov> without change. All personal identifying information (for example, name, address, etc.) voluntarily submitted by the commenter may be publicly accessible. Do not submit confidential business information or otherwise sensitive or protected information. NOAA Fisheries Service will accept anonymous comments. Attachments to electronic comments will be accepted in Microsoft Word, Excel, WordPerfect, or Adobe PDF file formats only. Written comments submitted during the agency's 45 day public comment period must be received by September 7, 2010. When submitting comments by mail, include the following document identifier: **Comments on the 2010 Caribbean ACL Amendment.**

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Sincerely,



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Enclosure



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