



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Silver Spring, MD 20910

**NMFS ANNOUNCES THE AVAILABILITY OF FINAL AMENDMENT 1 TO THE
2006 CONSOLIDATED HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES FISHERY
MANAGEMENT PLAN for ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT**

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) announces availability of a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) that updates and revises existing Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) descriptions, identifications, and boundaries, designates a new Habitat Area of Particular Concern (HAPC) for bluefin tuna spawning areas in the Gulf of Mexico, and analyzes fishing and non-fishing impacts on EFH.

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act EFH regulations call for a complete review of all EFH information every five years, and this amendment constitutes the review and update of EFH for all HMS that began with the 2006 Consolidated HMS Fishery Management Plan. NMFS has implemented new EFH boundaries that may be viewed in the FEIS as well as on the internet using an interactive HMS EFH Mapping Tool at:

http://sharpfin.nmfs.noaa.gov/website/EFH_Mapper/HMS/map.aspx.

This notice is a courtesy to Atlantic HMS fishery interests to keep you informed about your fishery. Official notice of Federal fishery actions is made through filing such notice with the Office of the Federal Register. For further information, contact Chris Rilling or Sari Kiraly at (301) 713-2347.

Alan D. Risenhoover
Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries

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Date

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http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/breaking_news.htm