

Prepared for:
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)
Office of Protected Resources



In accordance with:
NOAA Administrative Order Series 216-6:
Environmental Review Procedures for Implementing
The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

Pursuant to:
The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969

Final Environmental Impact Statement To Implement Vessel Operational Measures to Reduce Ship Strikes to North Atlantic Right Whales

August 2008

Abstract

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) proposes to implement vessel operational measures to reduce the occurrence and severity of vessel collisions with endangered western North Atlantic right whales (*Eubalaena glacialis*). The proposed action addresses the lack of recovery of the North Atlantic right whale population by reducing the probability and threat of ship strike related deaths and serious injuries to the species. This final environmental impact statement (FEIS) analyzes the potential environmental impacts of implementing five alternative sets of vessel operational measures and the No Action Alternative.

Comments must be submitted no later than September 29, 2008
Please direct comments to:

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