

### **13.0 LIST OF AGENCIES, ORGANIZATIONS, AND PERSONS CONSULTED AND TO WHOM COPIES OF THE SEIS WILL BE SENT**

Discussions relevant to the formulation of the preferred measures involved input from several scientific groups: NOAA Fisheries Office of Protected Resources, NOAA Fisheries Southeast Fisheries Science Center, and NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office.

During the public comment period for the draft document and associated proposed rule, NOAA Fisheries held three public hearings (N. Dartmouth, MA; New Orleans, LA; Manteo, NC). NOAA Fisheries also sent copies of the DSEIS and associated proposed rule to all consulting parties, members of the HMS Advisory Panel, the Atlantic States and Gulf States Fishery Management Commissions, NOAA Offices of Protected Resources and Law Enforcement, the U.S. Coast Guard, and any interested members of the public. Additionally, NOAA Fisheries sent copies to the Environmental Protection Agency and its regions for review. To more rapidly reduce sea turtle interactions and to mitigate the economic impacts of sea turtle bycatch mitigation measures, NOAA Fisheries requested and was authorized to execute alternative procedures for the preparation and completion of an SEIS. The Council on Environmental Quality authorized a waiver of 14 of the standard 45 days for the DSEIS comment period. Comments on the draft document and associated proposed rule were accepted from February 11, 2004 through March 15, 2004. NOAA Fisheries received 46 written comments, which are summarized in Appendix C1 of this document.

### **References Cited in Chapter 13**

No references cited