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12.0 LIST OF PREPARERS

The development of this rulemaking involved input from many people within NMFS, NMFS contractors, and input from constituent groups including the HMS AP. Staff and contractors from the HMS Management Division, in alphabetical order, who worked on this document include:

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The development of this document also involved considerable input from other staff members and Offices throughout NOAA including, but not limited to:

- Other Divisions within the Office of Sustainable Fisheries (Alan Risenhoover);
- The Southeast Fisheries Science Center (Dr. Bonnie Ponwith, Dr. Kate Andrews, Heather Balchowsky, Dr. John Carlson, Dr. Enric Cortés, Dr. Steve Turner, Walter Ingram, Dr. William Driggers, Dr. John Mitchell, and Dan Foster);
- The Northeast Fisheries Science Center (Dr. Nancy Kohler, Dr. Cami McCandless, and Dr. Lisa Natanson);
- The Southeast Regional Office (David Bernhart, Jenny Lee, Andrew Herndon, Steve Branstetter, and Roy Crabtree);
- The Office of Law Enforcement (Jeff Radonski, and Paul Raymond)
- NOAA General Counsel (Meggan Engelke-Ros, Caroline Park, Megan Walline, and Scott Farley); and;
- NMFS NEPA coordinator (Steve Kokkinakas and Aileen Smith).

12.1 List of Agencies, Organizations, and Persons Consulted and to Whom Copies of the EIS Will Be Sent

Under 304(g)(1)(A) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, NMFS is required to consult with affected Fishery Management Councils, ICCAT Commissioners and advisory groups, and the APs established under the Magnuson-Stevens Act regarding amendments to a FMP. As described below, NMFS provided documents and met with the consulting parties and to the ASMFC and Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission at various stages throughout the process. Hard copies and/or CDs of these documents were also provided to anyone who requested copies.

NMFS announced its intent to prepare an EIS on May 7, 2008 (73 FR 25665). In this notice, NMFS asked for comments on existing commercial and recreational shark management measures that would assist the Agency in determining options for conservation and management of Atlantic sharks consistent with relevant federal statutes. On July 2 (73 FR 37932) and September 13 (73 FR 53407), NMFS announced the availability of a scoping document and five scoping meetings were held from July through September 2008. During the scoping meetings, NMFS described the results of recent stock assessments, issues that need to be addressed concerning shark management, and options or alternatives that may be implemented to achieve objectives.

NMFS released a Predraft of Amendment 3 to the 2006 Consolidated HMS FMP and a summary of the scoping comments to the HMS AP in February 2009. This document was also put on the HMS website. NMFS requested that the HMS AP and consulting parties (New England, Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, Gulf, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils, Marine Fisheries Commissions, U.S. Coast Guard, and other State and Federal Agency representatives) submit comments on the Predraft by March 16, 2009. While some of the options changed between the Predraft and draft stages of Amendment 3 to the 2006 Consolidated HMS FMP, the overall list of issues to be addressed has not changed. A summary of the comments received during scoping (May 7, 2008 to November 14, 2008) can be found on the HMS website:

http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/newslist/2009/02-12-09_Predraft_for_Amendment_3.pdf. A summary and the transcripts of the February 2009 AP meeting can also be found on the HMS website at: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/>.