



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
NORTHEAST REGION  
One Blackburn Drive  
Gloucester, MA 01930-2298

## Small Entity Compliance Guide

Dear Scallop Permit Holder:

**This letter is to inform you that the limited access general category (LAGC) scallop fishery is closed to individual fishing quota (IFQ) scallop vessels effective 0001 hours, October 5, 2008.** This action is being taken in accordance with the Atlantic sea scallop regulations at 50 CFR 648.53(a)(8)(iii) to prevent the IFQ scallop vessels from exceeding the total allowable catch (TAC) during the third quarter of the 2008 fishing year. The IFQ scallop fleet was allocated 652,875 lb for the third quarter of the 2008 fishing year. This was reduced to 623,747 lb due to an overage of 29,128 lb in the first quarter.

Therefore, effective 0001 hours on October 5, 2008, no IFQ scallop vessel fishing under LAGC regulations may declare its intent to enter the fishery and may not fish for, possess, or retain any scallops.

This letter also informs you that preliminary data for the second quarter indicates that the TAC allocated to that period was exceeded by 339,186 lb (meat weight). If additional landings reports are received, this overage will increase. The final amount of the quarter two overage, and any overage that may occur during the third quarter, will have the effect of reducing the TAC available for harvest during the fourth quarter (December 2008 through February 2009).

The current status of LAGC fishery scallop landings can be found at the following website:  
<http://www.nero.noaa.gov/ro/fso/scal.htm>

For questions about this closure, please call the Sustainable Fisheries Division at 978-281-9315.

This notice is authorized by the Administrator of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Northeast Region.

*You may also receive permit holder letters, including closure notices, by e-mail by clicking on "Permit Holder Letters" on our website at <http://www.nero.noaa.gov>; or via fax by providing a fax number through a written request to the above address, or by faxing your request to 978-281-9135.<sup>1</sup>*

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Kurkul  
Regional Administrator

*This small entity compliance guide complies with section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996.*

