



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

February 22, 2008

## **Small Entity Compliance Guide**

### **2008 ATLANTIC BLUEFISH SPECIFICATIONS**

Dear Atlantic Bluefish Permit Holder:

This letter announces the Atlantic bluefish specifications for fishing year 2008, including coastwide and state commercial quotas, and the recreational possession limit.

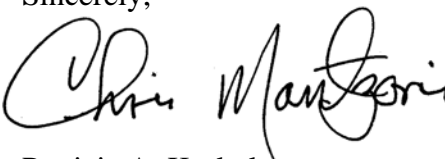
Effective **March 26, 2008** through December 31, 2008, the bluefish total allowable landings (TAL) is 28.156 million lb. After transferring 2,918,693 lb from the recreational to the commercial sector, and accounting for a research set-aside quota of 50,000 lb, the final 2008 specifications are as follows:

- **Commercial quota equals 7,691,561 lb**
- **Recreational harvest limit equals 20,414,621 lb**
- **Recreational possession limit is 15 bluefish per person**

The individual state commercial allocations are shown in the attached table, and are based on the percentages specified in the Atlantic Bluefish Fishery Management Plan. The commercial quota for New York has been adjusted to account for an overage of 51,719 lb in fishing year 2007. A separate *Federal Register* notice will be published in the event that further adjustments to the quota are necessary.

This letter does not contain all the regulatory provisions that pertain to the Atlantic bluefish fishery, and consequently, has no legal force or effect. A copy of the regulations can be obtained through NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service Northeast Regional Office web site: <http://www.nero.noaa.gov>.

Sincerely,

  
for Patricia A. Kurkul

Regional Administrator

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



**2008 Atlantic Bluefish Fisheries  
State Commercial Allocations**

State	Percent Share	2008 Commercial Quota (lb) RSA Deducted
ME	0.6685	51,418
NH	0.4145	31,882
MA	6.7167	516,619
RI	6.8081	523,649
CT	1.2663	97,398
NY	10.3851	747,057*
NJ	14.8162	1,139,595
DE	1.8782	144,463
MD	3.0018	230,885
VA	11.8795	913,716
NC	32.0608	2,465,973
SC	0.0352	2,707
GA	0.0095	731
FL	10.0597	773,748
Total	100.0001	6,892,784

\* Reflects a deduction of 51,719 lb from a 2007 overage.