



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
NORTHEAST REGION
55 Great Republic Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930-2276

SMALL ENTITY COMPLIANCE GUIDE

CLOSURE OF THE DIRECTED BUTTERFISH FISHERY

Dear Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and/or
Butterfish Permit Holder:

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service has determined that 80 percent of the butterfish quota for the 2009 fishing year has been harvested. Therefore, **effective 0001 hours, November 25, 2009, the directed fishery for butterfish is closed and vessels issued Federal permits for butterfish may not retain or land more than 600 lb of butterfish per trip or per calendar day. Federally permitted dealers are also advised that they may not purchase butterfish from federally permitted vessels that harvest more than 600 lb of butterfish until January 1, 2010. The directed fishery will reopen at 0001 hours, January 1, 2010, at which time the 2010 quota for the butterfish fishery will become available.**

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 978-281-9135.¹

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Kurkul *for*
Regional Administrator

¹This small entity compliance guide complies with section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996.

