



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

MAY 04 2009

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, May 6, 2009.** Therefore, beginning 0001 hours on **May 6, 2009**, 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 closure applies to vessels issued an IFQ permit and to vessels issued Letters of Authorization to fish under appeal. The LAGC scallop fishery is scheduled to re-open to IFQ scallop vessels on June 1, 2009.

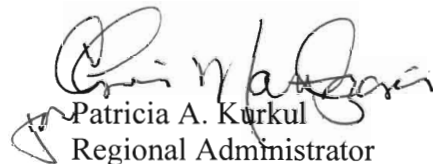
This action is being taken in accordance with the Atlantic sea scallop regulations at 50 CFR 648.53(a)(8)(iii) to prevent the IFQ scallop vessels from exceeding the total allowable catch (TAC) during the first quarter of the 2009 fishing year ending on May 31, 2009. The IFQ scallop fleet was allocated an annual TAC of 4,590,024 lb for the 2009 fishing year.

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.

*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.*

