



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

August 25, 2009

## **Small Entity Compliance Guide**

### **Amendment 1 to the Golden Tilefish Fishery Management Plan**

Dear Permit Holder:

Amendment 1 to the Golden Tilefish Fishery Management Plan (Amendment 1) was approved by NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on July 31, 2009. The final rule for Amendment 1 published on August 24, 2009. A detailed overview of the management measures included in Amendment 1 is provided as an attachment to this letter.

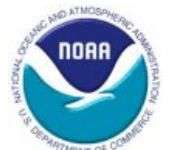
In brief, Amendment 1: 1) Implements an Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) program; 2) establishes IFQ transferability of ownership; 3) establishes a cap on the acquisition of IFQ allocation (temporary and permanent); 4) addresses fees and cost recovery; 5) establishes flexibility to revise/adjust the IFQ program; 6) establishes IFQ reporting requirements; 7) modifies the Interactive Voice Response (IVR) reporting requirements; 8) requires Charter/Party vessel permits, and imposes recreational landing limits; 9) improves monitoring of tilefish commercial landings; 10) expands the list of management measures that can be adjusted via the framework adjustment process; 11) modifies the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) designation; 12) modifies the habitat areas of particular concern (HAPC) designation; and 13) implements measures to reduce gear impacts on EFH within the Exclusive Economic Zone.

**All Amendment 1 measures are effective on November 1, 2009, with the exception of the measures necessary to qualify individuals for IFQ Allocation permits, issue IFQ Allocation permits, and other related implementation measures, which are effective August 24, 2009.**

A description of how the effective date affects current tilefish limited access permit holders and fishing for tilefish in the 2010 fishing year (November 1, 2009, through October 31, 2010) is included in the attached description of Amendment 1 management measures.

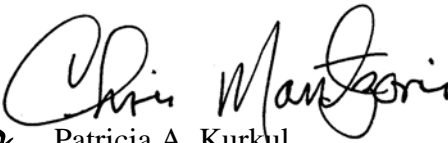
Please review carefully the information sent to you on Amendment 1. There are important deadlines and other important aspects of Amendment 1 that will affect future permit eligibility and fishing restrictions. These items are highlighted in the attached summary of measures.

Please call the Sustainable Fisheries Division at (978) 281-9315 if you have any questions about this letter or other information on Amendment 1.



The information provided with this letter is not a substitute for the complete regulations. All Federal permit holders and federally permitted dealers should get a copy of the complete, official regulations, which include area coordinates, by calling NMFS at 978-281-9315, or by going to our website at <http://www.nero.noaa.gov>. A copy of the Final Rule and Amendment 1, including the Final Environmental Impact Statement, Regulatory Impact Review, and Regulatory Flexibility Analysis, is also included on that website, or printed copies can be obtained from the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (telephone 302-674-2331, website: <http://www.mafmc.org>).

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.