



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

OCT 20 2010

SMALL ENTITY COMPLIANCE GUIDE

Dear Sea Scallop Permit Holder:

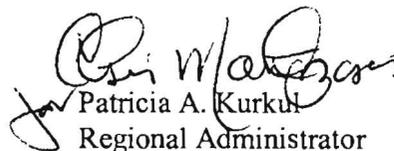
This letter is to inform you that NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) will not be collecting cost recovery fees from the Limited Access General Category (LAGC) Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) fishery for the initial 2010 fee period of March 1, 2010, through September 31, 2010.

The Magnuson-Stevens Act requires NMFS to recover the costs of administering an IFQ fishery through cost recovery fees paid by IFQ permit holders. NMFS, however, has flexibility in determining when the collection of cost recovery fees must first occur in an IFQ program. While we have established a process to determine IFQ costs, the implementation of the LAGC IFQ program on March 1, 2010, means that we have only a partial fee collection period. We believe that the best way to assure that IFQ costs are determined in a fair and equitable way is to initiate the process for the next full fishing year.

We intend that the first cost recovery fees for the LAGC IFQ fishery will be charged next year (October 2011) for the period October 1, 2010, to September 30, 2011.

If you have any questions, please contact the NMFS Sustainable Fisheries Division at 978-281-9315.

Sincerely,

  
Patricia A. Kurkul  
Regional Administrator

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

