



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

SMALL ENTITY COMPLIANCE GUIDE

CONTROL DATE FOR THE
GENERAL CATEGORY ATLANTIC SEA SCALLOP FISHERY

Dear Permit Holder:

This letter serves to inform you of action recently taken by NOAA Fisheries on behalf of the New England Fishery Management Council (Council) relating to possible future action to develop fishery management regulations for the general category Atlantic sea scallop fishery.

The Council recently requested, and NOAA Fisheries published an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking regarding the general category Atlantic sea scallop fishery. The date of publication of this notice, November 1, 2004, shall be known as the "control date" and may be used for establishing eligibility criteria for determining levels of future access to the general category scallop fishery subject to Federal authority. Future entry into the general category fishery may be based on historic harvest levels of a vessel or other criteria related to overall harvest capacity. This notice is purely advisory.

The control date for the general category Atlantic sea scallop fishery is: November 1, 2004.

The Federal Register notice that established this control date contains additional information regarding the possible use of this control date. To request a copy of this notice, please call (978) 281-9315, or visit the Northeast Regional Office's website at: <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/>

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Kurkul
Regional Administrator

You may also receive permit holder letters, including closure notices, by e-mail by clicking on "NOAA Fisheries News Releases" 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. This small entity compliance guide complies with section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement and Fairness Act of 1996.

