



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

August 9, 2005

SMALL ENTITY COMPLIANCE GUIDE
Multi-Year Atlantic Deep-Sea Red Crab Specifications

Dear Red Crab Limited Access Permit Holder:

This is to inform you that the National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries Service) has issued final regulations (*70 FR 44066, dated August 1, 2005*) to implement Framework Adjustment 1 to the Atlantic Deep-Sea Red Crab Fishery Management Plan (FMP). The regulations modify the existing annual review and specification process by allowing specifications to be set for up to a 3-year timeframe. Effective August 31, 2005, the following final specifications for the fishing year (FY) 2005 red crab fishery are continued for FY2006 and FY2007:

Target Total Allowable Catch (TAC) and Days-at-Sea (DAS)

Target TAC: 5.928 million lb
Fleet DAS: 780

As vessels may choose to opt out of the red crab fishery in any particular fishing year, each vessel's DAS will be allocated prior to the beginning of FY2006 and FY2007.

FY2005 began March 1, 2005, and ends February 28, 2006. DAS used by a vessel on or after March 1, 2005, are counted against each vessel's FY2005 DAS allocation.

You may receive permit holder letters, including closure notices, by e-mail by clicking on "NOAA Fisheries Service News Releases" on our website at <http://www.nero.nmfs.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.

Sincerely,

for Patricia A. Kurkul
Regional Administrator

