



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

March 29, 2006

SMALL ENTITY COMPLIANCE GUIDE

CONTROL DATE FOR THE NORTHEAST (NE) MULTISPECIES CHARTER AND PARTY RECREATIONAL FISHERY

Dear Permit Holder:

This letter serves to inform you of action recently taken by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries Service) on behalf of the New England Fishery Management Council (Council) relating to possible future action to develop fishery management regulations for the NE multispecies charter and party recreational fishery.

The Council recently requested, and NOAA Fisheries Service published, an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking regarding the NE multispecies charter and party recreational fishery. The date of publication of this notice, March 30, 2006, shall be known as the "control date" for potential use in determining historical or traditional participation in the NE multispecies charter/party fishery. Consideration of a control date does not commit the Council or NMFS to develop any particular management system or criteria for participation in this fishery. The Council may choose a different control date, or may choose a management program that does not make use of such a date.

Fishers are not guaranteed future participation in the fishery, regardless of their entry dates or level of participation in this fishery before or after the control date. The Council may choose to give variably weighted consideration to fishers active in the fishery before and after the control date. The Council may also choose to take no further action to control entry or access to the fishery, in which case the control date may be rescinded. Any action by the Council will be taken pursuant to the requirements for the development of fishery management plan amendments established under the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

This notification also gives the public notice that interested participants should locate and preserve records that substantiate and verify their participation in the NE multispecies charter/party fishery in Federal waters.



The control date for the NE multispecies charter and party recreational fishery is: March 30, 2006.

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,


for Patricia A. Kurkul
Regional Administrator