

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

NORTHEAST REGION 55 Great Republic Drive Gloucester, MA 01930-2276

APR - 4 2011

## SMALL ENTITY COMPLIANCE GUIDE

## 2011 ATLANTIC BLUEFISH FINAL SPECIFICATIONS

Dear Atlantic Bluefish Permit Holder:

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has approved the 2011 final specifications for the Atlantic bluefish fishery, including coastwide and state commercial quotas, and recreational harvest and possession limits. The specifications will be effective May 2, 2011.

The 2011 Atlantic bluefish total allowable landings are 27.293 million lb. After transferring 4.772 million lb from the recreational to the commercial sector as provided by the regulations, and deducting the research set-aside quota of 105,000 lb, the final 2011 specifications are as follows:

- Commercial quota equals 9,375,204 lb
- Recreational harvest limit equals 17,813,024 lb
- Recreational possession limit is 15 bluefish per person

The final state commercial allocations for the 2011 commercial quota are shown in the attached table and are based on the percentages specified in the Atlantic Bluefish Fishery Management Plan. Based on updated landings information through December 31, 2010, no commercial bluefish quota overages occurred in 2010.

This letter does not contain all the regulatory provisions that pertain to the Atlantic bluefish fishery, and consequently, has no legal force or effect. A copy of the regulations can be obtained through NOAA Fisheries Service Northeast Regional Office web site:

http://www.nero.noaa.gov. Please contact your state fisheries agency for any additional Atlantic bluefish regulations that may apply.

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

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Kurkul Regional Administrator



2010 Final Atlantic Bluefish State Commercial Allocations

| State | Percent<br>Share | Final State Quotas (lb) (including RSA deductions) | Final State Quotas (kg)<br>(including RSA<br>deductions) |
|-------|------------------|--|--|
| ME    | 0.6685           | 62,673   | 30,969   |
| NH    | 0.4145           | 38,860   | 17,627   |
| MA    | 6.7167           | 629,704  | 285,629  |
| RI    | 6.8081           | 638,273  | 289,516  |
| CT    | 1.2663           | 118,718  | 53,850   |
| NY    | 10.3851          | 973,624  | 441,629  |
| NJ    | 14.8162          | 1,389,049  | 630,062  |
| DE    | 1.8782           | 176,085  | 79,871   |
| MD    | 3.0018           | 281,425  | 127,652  |
| VA    | 11.8795          | 1,113,727  | 505,178  |
| NC    | 32.0608          | 3,005,765  | 1,363,392  |
| SC    | 0.0352           | 3,300  | 1,497  |
| GA    | 0.0095           | 891  | 404  |
| FL    | 10.0597          | 943,117  | 427,791  |
| Total | 100.0001         | 9,375,204  | 4,255,066  |