



United States Department of Commerce  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
Northeast Region  
55 Great Republic Drive  
Gloucester, MA 01930

August 29, 2011

**Limited Access General Category Scallop Fishery**  
**Cost Recovery for the 2011 Fee Period**

This November, you will be receiving your first scallop individual fishing quota (IFQ) cost recovery bill. Please review the information in this letter to become familiar with the cost recovery program and the bill(s) you will receive. The 2011 cost-recovery fee period for the Atlantic sea scallop Limited Access General Category (LAGC) IFQ fishery ends on September 30, 2011. We will be sending individual cost-recovery bills to all LAGC IFQ vessels that landed scallops during the 2011 fee period (October 1, 2010, through September 30, 2011). If you were issued an IFQ but did not land any scallops during the fee period, you will not receive a bill.

The cost-recovery fee was established through Amendment 11 to the Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery Management Plan, because the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act requires yearly fees to be collected from vessels participating in IFQ programs. The fee must be based on the ex-vessel value of scallops landed by IFQ vessels and cannot exceed 3 percent of this value. Each individual vessel's landings are calculated using Northeast Federal dealer, vessel trip, and vessel pre-land reports, and the ex-vessel value of these landings is determined using an average price for scallops in the LAGC IFQ fishery as reported by dealers. We will determine the recoverable costs percentage by adding up only the expenditures that were directly related to the management, data collection, and enforcement of the LAGC IFQ program for the 2011 fee period, and dividing that total by the total ex-vessel value of scallop landings for the same time period. Individual fees will be this percentage of the value of a vessel's landings. A report detailing these recoverable costs will be available on NMFS's LAGC IFQ website, at: <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/sfd/sfdscallopifq.html>.

We will issue bills to the address listed on your LAGC IFQ permit on or about October 31, 2011. This bill will be due on January 1, 2012, and 2012 LAGC IFQ permits will not be issued until payment is complete. You will have the right to contest the amount of your bill if you believe it is wrong.

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

*This small entity compliance guide complies with section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996. This notice is authorized by the Regional Administrator of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Northeast Region.*