

## **United States Department of Commerce**

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Marine Fisheries Service Northeast Region 55 Great Republic Drive Gloucester, MA 01930-2276

## Closed Area I Sea Scallop Access Area Coordinates Effective December 14, 2011

In our letter of July 20, 2011, we published the coordinates of the Closed Area I Sea Scallop Access Area (CAI Access Area) as part of Amendment 15 to the Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery Management Plan. We had intended the westernmost coordinates of the CAI Access Area to intersect with the western boundary of Closed Area I. However, when the CAI Access Area coordinates are plotted, its western boundary is approximately one quarter nautical mile eastward of the Closed Area I boundary.

The Closed Area I coordinates were created in 2004 using available GIS (electronic mapping) technology at the time. After a recent review of the boundaries using current GIS technology, we found that the westernmost boundary of the CAI Access Area is not far enough west to meet the western boundary of Closed Area I so that there is a gap between these boundaries. We are currently working to correct the access area coordinates to correspond with the western boundary of Closed Area I.

Until a correction is published in the regulations, vessels declared into the CAI Access Area must fish within the published coordinates provided below. We will notify you when the coordinates have been changed.

## Closed Area I Sea Scallop Access Area

Point	Latitude	Longitude
CAIA1	41°26' N.	68°30' W.
CAIA2	40°58' N.	68°30' W.
CAIA3	40°55' N.	68°53' W.
CAIA4	41°04.5' N.	69°01' W.
CAIA1	41°26' N.	68°30' W.

For questions about the CAI Access Area coordinates, please call the 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.