

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE NORTHEAST REGION 55 Great Republic Drive Gloucester, MA 01930-2276

## **Tilefish Fishery**

## Specification of 2012 Quotas and Regulatory Changes Effective November 1, 2011

## Fishing Year 2012 Quota Specifications and Revised Incidental Trip Limit

For fishing year 2012 (November 1, 2011–October 31, 2012), the quota will remain at 1.995 million lb. The incidental trip catch limit has been raised from 300 lb (273 lb gutted) to 500 lb (455 lb gutted) per trip. The following quotas and trip limits are effective for fishing year 2012:

2012 Total Allowable Landings (TAL)	1.995 million lb
TAL allocated to Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) holders	1,895,250 lb
TAL for Incidental fishery	99,750 lb
Incidental trip limit	500 lb (455 lb gutted)

## In-season Closure for Commercial/Incidental Permit Holders

If the Incidental TAL is exceeded in a given fishing year, commercial/incidental vessels not fishing under an IFQ will be subject to an in-season closure. If such a closure is put into place, it will be effective for the remainder of the fishing year. This would not apply to IFQ Allocation Permit holders and Charter/Party Permit holders. If there is an in-season closure, we will inform you through a permit holder letter such as this.

Please visit <u>www.nero.noaa.gov/sfd/sfdtilefishifq.html</u> for more information on this fishery. If you have any questions, please contact Sustainable Fisheries at 978-281-9315.

