



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

November 19, 2009

Dear Scallop Permit Holder:

This letter provides an update on the total allowable catch (TAC) available for the fourth quarter limited access general category (LAGC) scallop fishery. The LAGC scallop fishery will re-open on December 1, 2009, for vessels issued an individual fishing quota (IFQ) permit. Vessels that carry a valid letter of authorization (LOA) to fish under IFQ permit restrictions while an appeal of the vessel's IFQ permit qualification is pending can also fish in the LAGC scallop fishery beginning December 1, 2009.

The LAGC TAC for the 2009 fishing year is 4,590,024 lb, of which approximately 4,118,062 lb have been harvested. Therefore, approximately 471,962 lb remain available for harvest after December 1, 2009. This remaining TAC may increase or decrease prior to the December 1, 2009, reopening based on landings updates that occur regularly.

The status of the LAGC fishery scallop landings can be found at the following website:
<http://www.nero.noaa.gov/ro/fso/scal.htm>

The information on this website is generally updated on Friday of each week.

For questions about the fourth quarter LAGC scallop fishery, please call the Sustainable Fisheries Division at 978-281-9315.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Kurkul
Regional Administrator

