



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

June 25, 2009

Dear Atlantic Sea Scallop Permit Holder:

This letter is to inform you that **the Closed Area II Access Area (CA II) is closed to scallop vessels effective 0001 hours, June 29, 2009.** This action is being taken in accordance with the Northeast multispecies regulations at 50 CFR 648.59(a)(5)(ii)(C) to prevent the scallop fleet from exceeding the CA II yellowtail flounder total allowable catch (TAC) allocated to the scallop for the 2009 scallop fishing year. Therefore, effective 0001, June 29, 2009, no scallop vessel may fish for scallops in the CA II. Vessels on a CA II trip at the time 0001, June 29, 2009, of the closure announcement must leave the CA II prior to the effective closure.

If a limited access vessel has an unused trip into an access area closed by a yellowtail flounder TAC, it will be allocated additional 7.9 open areas days-at-sea (DAS) for each unused trip. If a vessel has been allocated a broken trip compensation trip(s) that cannot be made, it will be allocated prorated open area DAS based on the remaining allocation and the above listed access area DAS conversion rate.

The CAII Scallop Access Area is scheduled to reopen on June 15, 2010, unless the schedule for scallop access areas is modified by the New England Fishery Management Council. For questions, please call 978-281-9315.

This notice is authorized by the Administrator of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Northeast Region.

Sincerely,

for

Patricia A. Kurkul

Regional Administrator

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

