



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
NORTHEAST REGION
One Blackburn Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930-2298

January 23, 2008

Small Entity Compliance Guide

Dear Limited Access Northeast (NE) Multispecies or Atlantic Sea Scallop Permit Holder:

This letter is to inform you that 100% of the Georges Bank (GB) yellowtail flounder total allowable catch (TAC) has been caught. **As of 0001 hours local time on January 24, 2008, all federally permitted vessels are prohibited from harvesting, possessing, and landing GB yellowtail flounder from the entire U.S./Canada Management Area for the remainder of the 2007 fishing year (through April 30, 2008).** The Eastern U.S./Canada Area will remain closed to all limited access NE multispecies days-at-sea (DAS) vessels for the remainder of the 2007 fishing year.

Any federally permitted vessel that has not declared into the U.S./Canada Management Area, departed on a trip, and crossed the Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) demarcation line to start their trip prior to 12:01 AM on January 24, 2008, may not harvest, possess, or land GB yellowtail flounder from the U.S./Canada Management Area.

Any federally permitted vessel that has declared into the U.S./Canada Management Area, departed on a trip, and crossed the VMS demarcation line to start their trip prior to 12:01 AM on January 24, 2008, may possess and land their possession limit of GB yellowtail flounder on that trip.

This action is required by the regulations at 50 CFR 648.85(a)(3)(iv)(C)(3) to prevent the GB yellowtail flounder TAC from being exceeded during the 2007 fishing year. The rate of harvest of the GB yellowtail flounder TAC in the U.S./Canada Management Area is updated weekly on the internet at <http://www.nero.noaa.gov>.

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 Administrator of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Northeast Region.

