



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

## Small Entity Compliance Guide

Dear Atlantic Herring Permit Holder:

This letter is to advise you that, effective 0001 hrs local time, November 14, 2008, vessels issued Federal permits for Atlantic herring may not fish for, catch, possess, or land more than 2,000 pounds of Atlantic herring in or from Area 1A per trip or calendar day through 2400 hours, December 31, 2008; except, vessels may transit or land herring in Area 1A with more than 2,000 lb of herring on board, provided such herring were not caught in Area 1A, and provided all fishing gear is stowed and not available for immediate use, as required by 50 CFR 648.23(b). This catch limit restriction will cease at 0001 hours, January 1, 2009, at which time the Period 1 Area 1A TAC for the 2009 Atlantic herring fishery will become available.

The regulations at 50 CFR 648.202 require the National Marine Fisheries Service to close the directed Atlantic herring fishery in Area 1A in the EEZ when the harvest of Atlantic herring is projected to reach 95 percent of the total allowable catch (TAC) allocated to that area. I have determined, based on best available data, that 95 percent of 45,000 mt in Area 1A TAC has been harvested.

*You may also receive permit holder letters, including closure notices, by e-mail by clicking on "Permit Holder Letters" on our website at <http://www.nero.noaa.gov>; or via fax by providing a fax number through a written request to the above address, or by faxing your request to 978-281-9135.<sup>1</sup>*

Sincerely,

for

Patricia A. Kurkul

Regional Administrator

<sup>1</sup>*This small entity compliance guide complies with section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996.*

