



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

June 27, 2007

Dear Herring Permit Holder:

We want to inform you of a mistake in the NOAA Fisheries Service Fact Sheet on herring, which was an insert in *Commercial Fisheries News*; remind you of the interactive voice reporting (IVR) requirements, including a contact for IVR reporting, and provide a contact for IVR reporting, and provide you with the numbers for the incidental catch allowance for haddock in the herring fishery.

### Fact Sheet for Herring

The fact sheet contained the following Q&A.

Q: Can Limited Access Incidental Catch permit and Open Access permit holders possess Northeast (NE) multispecies?

A: No. Vessels issued Limited Access Incidental Catch permits or Open Access herring permits are prohibited from possessing any NE multispecies after June 1, 2007.

The correct Q&A is as follows.

Q: When can herring vessels possess NE multispecies?

A: Vessels with either an All Areas (category A) or Areas 2 and 3 (category B) herring limited access permit that use midwater trawls or purse seines may fish for, possess, or land haddock and other regulated NE species when fishing in certain areas as long as they comply with all of the restrictions in the midwater trawl and purse seine letters of authorization (LOA). Under the terms of those LOAs, neither herring limited access incidental permit holders (category C), nor open access herring permit holders (category D), fishing with either midwater trawlers or purse seines, are allowed to fish for, possess, or land any haddock or other regulated NE multispecies. However, herring limited access incidental permit holders and open access permit holders, which are not using either midwater trawls or purse seines, can possess NE multispecies, as long as they are in compliance with other relevant regulations, such as NE multispecies possession limits, maximum fish sizes, etc.

### Incidental Catch Allowance for Haddock

The incidental catch allowance for vessels that have an All Areas Limited Access Herring Permit (category A) and/or an Areas 2 and 3 Limited Access Herring Permit (category B) is defined as 0.2 percent of the combined target total allowable catch (TAC) for Gulf of Maine haddock and Georges Bank haddock (U.S. landings only) specified



according to § 648.90(a) for a particular multispecies fishing year (May 1 – April 30). For the 2007/2008 fishing year (May 1, 2007 – April 30, 2008), the incidental catch allowance is as follows:

0.2 % of combined GOM and GB target TAC

GB TAC: 90,599 mt  
GOM TA: 1,254 mt  
Total TAC: 91,853 mt

Therefore, the incidental catch allowance for haddock in the Atlantic herring fishery is 183.7 mt, or 404,991 lb.

IVR

This letter also reminds herring permit holders of their reporting requirements via IVR. The operator of any vessel issued a limited access herring permit is required to report herring catches weekly through the IVR call-in system, and to file a negative report if there are no catches in a specific week. IVR reports must be submitted for all herring transferred at sea to an authorized herring carrier vessel or at-sea processing vessel. The operator of any open access herring vessel that land more than 2,000 lb of herring on any trip in a fishing week must also report the landings through the IVR. Reports are required even if herring caught during the week has not yet been landed. Herring carrier vessels are exempt from this requirement.

For more information about IVR call-in reporting please contact your local Field Office, login to the Fisheries Statistics Page of the NOAA Fisheries Service Website at: <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/fso>, or contact the Fishery Statistics Office at (978) 281-9209.

Sincerely,



George H. Darcy  
Assistant Regional Administrator  
Sustainable Fisheries Division