



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

October 18, 2007

SMALL ENTITY COMPLIANCE GUIDE

Dear Tilefish Permit Holder and
Federally Permitted Tilefish Dealer:

This letter is to inform you that the overall annual tilefish quota for the 2008 fishing year (FY) (November 1, 2007 - October 31, 2008) will remain the same as the FY 2007 overall annual tilefish quota, i.e. 1.995 million lb. None of the quota is being set aside to fund research.

The tilefish regulations at 50 CFR 648.290 specify that, in the absence of a new stock assessment or recommendation from the Tilefish Monitoring Committee, the previous year's tilefish specifications will remain effective for the following year. The tilefish regulations also state that any overages of the quota for any limited access tilefish permit category that occur in a given fishing year will be subtracted from the allocation for that category the following fishing year. Additionally, if the tilefish harvest attributed to the open access Incidental catch permit category exceeds 5% of the Total Available Landings (TAL) for a given fishing year, the trip limit for the Incidental category may be reduced the following year. Should final landings data for 2007 indicate that an adjustment of the 2008 quota for any of the tilefish permit categories is necessary, a notification of the adjustment will be published in the Federal Register, followed by a permit holder letter informing you of this adjustment.

The following quota and trip limits are effective for the FY 2008:

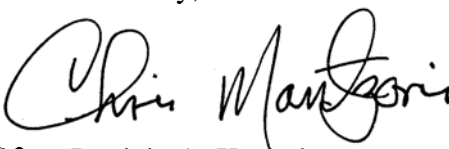
Permit Category and Percent of Quota	2008 TAL— 1.995 million lb
	Remaining quota after TAL is reduced by 5% for incidental catch allocation— 1,895,250 lb
Full-time Tier 1 (Category A) 66%	1,250,865 lb
Full-time Tier 2 (Category B) 15%	284,288 lb
Part-time (Category C) 19%	360,098 lb
Incidental (Category D)	300 lb trip limit

Therefore, effective 0001 hrs local time, **November 1, 2007**, vessels may fish for and land tilefish from within the tilefish management unit* through the end of FY 2008 on **October 31, 2008**, or until such time that the allocation for a specific tilefish limited access permit category is projected to be caught, if applicable, whichever is earlier.



You may 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.

Sincerely,


for Patricia A. Kurkul
Regional Administrator

*The tilefish management unit is defined as an area of the Atlantic Ocean from the latitude of the VA and NC border (36°33.36' N. lat.), extending eastward from the shore to the outer boundary of the exclusive economic zone, and northward to the United States-Canada border.

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