



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

December 8, 2006

SMALL ENTITY COMPLIANCE GUIDE

Dear Georges Bank (GB) Cod Hook Sector Vessels:

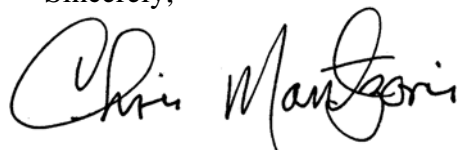
This letter is to inform you that the haddock quota for the second period of the Closed Area I (CA I) Hook Gear Haddock Special Access Program (SAP) (November 16, 2006, through December 31, 2006) has been increased to 2,057.2 mt.

The final rule for Framework Adjustment (FW) 42, which became effective November 22, 2006, specified a method for calculating the annual haddock total allowable catch (TAC) for this SAP that results in a TAC of 2,265 mt for fishing year (FY) 2006. This TAC applies to the entire 2006 season (October 1 - December 31) for this SAP.

Based upon available information, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries Service) has estimated that approximately 207.8 mt of haddock (landings and discard) were caught during the first (October 1 – November 15) participation period. Subtracting this amount from the total 2,265-mt TAC results in 2,057.2 mt (2,265 mt – 207.8 mt). Thus, the haddock quota for the second (November 15 – December 31) participation period is increased to 2,057.2 mt of haddock. This increased TAC provides increased opportunities to harvest healthy groundfish stocks by permitting access to fully harvest the available haddock TAC specified for this SAP during the 2006 fishing year. Should the haddock TAC be attained early, the second participation period will be closed.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact the Sustainable Fisheries Division at (978) 281-9315.

Sincerely,

for 
Patricia A. Kurkul

Regional Administrator

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

