



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

October 6, 2006

Small Entity Compliance Guide

Dear Northeast (NE) Multispecies Permit Holder:

This letter is to inform you that the emergency regulations implemented on May 1, 2006, will remain in effect until April 4, 2007, or until such time as measures under Framework Adjustment (FW) 42 to the NE Multispecies Fishery Management Plan (FMP) and FW 3 to the Monkfish FMP, if approved, can be implemented. A temporary rule continuing the emergency management measures published in the Federal Register on October 6, 2006.

The emergency management measures that are continued by this action are detailed in letters dated April 10, 2006, and April 26, 2006. These letters are available on the Northeast Regional Office website at the following address: <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/nero/nr/>

In summary, this temporary rule continues the following management measures:

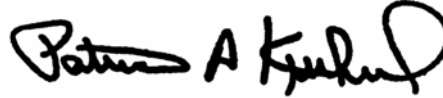
- Differential days-at-sea (DAS) counting for Category A DAS used outside of the U.S./Canada Management Area (1.4 DAS charged for each Category A DAS fished);
- A reduced Gulf of Maine (GOM) cod trip limit to 600 lb/DAS, up to 4,000 lb/trip;
- A reduction of the Cape Cod/GOM and Southern New England/Mid-Atlantic yellowtail flounder trip limit, as follows:
 - 250 lb/trip during May, June, October, and November;
 - 500 lb/DAS, up to 2,000 lb/trip during July, August, September, December, January, February, March, and April; and
- A Georges Bank (GB) yellowtail flounder trip limit of 10,000 lb/trip;
- A GB winter flounder trip limit of 5,000 lb/trip;
- A white hake trip limit of 1,000 lb/DAS, up to 10,000 lb/trip;
- A provision to allow vessels to fish inside and outside of the Eastern U.S./Canada Area on the same trip (i.e., the “Flex Out” and “Flex West” declarations);
- A modified Regular B DAS Program, restricted to the U.S./Canada Management Area;
- The continuation of the DAS Leasing Program;
- A prohibition on the retention of GOM cod by party/charter and private recreational vessels from November 1 - March 31; and
- An increase in the size limit for GOM cod to 24 inches for party/charter and private recreational vessels.



All management measures that were in effect prior to May 1, 2006, and not modified by this temporary rule remain in effect.

For additional information regarding current NE multispecies regulations call (978) 281-9315, or visit the Northeast Regional Office's website at: <http://www.nero.noaa.gov>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patricia A. Kurkul". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "P" and "K".

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.