



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

March 2, 2006

SMALL ENTITY COMPLIANCE GUIDE
2006 Atlantic Deep-Sea Red Crab Specifications

Dear Red Crab Limited Access Permit Holder:

This is a reminder that the National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries Service) has previously issued multiyear specifications containing the 2006 fishing year (FY) specifications for the Atlantic deep-sea red crab fishery. Pursuant to the multiyear specifications effective on August 31, 2005, NOAA Fisheries Service is maintaining the FY2005 fishing levels for the FY2006 red crab fishery. Effective March 1, 2006, the following final specifications are implemented for the red crab fishery:

FY2006 Target Total Allowable Catch (TAC) and Days-at-Sea (DAS)

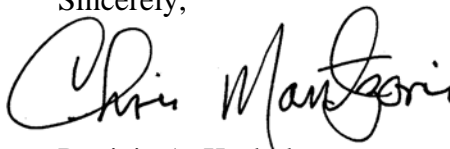
Target TAC - 5.928 million lb
Fleet DAS - 780
Vessel DAS - 195

Because one of the five vessels with a limited access permit to fish for red crab has opted out of the red crab fishery for FY2006, the remaining four vessels are each allocated 195 DAS.

The 2006 fishing year begins March 1, 2006, and ends February 28, 2007. DAS used by a vessel on or after March 1, 2006, will be counted against each vessel's FY2006 DAS allocation.

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

Sincerely,


for Patricia A. Kurkul
Regional Administrator

