

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

March 22, 2006

## SMALL ENTITY COMPLIANCE GUIDE

Dear Part-time Tilefish Permit Holder and Federally Permitted Tilefish Dealer:

This letter is to inform you that the tilefish quota for the tilefish limited access Part-time permit category for the 2006 fishing year is projected to have been harvested based, upon dealer reports and other available information.

Therefore, effective 0001 hrs local time, **March 27, 2006**, fishing vessels holding tilefish limited access Part-time category permits <u>are prohibited from landing tilefish</u> harvested from within the Golden Tilefish Management Unit\* through October 31, 2006.

Federally permitted dealers are also advised that, effective **March 27, 2006,** they <u>may not</u> <u>purchase tilefish from vessels holding tilefish limited access Part-time category permits who land tilefish harvested from within the Golden Tilefish Management Unit for the remainder of the 2006 fishing year (through October 31, 2006).</u>

The 2007 fishing year for tilefish will open on November 1, 2006.

You may also receive permit holder letters, including closure notices, by e-mail by clicking on "NOAA Fisheries News Releases" on our website at <a href="http://www.nero.noaa.gov">http://www.nero.noaa.gov</a>; 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,

Bottom A Kin

Patricia A. Kurkul Regional Administrator

\* The Golden 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.