



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

October 3, 2005

Small Entity Compliance Guide

Dear Limited Access Northeast (NE) Multispecies Permit Holder:

This letter is to inform you that, based on a determination that 1,000 Regular B days-at-sea (DAS) have been used under the Regular B DAS Pilot Program, **the National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries Service) is prohibiting the use of Regular B DAS under the Regular B DAS Pilot Program. This measure is effective 0001 hours, October 6, 2005, through the end of the current calendar quarter on October 31, 2005.**

- Any vessel that has already declared their intent to fish in the Regular B DAS Pilot Program through their Vessel Monitoring System (VMS), departed on a trip and crossed the demarcation line before October 6, 2005, must either complete its trip under a Regular B DAS by crossing the VMS demarcation line on its return to port, or flip to fishing under a Category A DAS, before 0000 hours local time on October 6, 2005.
- Vessels that have not yet departed on a trip to fish in the Regular B DAS Pilot Program as of 0001 hours, October 6, 2005, may not begin a new trip under this program.
- Effective October 6, 2005, limited access monkfish Category C and D vessels may no longer use a NE multispecies Regular B DAS, instead of a Category A DAS, under the Regular B DAS Pilot Program to target monkfish.

***The Regular B DAS Pilot Program expires on October 31, 2005, and will not begin again unless renewed by the New England Fishery Management Council and NOAA Fisheries Service.** Therefore, vessels issued a limited access NE multispecies DAS permit, including those also issued a limited access monkfish Category C or D permit, may no longer use Regular B DAS under the Regular B DAS Pilot Program, unless implemented at a later date.

This action is being taken based upon available information which indicates that 1,000 Regular B DAS will be used by October 6, 2005. If you have any questions, contact the Sustainable Fisheries Division at 978.281.9315.

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

This notice is authorized by the Administrator of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Northeast Region.

