



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

Small Entity Compliance Guide

JUL 8 2005

Dear Limited Access Northeast (NE) Multispecies Permit Holder:

This letter informs you that a temporary rule has been implemented that limits **all limited access NE multispecies days-at-sea (DAS) vessels to one trip into the Eastern U.S./Canada Area per month for the remainder of the fishing year (i.e., through April 30, 2006)**. Limited access NE multispecies DAS vessels are also required to use a haddock separator trawl when operating in the Eastern U.S./Canada Area. The monthly trip limit becomes effective 0001 hours on July 12, 2005, but the haddock separator trawl requirement becomes effective 0001 hours on July 27, 2005.

- Vessels that have already declared their intent to fish in the Eastern U.S./Canada Area (VMS Area Codes 2, 5, or 6) through VMS, departed on a trip, and crossed the demarcation line as of 0001 hours on July 12, 2005, may finish their trip. Any trip that began before July 12, 2005, will NOT count toward the one trip per month limit for the month of July.
- Vessels that have not yet departed on a trip, or declared their intent to fish in the Eastern U.S./Canada Area (VMS Area Codes 2, 5, or 6) as of 0001 hours on July 12, 2005, will be limited to one trip per month for the remainder of the 2005 fishing year.
- A trip will be counted towards the month in which the vessel started a trip into the Eastern U.S./Canada Area by declaring into the area and crossing the VMS demarcation line.

This action is being taken in accordance with regulations at 50 CFR 648.85(a)(3)(iv)(D) and is intended to prevent over-harvesting of the GB cod TAC in the U.S./Canada Management Area for the 2005 fishing year and to prolong access to this area in order to increase the opportunities for limited access NE multispecies DAS vessels to catch the available U.S. TACs for groundfish specified by the U.S./Canada Resource Sharing Understanding.

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.

