



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

May 14, 2004

**Small Entity Compliance Guide**

Dear Northeast (NE) Multispecies Permit Holder:

This letter is to inform you that, pursuant to 50 CFR 648.86(a)(1)(iii)(B), **the haddock daily and maximum trip limits for vessels fishing under a limited access NE multispecies day-at-sea (DAS) permit, are suspended for the remainder of the 2004 fishing year. Consequently, the haddock daily, and maximum trip limits for vessels fishing under a limited access Handgear A and open access Handgear B permit, are also suspended for the remainder of the 2004 fishing year.**

**Effective May 7, 2004, these vessels are not subject to the haddock daily or maximum possession limit per trip through April 30, 2005, unless otherwise notified.**

The commercial haddock trip limit is being suspended to provide the industry the opportunity to harvest at least 75 percent of the commercial target total allowable catch (TAC) of haddock for the fishing year, without exceeding the target TAC.

Please note that this action does not affect the regulations for the Eastern U.S./Canada Management Area at § 648.85(a)(3)(iv)(B) that require the implementation of a 1,500 lb per DAS and 15,000 lb per trip limit when 70 percent of the haddock total TAC for the U.S./Canada Management Area (3,570 metric tons or 7,870,422 pounds) is projected to be harvested.

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

