

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE NORTHEAST REGION One Blackburn Drive Gloucester, MA 01930-2298

September 16, 2004

SMALL ENTITY COMPLIANCE GUIDE

CLOSURE OF THE DIRECTED ILLEX SQUID FISHERY

Dear Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and/or Butterfish Permit Holder:

NMFS has determined that 95 percent of the <u>Illex</u> squid quota has been harvested. Therefore, effective 0001 hours, September 21, 2004 the directed fishery for <u>Illex</u> squid is closed and vessels issued Federal permits for <u>Illex</u> squid may not retain or land more than 10,000 lb of <u>Illex</u> squid per trip or per calendar day. The directed fishery will reopen at 0001 hours, January 1, 2005, at which time the 2005 quota for the <u>Illex</u> squid fishery will become available.

You may also receive permit holder letters, including closure notices, by e-mail by clicking on "NOAA Fisheries News Releases" 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.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Kurkul Regional Administrator

This Small Entity Compliance Guide complies with section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement and Fairness Act of 1996.

