

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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

August 16, 2004

Small Entity Compliance Guide

Dear Northeast (NE) Multispecies Permit Holder:

This letter is to inform you that, pursuant to 50 CFR part § 648.85(a)(3)(iv)(C)(2), the National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) has projected that 70 percent of the total allowable catch (TAC) for Georges Bank (GB) yellowtail flounder (6,000 mt) that may be harvested from the Western and Eastern U.S./Canada Areas will be harvested on or around August 18, 2004. The Regional Administrator, therefore, is implementing a yellowtail flounder trip limit of 1,500 lb per day, and 15,000 lb per trip for vessels fishing in either the Western or Eastern U.S./Canada Area, including the Closed Area II Yellowtail Flounder Special Access Program, effective August 18, 2004.

This projection is based upon data reported through the Vessel Monitoring System by vessels and by observers.

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

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

