



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

November 12, 2003

### Small Entity Compliance Guide

Dear Atlantic Herring Permit Holder:

This letter is to advise you that 95 percent of the Atlantic Herring total allowable catch (TAC) allocated to Management Area 1A (Area 1A) for Period 2 (June 1 - December 31) is projected to be harvested by November 19, 2003.

Therefore, pursuant to 50 CFR 648.202, effective 0001 hours, November 19, 2003, vessels issued Federal permits for Atlantic herring may not retain or land more than 2,000 pounds of Atlantic herring harvested from Area 1A per trip or calendar day through 2400 December 31, 2003. This catch limit restriction will cease at 0001 hours, January 1, 2004, at which time the Period 1 Area 1A TAC for the Atlantic herring fishery will become available.

The Northeast Regional Office has established an automated system to provide faster notice to the fishing industry of management actions. You may receive permit holder letters, including closure notices, by requesting to be notified through e-mail by clicking on "What's New" on our website at <http://www.nero.noaa.gov>. If you choose to receive notification of management actions through the automated system, you will continue to receive notices through the mail.

This permit holder letter also serves a small entity compliance guide required under the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Kurkul  
Regional Administrator

