



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

March 21, 2003

**SMALL ENTITY COMPLIANCE GUIDE**

Dear Permit Holder:

This letter is to inform you of a correction to an inadvertent error discovered in the August 1, 2002 interim final rule that implemented measures mandated in the Settlement Agreement Among Certain Parties (Settlement Agreement) in Conservation Law Foundation, et al. v. Evans et al., and, to provide information regarding gillnet tags. The error occurred in the coordinates defining the Gulf of Maine (GOM) Rolling Closure Area II for the month of April, specified at 50 CFR 648.81(g)(1)(ii). This error has been corrected in a final rule, which amends the August 1, 2002, interim final rule, and will be published in the Federal Register on March 25, 2003.

The final two coordinate points for the GOM Rolling Closure Area II were listed erroneously in the August 1, 2002, interim final rule as GM6, at 42°30' N. lat. and 68°30' W. long.; and GM9, at 42°30' N. lat. and the intersection with the Massachusetts shoreline. This rule corrects the coordinates for these two points for the GOM Rolling Closure Area II to read point GM13, at 43°00' N. lat. and 68°30' W. long.; and point GM10, at 43°00' N. lat. and the intersection with the New Hampshire shoreline.

The correct coordinates for the GOM Rolling Closure Area II for April are as follows:

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**Rolling Closure Area II**  
**[April 1-April 30]**

Point	N. Lat.	W. Long.
GM1	42°00'	( <sup>1</sup> )
GM2	42°00'	( <sup>2</sup> )
GM3	42°00'	( <sup>3</sup> )
GM5	42°00'	68°30'
GM13	43°00'	68°30'
GM10	43°00'	( <sup>4</sup> )

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<sup>1</sup> Massachusetts shoreline.  
<sup>2</sup> Cape Cod shoreline on Cape Cod Bay.  
<sup>3</sup> Cape Cod shoreline on the Atlantic Ocean.  
<sup>4</sup> New Hampshire shoreline.



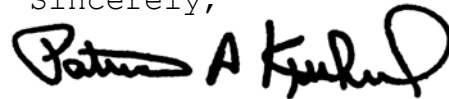
This April closure area was accurately depicted in maps included with a permit holder letter explaining changes to the regulations based upon the August 1, 2002, interim final rule. Maps depicting the correct rolling closure areas and the existing year-round closure areas are provided in Figure 1 below.

### **GILLNET VESSELS**

All vessels issued either a Northeast (NE) multispecies or monkfish limited access permit, and required to use gillnet tags, are not required to order new gillnet tags for the 2003 fishing year. The teal green tags that have been in use since the 2000 fishing year will remain valid until implementation of Amendment 13 to the NE Multispecies Fishery Management Plan (FMP). At that time, vessels will be required to order new tags. Therefore, please continue using the currently issued tags until that time. If these tags need to be replaced, please contact the Permit Office of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) at (978) 281-9370 to order replacement tags.

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.

Figure 1: Rolling Closure Areas (including year-round closed areas indicated by shading) as of August 1, 2002:

