



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

November 22, 2002

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 the 2002 fishing year is projected to be harvested.

Therefore, pursuant to 50 CFR 648.202, effective 0001 hours, December 1, 2002, vessels issued Federal permits for Atlantic herring may not retain or land more than 2,000 pounds of Atlantic herring from Area 1A per trip or calendar day through 2400 December 31, 2002. This catch limit restriction will cease at 0001 hours, January 1, 2003, at which time the TAC for the 2003 Atlantic herring fishery will become available.

The Northeast Regional Office has established two automated systems to provide faster notice to the fishing industry of management actions. You may receive permit holder letters, including closures notices, by requesting to be notified through one of the following systems: (1) You may request e-mail notices by clicking on "What's New" on our website at <http://www.nero.nmfs.gov/ro/doc/nero.html>, or (2) you may be notified via fax by providing a fax number through a written request to the above address, or by faxing your request to 978-281-9135. If you choose to receive notification of management actions through one of the above automated systems, 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patricia A. Kurkul".

Patricia A. Kurkul
Regional Administrator

