



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National
Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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

July 3, 2002

SMALL ENTITY COMPLIANCE GUIDE

CONTROL DATE FOR THE ATLANTIC MACKEREL FISHERY

Dear Permit Holder:

This letter serves to inform you of action recently taken by the National Marine Fisheries Service on behalf of the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) relating to the development of a fishery management plan amendment for the Atlantic mackerel fishery.

The Council recently requested, and NMFS published, a control date for the Atlantic mackerel fishery. The publication of this notice of control date in the Federal Register serves to notify the public that a management system may be considered that would limit the number of participants in the fishery, and that eligibility criteria under such a system may include the control date. Entrants into this fishery after the control date will **not** be assured future access to this fishery if it is determined that a limited entry management system is needed to prevent overfishing. This notice is purely advisory.

The control date for Atlantic mackerel is: July 5, 2002

The Federal Register notice that established this control date contains additional information regarding the possible use of this control date. To request a copy of this notice, please call (978)281-9315, or visit the Northeast Regional Office's website at: <http://www.nero.nmfs.gov/>

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Kurkul
Regional Administrator

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.nmfs.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.

