



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

March 20, 2001

Dear Multispecies and/or Monkfish Permit Holder:

This letter is to inform you of the 2001 target total allowable catch (TAC) levels for the Northeast multispecies and monkfish fisheries. It also announces that the management measures that are in effect for the fishing year May 1, 2000, through April 30, 2001, for both fisheries will be maintained with no change for the fishing year that begins May 1, 2001.

The Northeast multispecies and monkfish target TAC levels for the 2001 fishing year are as follows:

Species/area	2001 Target TAC (metric tons)	2000 Target TAC (metric tons)
<u>Multispecies</u>		
Georges Bank cod.....	4,900	4,145
Georges Bank haddock.....	11,680	6,252
Georges Bank yellowtail flounder	6,805	4,618
Southern New England yellowtail flounder.....	949	951
Gulf of Maine cod (F <sub>max</sub> ).....	1,918	1,918
Gulf of Maine cod (F <sub>0.1</sub> ).....	1,118	1,118
<u>Monkfish</u>		
Northern Fishery Management Area	5,673	5,673
Southern Fishery Management Area	6,024	6,024

Please be advised that maintaining the 2000 GOM cod target TAC also means that the conditional closure of Cashes Ledge in November 2001, and a portion of Massachusetts Bay and Stellwagen Bank (Blocks 124 & 125) in January 2002, will be required if we determine that at least 1.67 million lb (759 mt) of GOM cod have been landed as of, or before, July 31, 2001. If this determination is made, we will publish it in the Federal Register.

This letter does not contain any management measures. To obtain a copy of the current management measures for either the Northeast multispecies and/or monkfish fisheries, please call the Fishery Information Line at (978) 281-9278 or access our website at: <http://www.wh.who.edu/ro/doc/nero.html>

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Kurkul  
Regional Administrator

