



Background for the Sector ACE Transfer Summary Table



Credit: NOAA

Sector allocated Annual Catch Entitlements (ACE) are the maximum amount of each North-east multispecies stock that the sector may catch during the fishing year (May 1- April 30).

A sector's ACE is derived from the catch history of each of its individual members and the current annual catch limits for each stock.

Any portion of a sector's available ACE may be transferred to another sector at any time during the fishing year, and up to two weeks into the following year. ACE may be exchanged between sectors for money, for ACE of another stock or for any terms agreed to by the two sectors.

Who Determines How Close a Sector Is Getting to its Annual ACE for a Stock?

Determining available ACE is the responsibility of the sector manager. A sector's available ACE is equal to the original allocation minus its catch (landings and discards), and including any ACE transfers into or out of the sector. ACE transfers are only valid for the current fishing year.

How Do Sector Managers Transfer ACE with Another Sector?

Sector managers can trade ACE via the Sector Information Management Module (SIMM), a secure website used by sector managers and NOAA Fisheries Service to communicate sector-specific information. Sector managers may submit ACE transfer requests electronically through this website.

Sector managers may also request ACE transfers in writing for manual processing by NOAA Fisheries Service. Click on the link below or cut and paste the link into your webbrowser to view and/or download the ACE transfer form.

<http://www.nero.noaa.gov/permits/forms/SectorACETransferForm.pdf>