



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
NORTHEAST REGION
55 Great Republic Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930-2276

OCT 30 2009

Dear Northeast (NE) Multispecies Limited Access Permit Holder:

This letter is to notify you of two recent developments in the management of the NE multispecies fishery:

- 1) The New England Fishery Management Council (Council), at its September 23, 2009, meeting, voted to develop additional fishing year (FY) 2010 common pool management measures (measures that would apply to vessels not enrolled in a sector, referred to as the "common pool") beyond those previously developed under Amendment 16, through a separate Council action. If approved by NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), these measures would become effective May 1, 2010, along with approved Amendment 16 measures. Additional common pool measures under consideration are further trip limit and differential DAS reductions. Although it is possible that new or adjusted trip limits or differential DAS measures could be developed for any stock, the stocks of particular interest to the Council are Gulf of Maine cod and pollock.
- 2) NMFS previously established a September 1, 2009, deadline for vessels to join a sector for FY 2010. This deadline was set to help ensure that sectors could be implemented by May 1, 2010. Because a permit holder's previous decision whether or not to join a sector for FY 2010 may have been based in part upon the common pool regulations adopted by the Council in June 2009 (e.g., no differential DAS counting, a cod trip limit of 2,000 lb per DAS, no trip limit on pollock, etc.) and the Council is considering proposing new measures for common pool vessels after the deadline to join a sector has passed, NMFS is providing you with an additional opportunity to consider participation in a sector.

Sectors now have the option to reopen their rosters for FY 2010, and NMFS has selected a November 20th deadline for sectors to accept additional permits. Reopening of the existing sector rosters will not affect the ability of vessels already on the sectors' September 1, 2009, rosters to fish on May 1, 2009. However, if a sector chooses to reopen its roster, the vessels that take advantage of this new opportunity to join the sector may have a delay in the start of their fishing year, unless additional analysis would not be required.

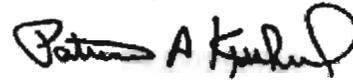
Additional permit holders may join a sector after November 20th, but they cannot be included in the current rulemaking and, therefore, will not be able to fish in the sector or common pool fisheries during FY 2010 until they are authorized by an additional rulemaking. Contact information for each of the 17 sectors is attached.



Amendment 16 proposes authorization of 19 sectors; however, two of those sectors have chosen not to submit a FY 2010 operations plan at this time. Should these two sectors decide to submit an operations plan for FY 2010, additional rulemaking would be necessary and, therefore, vessels in these sectors would also have a delayed effective date.

If you have questions about sectors in general, please contact Mark Grant at 978-281-9145.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patricia A. Kurkul". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "P".

Patricia A. Kurkul
Regional Administrator

Attachment

List of Sectors Proposed in Amendment 16:

1) GB Cod Fixed Gear Sector

Sector Manager: Eric Brazer

Cape Cod Commercial Hook Fishermen's Association

PO Box 2 North Chatham, MA 02650; 508-945-2432

2) Tri-State Sector

Sector Representative: Cindy Smith

Gulf of Maine Research Institute

350 Commercial Street Portland, ME 04101; 207-228-1653

3) Sustainable Harvest Sector

Sector Manager: Hank Soule

P.O. Box 356 S. Berwick, ME 03908; 207-956-8497

4) Port Clyde Community Groundfish Sector

Sector Representative: Jennifer Litteral

Island Institute

386 Main Street, P.O. Box 648, Rockland, ME 04841; 207-594-9209

5) Northeast Fishery Sector II

Sector Representative: Jackie Odell

Northeast Seafood Coalition (NSC)

4 Parker St., Bank Building, Suite 102, Gloucester, MA 01930; 978-283-9992

6) Northeast Fishery Sector III

Sector Representative: Jackie Odell

Northeast Seafood Coalition (NSC)

4 Parker St., Bank Building, Suite 102, Gloucester, MA 01930; 978-283-9992

7) Northeast Fishery Sector IV

Sector Representative: Jackie Odell

Northeast Seafood Coalition (NSC)

4 Parker St., Bank Building, Suite 102, Gloucester, MA 01930; 978-283-9992

8) Northeast Fishery Sector V

Sector Representative: Jackie Odell

Northeast Seafood Coalition (NSC)

4 Parker St., Bank Building, Suite 102, Gloucester, MA 01930; 978-283-9992

9) Northeast Fishery Sector VI

Sector Representative: Jackie Odell

Northeast Seafood Coalition (NSC)

4 Parker St., Bank Building, Suite 102, Gloucester, MA 01930; 978-283-9992

- 10) Northeast Fishery Sector VII
Sector Representative: Jackie Odell
Northeast Seafood Coalition (NSC)
4 Parker St., Bank Building, Suite 102, Gloucester, MA 01930; 978-283-9992
- 11) Northeast Fishery Sector VIII
Sector Representative: Jackie Odell
Northeast Seafood Coalition (NSC)
4 Parker St., Bank Building, Suite 102, Gloucester, MA 01930; 978-283-9992
- 12) Northeast Fishery Sector IX
Sector Representative: Jackie Odell
Northeast Seafood Coalition (NSC)
4 Parker St., Bank Building, Suite 102, Gloucester, MA 01930; 978-283-9992
- 13) Northeast Fishery Sector X
Sector Representative: Jackie Odell
Northeast Seafood Coalition (NSC)
4 Parker St., Bank Building, Suite 102, Gloucester, MA 01930; 978-283-9992
- 14) Northeast Fishery Sector XI
Sector Representative: Jackie Odell
Northeast Seafood Coalition (NSC)
4 Parker St., Bank Building, Suite 102, Gloucester, MA 01930; 978-283-9992
- 15) Northeast Fishery Sector XII
Sector Representative: Jackie Odell
Northeast Seafood Coalition (NSC)
4 Parker St., Bank Building, Suite 102, Gloucester, MA 01930; 978-283-9992
- 16) Northeast Fishery Sector XIII
Sector Representative: Jackie Odell
Northeast Seafood Coalition (NSC)
4 Parker St., Bank Building, Suite 102, Gloucester, MA 01930; 978-283-9992
- 17) Northeast Coastal Communities Sector
Sector Representative: Aaron Dority
Penobscot East Resource Center
43 School St., P.O. Box 27, Stonington, ME 04681; 207-367-2708