



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

Sent September 14, 2011

**Atlantic Herring Fishery Dealers**  
Changes to Haddock Handling for Dealers  
*Effective September 14, 2011*

The requirements for dealer handling of haddock offloaded from Atlantic herring vessels has changed. Framework Adjustment 46 (Framework 46) to the Northeast (NE) Multispecies Fishery Management Plan (FMP) has revised the haddock incidental catch cap allocated to the Atlantic herring fishery, including dealer requirements.

*Questions You May Have*

**Are there new requirements for herring dealers?**

Yes. As of September 14, 2011, herring dealers that cull or separate their catch will now have to separate out any haddock offloaded from any herring vessel that fished with midwater trawl gear in Herring Management Areas 1A, 1B, and/or 3. This haddock cannot be sold for any purpose and must be retained for at least 12 hours for inspection by enforcement.

**Why must dealers retain haddock from all midwater trawl vessels?**

Framework 46 revised the haddock cap measures so that now haddock from all midwater trawl vessels fishing in the GOM and on GB are counted against the caps. Retention of haddock by dealers will assist in enforcing haddock reporting requirements for all vessels fishing with midwater trawl gear, not just Category A and B vessels.

**Are there other details that you have not described in this letter?**

We have summarized only the measures that are essential to your day-to-day operations for the remainder of fishing year (FY) 2011. A comprehensive reporting guide for all herring vessels and dealers has been enclosed with this letter. If you want to learn more about other measures and details in Framework 46, we have posted additional information on our website at: <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/sfd/sfdmulti.html>.

**Whom can I call if I have a question about any of the measures?**

Please call the Sustainable Fisheries Division staff at (978) 281-9315. They can answer your questions or direct you to other Northeast Regional Office staff who can.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Kurkul  
Regional Administrator

*This small entity compliance guide complies with section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement and Fairness Act of 1996.*

