



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Region
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Common Pool Adjustment to Gulf of Maine (GOM) and Georges Bank (GB) Cod

Effective August 30, 2011, the trip limits for GOM cod and GB cod are reduced as shown in the table below for vessels fishing in the common pool fishery under a NE multispecies day-at-sea (DAS).

Stock	Old Landing Limit	New Landing Limit
GOM Cod	500 lb/DAS up to 2,000 lb/trip	350 lb/DAS up to 1,000 lb/trip
GB Cod	3,000 lb/DAS up to 30,000 lb/trip	300/DAS up to 600 lb/trip

This action does not change the landing limits for vessels with the following permit categories:

- Handgear A-300 lb/trip of cod
- Handgear B-75 lb/trip of cod
- Small Vessel-300 lb/trip of cod, haddock, and yellowtail flounder combined

Fishing year 2011 common pool sub-annual catch limits (sub-ACLs) for GOM cod and GB cod are 229,281 lb and 205,030 lb, respectively. As of August 11, 2011, approximately 57 percent of the GOM cod, and 59 percent of the GB cod, common pool sub-ACLs have been harvested. Therefore, this action will reduce the trip limits as detailed above to prevent the common pool sub-ACLs from being exceeded and provide opportunities to fully harvest the common pool sub-ACLs for all NE multispecies stocks.

NE multispecies common pool vessels that have submitted the required 48-hour Pre-Trip Notification, declared a trip through the vessel monitoring system (VMS), and crossed the VMS demarcation line prior to August 30, 2011, will not be subject to these new limits and are subject to the old landing limits for that trip.

If a common pool sub-ACL is projected to be under-harvested by the end of FY 2011, in-season adjustments to increase the trip limit will be considered. The rates of harvest of all NE multispecies stocks are updated weekly on the internet at <http://www.nero.noaa.gov>.

Please contact the Sustainable Fisheries Division at (978) 281-9315 if you have any questions regarding these program changes.

This small entity compliance guide complies with section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement and Fairness Act of 1996. This notice is authorized by the Regional Administrator of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Northeast Region.