



Greater Atlantic Region Bulletin

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<http://www.nero.noaa.gov/>
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Northeast Multispecies Common Pool Vessels

Trip Limit Increase for Southern New England/Mid-Atlantic Winter Flounder
Effective Date: July 23, 2014, through April 30, 2015

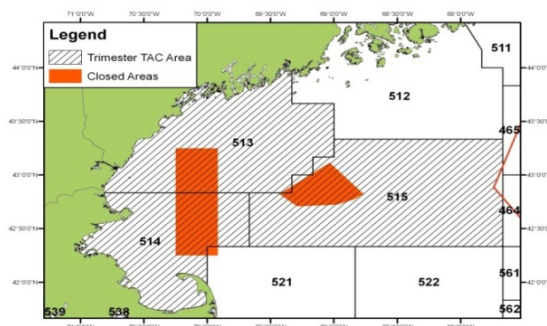
Trimester Total Allowable Catch Area Closed for the Remainder of Trimester 1
Effective: July 23, 2014, through August 31, 2014

Effective July 23, the trip limit for Southern New England/Mid-Atlantic (SNE/MA) winter flounder is increased for common pool vessels as follows:

| Stock | Permit | Old Possession Limit | New Possession Limit |
|------------------------|--------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| SNE/MA winter flounder | A DAS | 1,500 lb/DAS and 2,000 lb/trip | 3,000 lb/DAS and 6,000 lb/trip |

DAS = Day-at-Sea

Also, we have determined that 90 percent of the GOM Cod Trimester 1 Total Allowable Catch (TAC) was harvested as of July 12. Therefore, effective July 23, the GOM Cod Trimester 1 TAC Area is closed for the remainder of Trimester 1, through August 31, 2014. Common pool vessels on a groundfish trip using trawl gear, sink gillnet gear, and/or longline/hook gear are prohibited from fishing in statistical areas 513, 514, and 515 through August 31, 2014. The areas will reopen at the beginning of Trimester 2 at 0001 hours on September 1, 2014.



If you are currently at sea, you may land the increased limit of SNE/MA winter flounder and you may complete your trip if you are within the GOM Trimester TAC Area. Please contact us at (978) 281-9315 if you have any questions. Quota monitoring reports are updated on the internet at <http://www.nero.noaa.gov>.

| <i>Frequently Asked Questions</i> | |
|---|---|
| Why is this action being taken? | For SNE/MA winter flounder, we are adjusting the trip limit to allow for additional harvest of the stock. For GOM cod, we have to close the Trimester TAC Area when it's projected that 90% of the Trimester TAC will be caught. |
| How much of the quota has been caught of each stock? | As of July 10, 2014, 17% of the quota for SNE/MA winter flounder had been caught, and as of July 12, 2014, 90% of the quota for GOM cod had been caught. |
| Is there a chance that the trip limit will go back down? | If the SNE/MA winter flounder quota is projected to be caught, we would consider decreasing the trip limit to prevent quota overages. |
| When will the GOM Trimester TAC Area reopen? | Areas 513, 514, and 515 will reopen on September 1, 2014, to all common pool vessels. Until then, you may not be fishing on a groundfish trip in those areas with trawl gear, sink gillnet gear, and/or longline/hook gear, even if you're not targeting cod. |

For small entity compliance guides, this bulletin 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, Greater Atlantic Region.