



### Additional Opportunity to Join or Change Sectors

NOAA's Fisheries Service has extended the deadline to January 22, 2010, for sectors to add eligible Northeast multispecies permits to their rosters for fishing year (FY) 2010. Should additions to a sector's roster trigger the need for further analysis, the agency will discuss the supplemental requirements with the sector's manager.

In order to provide as much flexibility as possible to the fishing industry, NOAA's Fisheries Service will allow permit holders that have already signed a sector contract the opportunity to change sectors. It is up to each sector must decide whether or not members may leave the sector and whether or not to accept new members. No permit may be enrolled in more than one sector during FY 2010.

Sectors may remove permits from their rosters through April 30, 2010; however, based on this deadline, permits withdrawn from a sector after January 22, 2010, would not be allowed to join another sector, but can fish in the common pool for FY 2010.

Each sector must provide an updated roster, including copies of signed sector contracts for each new member, to NOAA's Fisheries Service no later than January 22, 2010.

Updated Environmental Assessments (EAs) and Sector Operations Plans (SOPs) that include revised rosters are due to NOAA's Fisheries Service by January 27, 2010.

### Groundfish Fishery Management Action Deadlines

What	When
Public Comment Period Ends AM 16 Proposed Rule RIN 0648-AW72	Jan 20
Public Comment Period Ends 2010 Sector Operations Plans Proposed Rule RIN 0648-XS55	Jan 21
Deadline for making additions to Sector Rosters	Jan 22**
Updated EAs and SOPs that include revised rosters due	Jan 27
Deadline for removing fishing vessels from Sector Rosters	Apr 30

\*\*a vessel that opts to leave a sector after Jan 22 cannot join another sector in 2010 but can fish in the common pool.



Yellowtail flounder (Photo credit: NOAA)

### How to Submit Comments on Amendment 16 and Sector Operations Plans Proposed Rules

You may submit comments via any of the following methods:

**Electronic submissions:** Submit all electronic comments via the Federal eRulemaking Portal:

<http://www.regulations.gov>

Please make sure to include the RIN # for the specific proposed rule you wish to comment on.

**Fax:** (978) 281-9135

**Mail:** Paper, disk, or CD-ROM comments should be sent to

Patricia A. Kurkul  
Regional Administrator  
NOAA Fisheries Service  
55 Great Republic Drive  
Gloucester, MA 01930



Atlantic cod (Photo credit: NOAA)

To view the Amendment 16 Proposed Rule go to:  
<http://www.nero.noaa.gov/nero/regs/frdoc/09/09mulAmend16PR.pdf>

To view the Sector Operations Plans Proposed Rule go to:  
<http://www.nero.noaa.gov/nero/regs/frdoc/09/09mul2010SecOpsPlansContractsAllocationsEntitlements.pdf>



## Seafood Dealer Telephone Townhall Scheduled

NOAA's Fisheries Service will be hosting a telephone townhall meeting to briefly explain new seafood dealer requirements under Amendment 16 to the Multispecies Fishery Management Plan scheduled to go into effect in 2010. During the call, seafood dealers will have an opportunity to raise questions they have about the proposed measures.

The Townhall is scheduled for **Tuesday, January 12 from 10:30 am -12:00 pm.**

To get call in information please contact:

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at 978-281-9175 OR  
via Email at  
[Marjorie.Mooney-Seus@noaa.gov](mailto:Marjorie.Mooney-Seus@noaa.gov)

Further information about presentations is available on our website  
[http://www.nero.noaa.gov/dealer\\_er/](http://www.nero.noaa.gov/dealer_er/)

### TelephoneTownhall **AGENDA**

10:30 am -11:15 am

#### Brief Presentations

-  Overview of sector management
-  Review of dealer reporting requirements
-  Dockside monitoring procedural and data requirements

11:15 am - 11:45 N

-  Questions & Answer Session

11:45 am - 12:00 N

-  Wrap up, evaluation and topics for future calls

## NOAA's Ongoing Effort to Refine Data Collection and Management: Workshop V

NOAA's Fisheries Service is continuing to work with the American Society for Quality (ASQ) to identify means to better support fishing sectors, which will require finer scale data than effort control and area management measures.

On January 12 and 13, ASQ will analyze the agency's inhouse processes for collecting, handling and storing data.

On January 14, the discussion will be expanded to include the fishing industry. Specifically, ASQ will hold a quality training session for sector managers.

### Sector Management: Things Dealers Should Know

- ✓ **Dealers should continue to comply with reporting requirements that have been in place since May 2005**
- ✓ **Accurate data are essential for sectors to be successful**
- ✓ **Sectors will want to work with dealers with good track record in providing timely and complete weekly reports**
- ✓ **With approval of Amendment 16, dealers would need to provide dockside monitors with access to observe offloading and gather information about the amount and species landed by selected sector vessels in 2010**

**For more info on dealer requirements, please refer to our Seafood Dealer Guide:**  
[http://www.nero.noaa.gov/dealer\\_er/doc/sectorDSMinformationalbrochure.pdf](http://www.nero.noaa.gov/dealer_er/doc/sectorDSMinformationalbrochure.pdf)

*Multispecies Fishery Bulletin (formerly Sector News) is a monthly publication providing updates on groundfish management in Northeast fisheries. We welcome your suggestions about improvements we can make or information you would like to see included in future issues.*

*Please send comments to: [Marjorie.Mooney-Seus@noaa.gov](mailto:Marjorie.Mooney-Seus@noaa.gov) or call 978-281-9175.*

*For more information on sector management, be sure and check out our redesigned website @*

*<http://www.nero.noaa.gov/sfd/sfdmultisector.html>*