

Appendix I

Groundfish Assessment Review Meeting

15-19 August, 2005

Summary of Groundfish Management Measures, 2002-2004

By

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2001
January 9 – March 17 April 16 – April 30 Northern Shrimp season (61 days)
November 6: Daily haddock possession limit removed (maximum 50,000 lbs.-trip).
2002
February 15-March 11: Northern Shrimp season (25 days with days off)
May 1: Interim rule as a result of FW 33 lawsuit settlement agreement. Continuation of most measures from previous frameworks. <u>DAS</u> : 15 hour minimum charged for all trips over 3 hours Vessels limited to 25 percent of allocation May 1 through July 31, 2002 (only) Prohibition on front-loading DAS <u>Minimum size</u> : Cod 22 in. <u>Gear</u> : GOM Regulated Mesh Area (RMA): 6.5 in. diamond or square codend minimum, 6.5 inch mesh for trip gillnets, 6.5 inch mesh standup (roundfish) or 7 inch mesh tiedown (flatfish) for day gillnets. All areas: day gillnets limited to 50 standup/100 tiedown nets. <u>Hook gear</u> : de-hooking devices with spacing of less than six inches prohibited. <u>Closures</u> : WGOM year round closure extended (was to sunset May 1); Cashes Ledge Closed Area (year round); year round Cashes Ledge East and West closure added; add blocks 124/125 May, blocks 132/133 June, <u>Recreational</u> : Cod minimum size 23 in., GOM party/charter limited to 10 fish combined cod/haddock, all areas private recreational limited to 10 cod <u>Possession limits</u> : Remain the same. Haddock possession limit of 3,000 lbs.-DAS/30,000 lbs.-trip through September 30.
June 1: Revised interim rule <u>Minimum size</u> : Cod 19 in. <u>Closures</u> : Year-round Cashes Ledge east and west closures removed <u>Gear</u> : <u>Hook</u> : Requirement for six-inch spacing for de-hooking gear removed
July 4: Haddock daily limit suspended. Possession limit of 30,000 lbs.-trip until September 30, 50,000 lbs.-trip thereafter.
August 1: Emergency rule implementing FW 33 lawsuit settlement agreement. <u>DAS</u> : DAS allocation for each permit reduced 20 percent from maximum used FY 1996-2000 (est 71,218 allocated, including carry-over). DAS counted by the minute, except for day gillnet vessels (15 hour minimum). (This change reverted to DAS counting in effect in FY 2001). Prohibition on front-loading DAS clock. <u>Minimum size</u> : Cod 22 in. <u>Gear</u> : <u>Trawl</u> : GOM/GB RMAs: 6.5 in. diamond or square codend minimum; Southern New England RMA changed to 70W to 74W (vice 72-30W). 6.5 in. square, 7 in. diamond codend in SNE RMA. <u>Gillnet</u> : GOM: Trip gillnets – 6.5 in. mesh/150 nets; Day – 6.5 in./50 standup nets, 7 in./100 tiedown nets (prohibited March-June); GB – 6.5 in./50 nets, SNE – 6.5 in./75 nets; Mid-Atlantic: Trip – 5.5 in. diamond/6 in. square, Day – 5.5 in. diamond/6 in. square. <u>Hook</u> : no de-hookers with less than 6 in/. spacing, 12/0 circle hooks or larger; GOM: 2,000 rigged hooks, GB: 3,600 rigged hooks <u>Closures</u> : Add GB seasonal closure areas, May – Blocks 80, 81, 118, 119, 120 (south of 42-20N) <u>Possession limits</u> : <u>Yellowtail flounder</u> : SNE/MA: landing/possession of yellowtail flounder prohibited south of 40N. Mar 1 – May 31: 250 lbs./trip, June 1 – February 28: 500 lbs.-DAS/4,000 lbs. – trip. <u>Cod</u> : GOM: 500 lbs.-DAS/4,000 lbs./trip. Open access commercial permits limited to 200 lbs. regulated groundfish. <u>Recreational</u> : Cod/haddock: 23 in. minimum size. Party/charter: GOM RMA: April-November, 10 cod/haddock combined per person, Dec-Mar – 10 cod/haddock combined, no more than 5 cod per person per trip. Private: GOM RMA: December-March – 10 cod/haddock combined, no more than 5 cod.
2003
January 15-February 27: Northern Shrimp season (38 days with days off)
March 13: Haddock possession limit suspended until May 1.
May 1: Haddock possession limit of 3,000 lbs-DAS/30,000 lbs.-trip
May 1: Framework Adjustment 37

Modifications to whiting management measures: extension of Cultivator Shoal whiting fishery by one month (June 15-October 31), changes to default measures, minor changes to Cape Cod Bay Raised Footrope Trawl exemption area.
May 13: Haddock possession limit revised to 30,000 lbs./trip (no daily limit).
July 9: Framework Adjustment 38 Raised footrope trawl whiting fishery in the inshore GOM, July 1 – November 30 each year.
July 28: Final emergency rule implementing FW 33 lawsuit settlement agreement <u>Recreational</u> : Haddock, 21 in. minimum size. Party/charter: GOM: Apr-Nov, 10 cod per person, December-March, 5 cod per person. Private: GOM: December-March, 10 cod/haddock combined, no more than 5 cod. Other areas: 10 cod/haddock combined.
October 7: Haddock possession limit suspended for the remainder of the fishing year.
2004
January 19-March 12: Northern Shrimp season (40 days with days off)
May 1: Implementation of Amendment 13. Measures based on emergency rule and measures in effect prior to interim rule. <u>DAS</u> : DAS for each permit re-categorized. Category 1: 60% of maximum DAS used FY 1996-2001 in years that permit landed 5,000 pounds regulated groundfish (est. 43,000 allocated). Category B: 40% of maximum DAS used FY 1996-2001 in years that permit landed 5,000 pounds regulated groundfish; can only be used in specific programs. DAS leasing and transfer programs allow DAS exchanges between vessels under limited conditions. (200 lbs. of winter flounder can be retained by vessels fishing for fluke west of 72-30 W without using a DAS). <u>Minimum Size</u> : No change from emergency rule <u>Gear</u> : <u>Trawl</u> : No change from emergency rule. <u>Gillnet</u> : GOM/GB: Day-6.5 in./50 standup nets, no seasonal restriction on tie-down nets; Trip: 6.5 in. mesh/150 nets. SNE/MA: 6.5 in. in. mesh/75 nets. <u>Hook</u> : GOM: 2,000 hooks. GB: 3,600 hooks <u>Closures</u> : Same as emergency rule, with addition of habitat closed areas; all except Jeffrey Bank and NLCA habitat closed area are within existing year-round closed areas. <u>Possession Limits</u> : GOM cod: 800 lbs-DAS/4,000 lbs.-trip. GB cod: 1,000 lbs.-DAS/10,000 lbs.-trip. CC/GOM yellowtail flounder: April, May, October, November - 250 lbs. trip, other months 750 lbs.-DAS/3,000 lbs.-trip. SNE/MA yellowtail flounder: March –June, 250 lbs. trip, other months 750 lbs.-DAS/3,000 lbs.-trip. Haddock: 3,000 lbs.-DAS/30,000 lbs.-trip. <u>Special Management Programs</u> : US/Canada Area: hard TAC on cod, haddock (SAs 561, 562), yellowtail flounder (SAs 522, 525, 561, 562). Cod possession limit: 500 lbs-DAS/5,000 lbs-trip. No DAS charged to/from SAs 561, 562. <u>Exempted Fisheries</u> : Northern Shrimp fishery area restriction removed; General Category scallop fishery exemption in SAs 537, 538, 539, and 613.
May 14: Haddock possession limit suspended for remainder of the fishing year.
June 1: CAII Yellowtail Flounder Special Access Program Access to CAII south of 41-30N by trawl vessels targeting yellowtail flounder. Limited to 320 trips (total), two trips per vessel per month, yellowtail flounder limited to 30,000 lbs./trip. Authorized use of Category B DAS.
June 23: Amendment 10 to the Atlantic Sea Scallop FMP. 10-in. square mesh twine top required for all scallop dredge vessels in all areas.
September 3: CAII Yellowtail Flounder SAP ends (no trips can begin after this date)
November 2: Framework Adjustment 39 (Scallop Framework Adjustment 16) Scallop dredge vessel access to portions of groundfish mortality CAII and NLCA in 2004, CAI and CAII in 2005, and CAI and NLCA in 2006. Season: June 15 through January 31. Possession limits: 1,000 lbs. regulated groundfish, no more than 100 lbs. cod. In NLCA, limited to 250 lbs.-trip yellowtail flounder in June. (Outside of access program, scallop vessels continue to be limited to 300 lbs. regulated groundfish per trip). Yellowtail flounder catch capped at 10 percent of target TAC for the stock.
October 1: Closure of SAs 561 and 562 to all fishing on a multispecies DAS. Prohibition on the possession of yellowtail flounder from SAs 522, 525, 561, 562.
November 19: Framework Adjustment 40A <u>Closed Area I Haddock SAP</u> Access to small area of CAI to target haddock using longlines. Limited to 1,000 mt haddock TAC. Season ends December 31.

Eastern US/CA Area Haddock SAP Pilot Program

Access to northern corner of CAII and adjacent area to target haddock using separator trawl.
Season: May 1 through December 31. Authorized use of Category B DAS.

Category B (regular) DAS Pilot Program

Vessels can use Category B (regular) DAS to target healthy stocks. Catch (kept and discarded) limited to 100 lbs. of cod, American plaice, white hake, witch flounder, ocean pout, SNE/MA winter flounder and windowpane flounder, 25 lbs.-DAS/250 lbs.-trip of yellowtail flounder. Maximum of 1,000 DAS can be used in each of four quarters from November 1, 2004 through October 31, 2005.