June 2004 Awards for Cooperative Groundfish Research Projects

Applicant	Principal Investigator and participants	Title	Description	Federal Funding
University of Rhode Island 401- 874-5138	David Beutel Laura Skrobe Kathleen Castro Capt. Philip Ruhle Sr. Capt. Philip Ruhle Jr. Capt. Jonathan Knight Capt. James O'Grady	Bycatch reduction in the haddock fishery	This project will test the effects of employing a regulation, and a large mesh-faced (top, bottom, and side wings,) bottom trawl on bycatch of cod and other species in a directed haddock fishery in and around Closed Area I. Experiment will be conducted using sea trials over four calendar seasons, for 20 sampling days over a 20 month period.	\$422,000
University of New Hampshire 603-862-2154	Pingguo He Capt. Carl Bouchard	Rope separator trawl for haddock and pollock with "B" DAS in inshore Western Gulf of Maine waters	Development and design of trawl gear that will retain haddock and pollock with minimum retention of cod and other groundfish species, using a specialized rope separator trawl employing a series of parallel ropes instead of netting. Gear will be tested both in a flume tank and during sea trials. Sea trials will be documented with remote underwater video and acoustic sensors, and through comparative fishing experiments using alternating haul methods.	\$214,585

U MASS-Dartmouth 508-910-6357	Jaochim Groeger Brian Rothschild Capt. Robert Lane	Testing a haddock separator trawl in Georges Bank Closed Area I	Study effects of net type, trawling time, and seasonal fish density on trawl net selectivity. Experiment will be conducted at sea in Closed Area I of George's Bank. Resulting data and analysis will provide models to assist in developing conditions for a fishery in which haddock can be efficiently retained while sufficiently eliminating bycatch of untargeted groundfish.	\$297,614
Cape Cod Commercial Hook Fishermen's Association 508-945-2432	Paul Parker Linda Mercer Susan Goldhor Capt. Mike Russo Capt. Peter Taylor Capt. Mike Leary Capt. Tom Kelly	Hook & line fishery to minimize bycatch in a haddock fishery on Georges Bank and the Gulf of Maine	Determine the appropriate types of bait, locations, and seasons that when used together would form a B DAS or a Special Access Program for commercial benthic longliners to target haddock in the Georges Bank Closed Area II, the Cashes Ledge Closed Area, the Western Gulf of Maine Closure Area, and the Platts Rolling Closure.	\$300,000
Northeast Seafood Coalition 617-384-8717	Sarah Robinson Jackie Odell Capt. Vito Giacalone	Determining the feasibility of "B" Regular Day programs: social, enforcement and data factors	Interview and use three-stage focus groups to identify factors (social, enforcement and data) that influence development of successful fisheries that can use B-Regular days. Investigators will interview key stakeholders, then organize a working focus group to discuss the three factors, and to identify and prioritize key issues. The resulting report can be used both in decision making, and to suggest further avenues of socioeconomic research	\$33,100

Gulf of Maine Research Institute 207-772-2321	Laura Singer Chris Glass Capt. James Odlin	Examining the efficacy of the haddock separator trawl in eliminating cod bycatch in limited areas in Closed Areas I & II	Conduct experiment using a haddock separator trawl in portions of Closed Areas I and II to determine quality and composition of catch and bycatch, and the extent to which cod are separated from haddock in the gear. Project will occur over 10 months, using a grid sampling pattern, and also yield information on seasonal occurrence of groundfish species in the areas surveyed.	\$440,000
Gulf of Maine Research Institute 207-772-2321	Laura Singer Thomas Moth-Poulsen Capt. David Marciano	Selectivity of test gillnets to target haddock in the Gulf of Maine	Experiment will document reaction of haddock and other species to gillnets of differing mesh sizes and determine optimal configuration to maximize selectivity during 14 sea trials. Haddock catch will be measured to obtain length-circumference relationships. Groundfish catch will also be sampled for length, weight, and species id; and bycatch of other species (including birds and mammals, if any) will be recorded.	\$77,917

TOTAL FEDERAL FUNDING

\$1,785,216