



# Northeast (NE) Multispecies Information Sheet

## Accountability Measures (AM) and Annual Catch Limits (ACL)



*This summary provides a broad overview of restrictions and requirements; it is not a substitute for the regulations. You must read the regulations in conjunction with this information sheet to fully understand how this fishery is managed. This information sheet will be updated when regulations are revised. The regulations summarized here may be found at 50 CFR 648.90*

### **Introduction:**

The following summarizes accountability measures (AM) and annual catch limits (ACL) implemented under Amendment 16 to the Northeast (NE) Multispecies Fisheries Management Plan on May 1, 2010. This summary includes measures for fishing year (FY) 2010 and beyond for both sectors, non-sectors (common pool), and recreational/charter party vessels.

### **ANNUAL CATCH LIMITS**

- An ACL is the amount of each stock that is allowed to be caught per year.
- The total ACL is divided into sub-ACL's for different fisheries that catch NE multispecies, including: Common pool, sectors, state waters fisheries, recreational fisheries, and vessels that catch NE multispecies as bycatch, such as scallop vessels.
- ACLs are directly related to AMs in that when an ACL is being approached or is reached, AMs can be put into place to ensure that the ACL is not exceeded.

### **ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES**

- Sectors, common pool, and the recreational fisheries all have different AMs associated with them, as detailed further below.
- The following measures can be implemented in the event an ACL is being approached or is reached:

### **Common Pool Measures**

#### **For FY 2010 – 2011:**

- If it is projected, by February of each year, that common pool catch will exceed or under harvest the common pool sub-ACL for any stock, a differential days-at-sea (DAS) rate will be implemented for the following FY.
- Additionally, if it is projected that the catch will exceed or under harvested the common pool sub-ACL during the FY, the Regional Administrator (RA) may implement at any time, a differential DAS rate.
- The differential counting rate will be determined by the proportion of ACL caught (table 1).
- Differential DAS rates will be applied to category A DAS

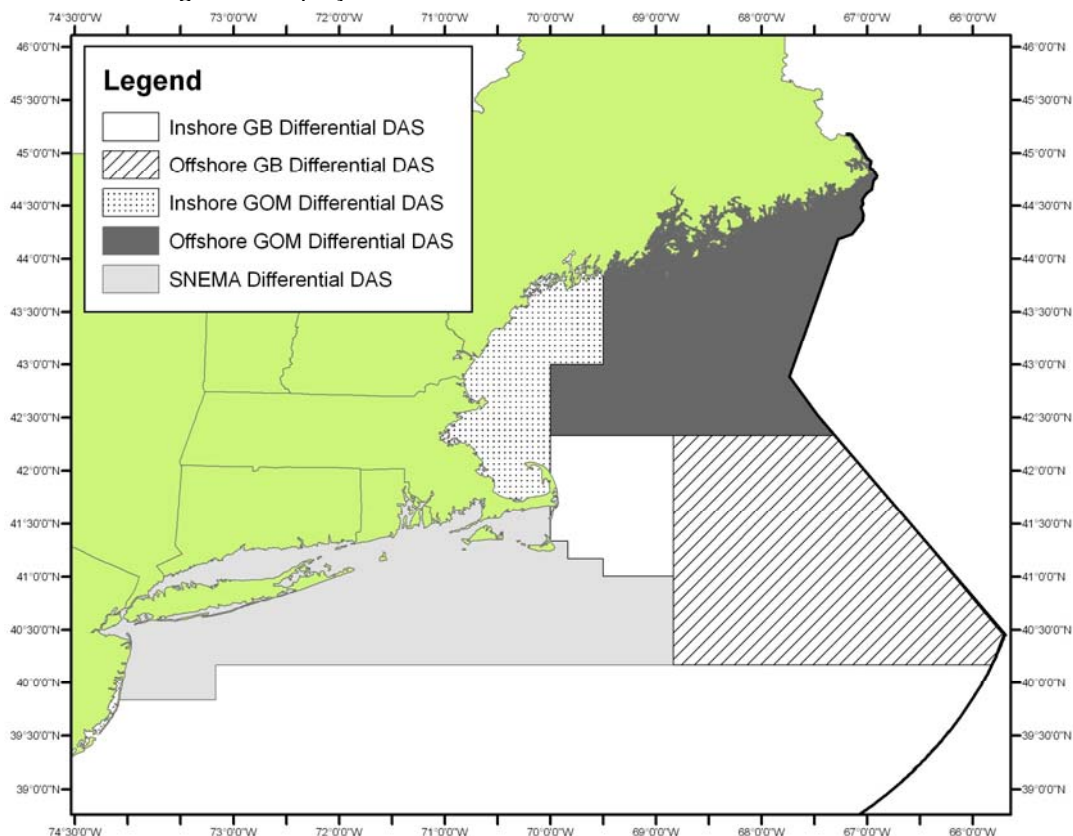
Proportion of ACL caught	Differential DAS rate applied
0.5	0.5
0.6	0.6
0.7	0.7
0.8	0.8
0.9	No change
1	No change
1.1	1.1
1.2	1.2
1.3	1.3
1.4	1.4
1.5	1.5
1.6	1.6
1.7	1.7
1.8	1.8
1.9	1.9
2	2

- DAS will be charged based on the first Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) position into and out of the applicable differential DAS counting area. (Table 2)
- In the event an area has more than one differential DAS charging rate in place, the most restrictive rate will apply.
- DAS charging rates can be increased or decreased based on whether the ACL was exceeded or under harvested.
- In the event that similar adjustments are necessary in all Differential DAS areas, A DAS to B DAS ratio will be adjusted for all common pool vessels rather than implementing the Differential DAS counting areas.

Table 2. Applicable Differential DAS Counting Area for Each Groundfish Stock

Stock	Applicable Differential DAS Counting Area
GB Cod	IN GB and OFF GB
GOM Cod	IN GOM
GB Haddock	IN GB and OFF GB
GOM Haddock	IN GOM and OFF GOM
GB Yellowtail flounder	OFF GB
CC/GOM Yellowtail flounder	IN GOM and IN GOB
SNE/MA Yellowtail flounder	SNE
American Plaice (dabs)	OFF GOM, IN GB, OFF GB
Witch flounder (gray sole)	OFF GOM, IN GB, OFF GB
GB Winter flounder	OFF GB
GOM Winter flounder	IN GOM
SNE/MA Winter flounder	IN GB and SNE
Redfish	OFF GOM and IN GB
White hake	IN GOM, IN GB, and OFF GOM
Pollock	IN GOM, IN GB, and OFF GOM
Northern windowpane flounder	OFF GB
Southern windowpane flounder	SNE
Ocean pout	SNE
Atlantic halibut	OFF GOM, IN GB and OFF GB
Atlantic wolfish	IN GOM and IN GB

- The following chart displays the 5 Differential DAS areas:



**Inshore Gulf of Maine (GOM) Differential DAS Area.** The Inshore GOM Differential DAS Area is defined as the area bounded on the west by the shoreline of the United States and bounded on the east by straight lines connecting the following points in the order stated:

Point	N. Latitude	W. Longitude
1	( <sup>1</sup> )	69° 30'
2	43° 00'	69° 30'
3	43° 00'	70° 00'
4	( <sup>2</sup> )	70° 00'

<sup>1</sup>Intersection with ME shoreline

<sup>2</sup>North-facing shoreline of Cape Cod, MA

**Offshore GOM Differential DAS Area.** The Offshore GOM Differential DAS Area is defined as the area bounded on the north by the shoreline of Maine, bounded on the east by the U.S./Canadian maritime boundary, and bounded on the south and west by straight lines connecting the following points in the order stated:

Point	N. Latitude	W. Longitude
1	42° 22'	67° 20'
2	42° 20'	67° 20'
3	42° 20'	70° 00'
4	43° 00'	70° 00'
5	43° 00'	69° 30'
6	( <sup>1</sup> )	69° 30'

<sup>1</sup>Intersection with ME shoreline

**Inshore Georges Bank (GB) Differential DAS Area.** The Inshore GB Differential DAS Area is defined as the area bounded by straight lines connecting the following points in the order stated:

Point	N. Latitude	W. Longitude
1	( <sup>1</sup> )	70° 00'
2	42° 20'	70° 00'
3	42° 20'	68° 50'
4	41° 00'	68° 50'
5	41° 00'	69° 30'
6	41° 10'	69° 30'
7	41° 10'	69° 50'
8	41° 20'	69° 50'
9	41° 20'	70° 00'
10	( <sup>2</sup> )	70° 00'

<sup>1</sup>The intersection of the Cape Cod, MA, coastline and 70° 00' W. longitude.

<sup>2</sup>South-facing shoreline of Cape Cod, MA.

**Offshore GB Differential DAS Area.** The Offshore GB Differential DAS Area is defined as the area bounded on the east by the U.S./Canadian maritime boundary and straight lines connecting the following points in the order stated:

Point	N. Latitude	W. Longitude
1	42° 20'	68° 50'
2	42° 20'	67° 20'
3	( <sup>1</sup> )	67° 20'
4	40° 10'	( <sup>1</sup> )
5	40° 10'	68° 50'

<sup>1</sup>The U.S./Canada maritime boundary as it intersects with the EEZ.

**Southern New England/Mid Atlantic (SNE/MA) Differential DAS Area.** The SNE/MA Differential DAS Area is defined as the area bounded on the north and west by the coastline of the United States, bounded on the east and south by straight lines connecting the following points in the order stated:

Point	N. Latitude	W. Longitude
1	( <sup>1</sup> )	70° 00'
2	41° 20'	70° 00'
3	41° 20'	69° 50'
4	41° 10'	69° 50'
5	41° 10'	69° 30'
6	41° 00'	69° 30'
7	41° 00'	68° 50'
8	40° 10'	68° 50'
9	40° 10'	73° 10'
10	39° 50'	73° 10'
11	39° 50'	( <sup>2</sup> )

<sup>1</sup>South-facing shoreline of Cape Cod, MA.

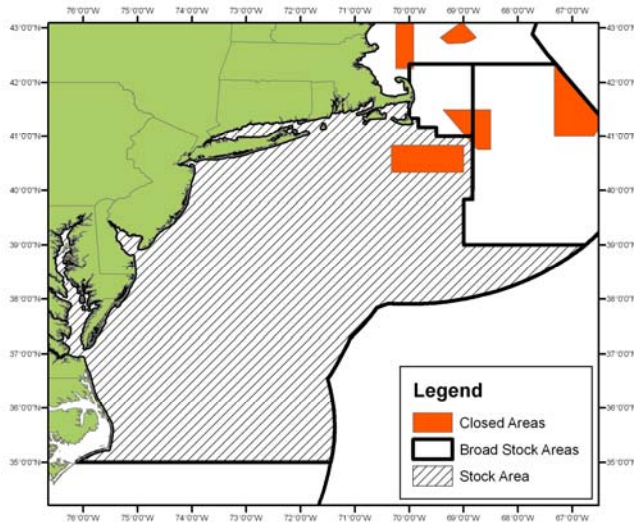
<sup>2</sup>East-facing shoreline of NJ.

### **Sectors**

- If a sector exceeds its allocation for any NE multispecies stock allocated to a sector (Redfish, Witch flounder, White hake, Pollock, American Plaice, Yellowtail flounder, Winter flounder, Cod, and Haddock), the sector will be prohibited from fishing in the stock area for that stock, until such time that it has acquired additional allocation from another sector.
- Any overages at the end of the FY will be deducted from that sector's allocation of each stock for the following FY. A sector can balance such an overage by acquiring allocation from another sector.
- If a sector disbands following an overage, but does not have sufficient allocation to cover the overage, an appropriate DAS or sector share penalty or fishing prohibition will apply to each individual participating vessel during the following FY, depending on whether participating vessels enter the common pool, or another sector.
- If a sector remains operational following an overage, but does not have sufficient allocation to cover the overage, vessels participating in that sector will be prohibited from fishing the stock areas associated with the overage until the sector acquires sufficient allocation to cover the overage of that stock for the stock area in question.

- The sector stock areas that may be subject to closures are defined as follow:
  - Note: More than one stock may share the same area

### SNE/MA Yellowtail Flounder Stock Area



Point	N. Lat.	W. Long.
SNE1	35° 00'	(1)
SNE2	35° 00'	(2)
SNE3	39° 00'	(2)
SNE4	39° 00'	69° 00'
SNE5	39° 50'	69° 00'
SNE7	39° 50'	68° 50'
SNE8	41° 00'	68° 50'
SNE9	41° 00'	69° 30'
SNE10	41° 10'	69° 30'
SNE11	41° 10'	69° 50'
SNE12	41° 20'	69° 50'
SNE13	41° 20'	(3)
SNE14	(4)	70° 00'
SNE15	(5)	70° 00'

<sup>1</sup>Intersection of east-facing coastline of Outer Banks, NC, and 35° 00' N. lat.

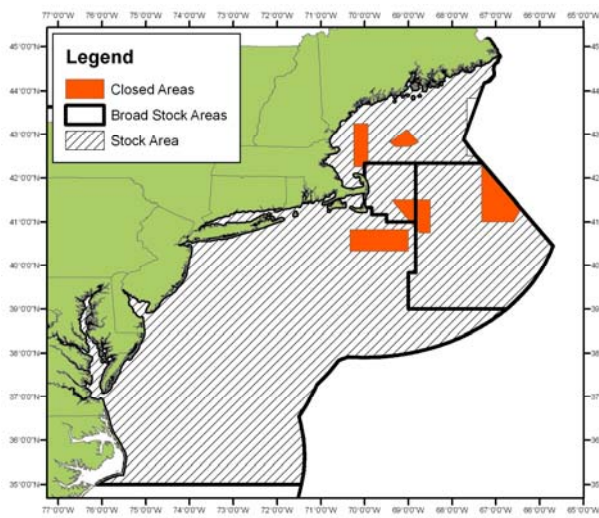
<sup>2</sup>U.S./Canada maritime boundary.

<sup>3</sup>Intersection of east-facing coastline of Nantucket, MA, and 41° 20' N. lat.

<sup>4</sup>Intersection of north-facing coastline of Nantucket, MA, and 70° 00' W. long.

<sup>5</sup>Intersection of south-facing coastline of Cape Cod, MA, and 70° 00' W. long.

### American Plaice and Pollock Stock Area



Point	N. Lat.	W. Long.
AMP1	(1)	67° 00'
AMP2	(2)	67° 00'
AMP3	43° 50'	(2)
AMP4	43° 50'	67° 40'
AMP5	(3)	67° 40'
AMP6	(4)	67° 40'
AMP7	42° 30'	67° 40'
AMP8	42° 30'	(2)
AMP9	35° 00'	(2)
AMP10	35°	(5)

<sup>1</sup> Intersection of south-facing ME coastline and 67° 00' W. long.

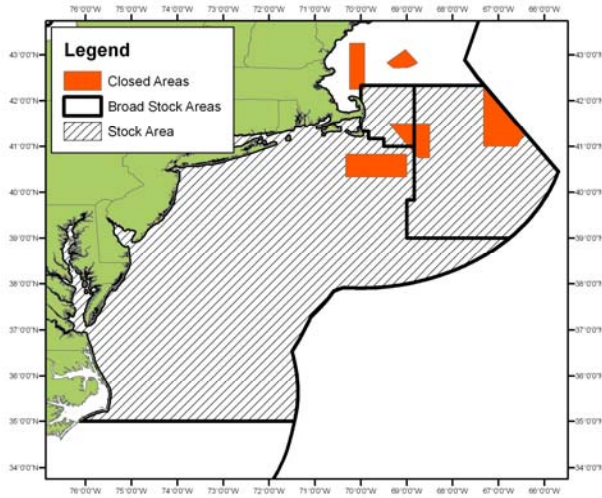
<sup>2</sup>U.S./Canada maritime boundary.

<sup>3</sup>U.S./Canada maritime boundary (northern intersection with 67° 40' N. lat.).

<sup>4</sup>U.S./Canada maritime boundary (southern intersection with 67° 40' N. lat.).

<sup>5</sup>Intersection of east-facing coastline of Outer Banks, NC, and 35° 00' N. lat.

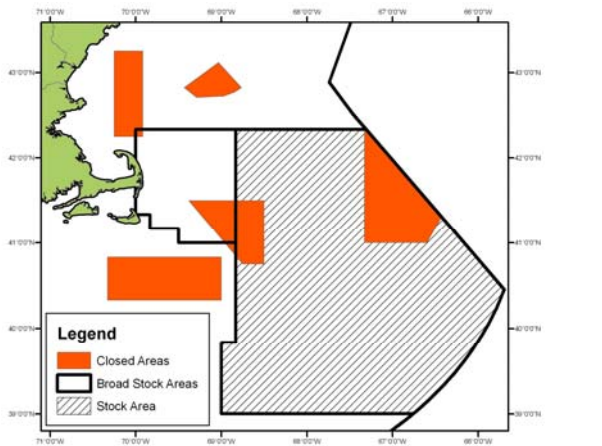
### GB Cod and GB Haddock Stock Area



Point	N. Lat.	W. Long.
USCA1	42° 20'	68° 50'
USCA X1	42° 20'	(1)
USCA5	39° 00'	(1)
USCA X2	39° 00'	69° 00'
USCA X3	39° 50'	69° 00'
USCA2	39° 50'	68° 50'
USCA1	42° 20'	68° 50'

<sup>1</sup>U.S./Canada maritime boundary.

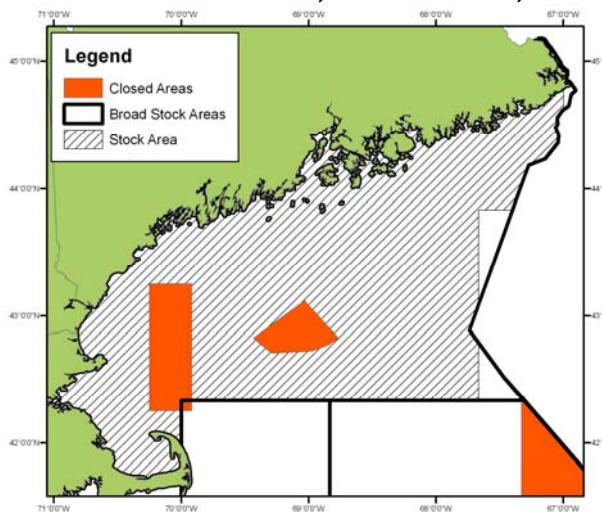
### GB Yellowtail Flounder and GB Winter Flounder Stock Area



Point	N. Lat.	W. Long.
1	(1)	70° 00'
2	42° 20'	70° 00'
3	42° 20'	(2)
4	35° 00'	(2)
5	35° 00'	(3)

<sup>1</sup>Intersection of the north-facing coastline of Cape Cod, MA, and 70° 00' W. long.  
<sup>2</sup>U.S./Canada maritime boundary.  
<sup>3</sup>Intersection of the east-facing coastline of Outer Banks, NC, and 35° 00' N. lat.

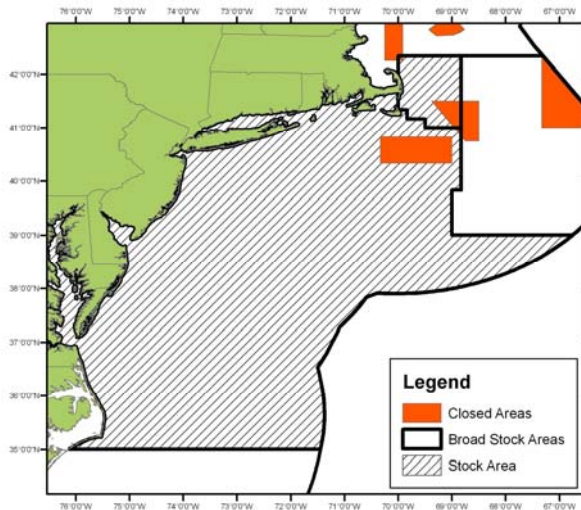
### GOM Cod, GOM Haddock, and GOM Winter Flounder Stock Area



Point	N. Lat.	W. Long.
GOM1	(1)	70° 00'
GOM2	42° 20'	70° 00'
GOM3	42° 20'	67° 40'
GOM4	(2)	67° 40'
GOM5	(3)	67° 40'
GOM6	43° 50'	67° 40'
GOM7	43° 50'	(4)
GOM8	(4)	67° 00'
GOM9	(5)	67° 00'

<sup>1</sup>Intersection of the north-facing coastline of Cape Cod, MA, and 70° 00' W. long.  
<sup>2</sup>U.S./Canada maritime boundary (southern intersection with 67° 40' W. long.).  
<sup>3</sup>U.S./Canada maritime boundary (northern intersection with 67° 40' W. long.).  
<sup>4</sup>U.S./Canada maritime boundary  
<sup>5</sup>Intersection of the south-facing ME coastline and 67° 00' W. long.

### SNEMA Winter Flounder Stock Area



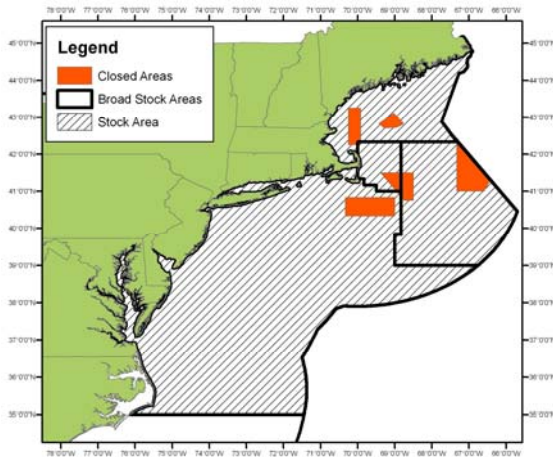
Point	N. Lat.	W. Long.
1	(1)	70 00
2	42 20	70 00
3	42 20	68 50
4	39 50	68 50
5	39 50	69 00
6	39 00	69 00
7	39 00	(2)
8	35 00	(2)
9	35 00	(3)

<sup>1</sup>Intersection of the north-facing Coastline of Cape Cod, MA, and 70° 00' W. long.

<sup>2</sup>U.S./Canada maritime boundary.

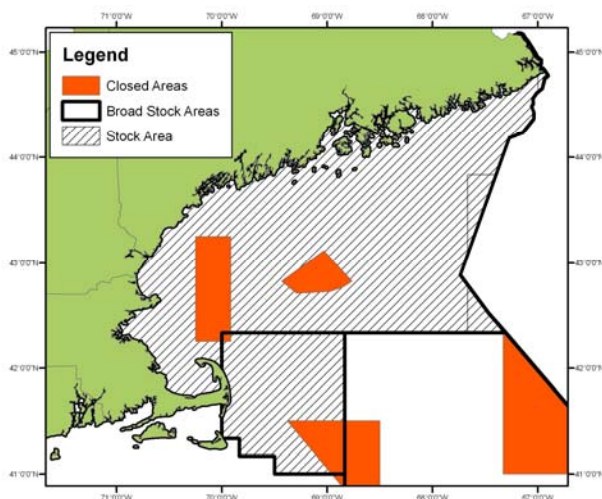
<sup>3</sup>The intersection of the east-facing coastline of Outer Banks, NC, and 35° 00' N. lat.

### White Hake, Witch Flounder, and Redfish Stock Area



This stock area is bounded on the north and west by the coastline of the United States, bounded on the south and east by a line running east from the intersection of the east-facing coastline of Outer Banks, NC, at 35° 00' N. lat. to the boundary of the EEZ, and running northward to the U.S.-Canada border.

### CC/GOM Yellowtail Flounder Stock Area



Point	N. Lat.	W. Long.
1	(1)	70 00
2	(2)	70 00
3	41 20	(3)
4	41 20	69 50
5	41 10	69 50
6	41 10	69 30
7	41 00	69 30
8	41 00	68 50
9	42 20	68 50
10	42 20	(4)

<sup>1</sup>Intersection of south-facing coastline of Cape Cod, MA, and 70° 00' W. long.

<sup>2</sup>Intersection of north-facing coastline of Nantucket, MA, and 70° 00' W. long.

<sup>3</sup>Intersection of east-facing coastline of Nantucket, MA, and 41° 20' N. lat.

<sup>4</sup>U.S./Canada maritime boundary.

### **Recreational and Party/Charter**

- Recreational vessels will be allocated a portion of the GOM cod and GOM haddock ACL based on historic recreational catch of these stocks.
- If the recreational and party/charter fishery exceed their sub-ACL for either GOM cod or GOM haddock in a give year, AMs will be put into place in the following FY, after consultation with the NE Fisheries Management Council.
- The AM adjustments can include the following: Fishing season, minimum fish sizes, and/or possession limits.