



Northeast Region Bulletin

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Northeast Multispecies Recreational Fishermen Fishing Year 2012 Recreational Fishing Size and Possession Limits *Effective Date: May 1, 2012*

This bulletin announces the Federal size and possession limits for the Northeast multispecies recreational fisheries for fishing year 2012 (May 1, 2012 - April 30, 2013). All limits apply to both private and charter/party recreational vessels, unless otherwise noted. Also, please note the changes for Gulf of Maine cod and contact your local state fisheries office for information on current state regulations.

Species		Total Length (in)	Possession Limit	
Atlantic cod	Inside GOM RMA	19	9 fish per <u>person</u> per day (possession prohibited Nov 1- Apr 15)	
	Outside GOM RMA	22	Private: 10 fish per person per day	Charter/Party: No limit
haddock		18	Unlimited	
Atlantic halibut		41	1 fish per <u>vessel</u> per trip	
pollock		19	Unlimited	
witch flounder (gray sole)		14	Unlimited	
yellowtail flounder		13	Unlimited	
American plaice (dab)		14	Unlimited	
GB and GOM winter flounder (blackback)		12	Unlimited	
redfish (ocean perch)		9	Unlimited	
offshore hake, red hake, white hake, and silver hake (whiting)		None	Unlimited	
Atlantic wolffish, windowpane flounder, ocean pout, SNE/MA winter flounder (blackback)		N/A	NO RETENTION	

GOM=Gulf of Maine, GB=Georges Bank, SNE/MA=Southern New England Mid Atlantic, and RMA=Regulated Mesh Area

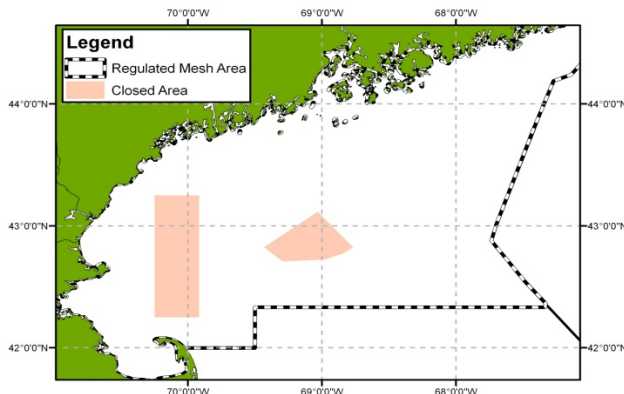


Figure 1. Chart of GOM RMA

N. Lat.	W. Long.
42°22'	67°20' ⁽¹⁾
42°20'	67°20'
42°20'	69°30'
42°00'	69°30'
42°00'	(2)

¹ US-Canada Maritime Boundary
² Intersection of Cape Cod, MA coastline and 42°00' N. lat.

Table 1. Coordinates for GOM RMA

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, Northeast Region.