

**AMENDMENT 4 TO THE NORTHEAST FISHERY SECTOR VII
SECTOR OPERATIONS PLAN**

APPROVED BY THE NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE JULY 1, 2011

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011, THROUGH APRIL 30, 2012 - THE 2011 FISHING YEAR

This amendment approves 2 additional exemptions for Northeast Fishery Sector VII. The new exemptions are from:

1. Gear requirements in the U.S./Canada Management Area.
2. The requirement to maintain a vessel monitoring system (VMS) powered while at the dock.

The following exemptions were previously approved for Northeast Fishery Sector VII and remain in effect:

1. 120-Day Block Requirement Out of the Fishery for Day Gillnet Vessels
2. Prohibition on a Vessel Hauling Another Vessel's Gillnet Gear
3. Limitation on the Number of Gillnets that May be Hauled on Georges Bank when Fishing Under a Groundfish/Monkfish Day-at-Sea (DAS)
4. Limitation on the Number of Gillnets for Day Gillnet Vessels
5. 20-Day Spawning Block
6. Limitation on the Number of Hooks that May be Fished
7. Length and Horsepower Restrictions of the DAS Leasing Program
8. Gulf of Maine (GOM) Sink Gillnet Mesh Exemption
9. GOM Sink Gillnet Mesh Exemption in May
10. Dockside Monitoring (DSM) requirements for Vessels Fishing West of 72°30' W. long.
11. DSM Requirements for Vessels Fishing on Both a Monkfish and Multispecies DAS in the Southern Fishery Management Area (SFMA) using 10-inch or Greater Mesh