



Greater Atlantic Region Bulletin

NOAA Fisheries, Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930

For Information Contact:
Sustainable Fisheries Division
(978) 281 – 9177

<http://www.nero.noaa.gov/>
Date Issued: 4/29/2014

Northern Red Hake Measures

Effective Date: May 1, 2014

We have determined that the annual catch limit for northern red hake was exceeded by 45 percent in 2012. As required by the regulations, the incidental possession limit trigger for northern red hake has been reduced beginning in fishing year 2014 to 45 percent, or 89,585 lb, of the total allowable landings.

For fishing year 2014, if the incidental possession limit trigger is reached or exceeded, the possession limit for northern red hake will be reduced from 5,000 lb per trip to the incidental limit of 400 lb per trip. We will notify you through a separate letter when the trigger is met and we reduce the possession limit.

Frequently Asked Questions

Does this reduction apply to only vessels targeting whiting and that are fishing in one of the whiting exempted fishing areas?	No, this applies to all vessels in possession of northern red hake.
Does this change the incidental possession limit trigger for any other small mesh multispecies?	No, this applies <u>only</u> to northern red hake. The incidental possession limit triggers for northern silver hake, southern whiting, and southern red hake remain at 90 percent.
When will the 45 percent trigger be lifted?	The reduced trigger will remain in effect until the New England Fishery Management Council changes it, unless the ACL is again exceeded, in which case we will further adjust the trigger point.

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, Greater Atlantic Region.