



Northeast Region Bulletin

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Date Issued: 8/21/2013

Northern Red Hake Possession Limit Reduction

Effective Date: 0001 hours, August 26, 2013, through April 30, 2014

We have determined that 90 percent of the total allowable landings for northern red hake will be landed as of August 25, 2013. Therefore, effective 0001 hours, August 26, 2013, the northern red hake possession limit is reduced to 400 lb. This possession limit reduction applies to the northern red hake stock area, which covers the Gulf of Maine/Georges Bank Exemption Area.

If you have declared your trip through the vessel monitoring system (VMS) or interactive voice response system, and crossed the VMS demarcation line prior to August 26, 2013, you will not be subject to the new reduced trip limit for that trip, and you may complete your trip under the previous possession limit of 5,000 lb.

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.
Is it possible for the possession limit to go back up if landings slow down?	No, once 90 percent of the total allowable landings has been reached and a trip limit reduction is implemented, the reduction is in place for the remainder of the fishing year.

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.