

## **Northeast Region Bulletin**

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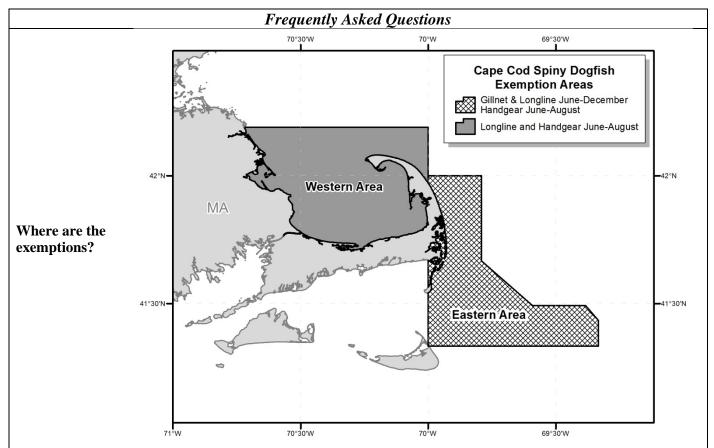
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## Spiny Dogfish and Northeast (NE) Multispecies Permit Holders

New Spiny Dogfish Exemption Areas East and West of Cape Cod Effective Date: June 1, 2013

NMFS has approved an exempted fishery for vessels fishing with a NE Federal spiny dogfish permit in two separate areas, as follows: When using gillnet and longline gear from June through December, and handgear from June through August, in an area east of Cape Cod, MA; and when using longline gear and handgear from June through August in an area west of Cape Cod, MA. The areas of this exempted fishery will be referred to as the Eastern and Western Cape Cod Spiny Dogfish Exemption Areas.

Vessels participating in this exempted spiny dogfish fishery that hold a Federal spiny dogfish permit may land up to 4,000 lb of spiny dogfish per trip outside the confines of the NE multispecies regulations. In addition, vessels will be limited by the spiny dogfish annual quota, which is divided into two seasons to help maintain availability throughout the fishing year. Vessels are still required to comply with the requirements of the Great South Channel (GSC) Restricted Gillnet Area and the GSC Sliver Restricted Gillnet Area in the Eastern Exemption Area (http://www.nero.noaa.gov/whaletrp/plan/ALWTRPGuide.pdf.).



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.

	Eastern Exemption Area		
Where are the exemptions?	Point	N. lat.	W. long.
	CCD 1		70/00'
	CCD 2		69/47.5'
	CCD 3		69/47.5'
	CCD 4		69/35.5'
	CCD 5		69/23'
	CCD 6		69/20'
	CCD 7		69/20'
	CCD 8		(1)
	CCD 9	(2)	70/00'
	CCD 10	(3)	70/00'
	CCD 11	(4)	70/00'
	CCD 1		70/00'
	<ul> <li>(4) The northern coastline of Cape Cod, MA, at 70°00'W. long.</li> <li>Western Exemption Area The Western Cape Cod Spiny Dogfish Exemption Area is bounded on the north by 42°11.5' N. lat., bounded on the east by 70°00 W. long., and bounded on the south and west by the coast of Massachusetts.</li> </ul>		
What permits do I need?	You will need a Federal spiny dogfish permit.		
What gears can I use and when can I use them?	<ul> <li>Eastern Exemption Area</li> <li>Gillnet (6.5-inch mesh or larger) &amp; longline gear from June-December</li> <li>Must comply with the requirements of the GSC Restricted Gillnet and Sliver Areas</li> <li>Handgear from June through August</li> <li>Western Exemption Area</li> <li>Longline gear &amp; handgear from June-August</li> </ul>		
What declaration should I make?	If you have a Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) unit, you should declare out-of-fishery (DOF). Trips that qualify under this exemption are not part of the NE multispecies fishery. If you do not have a VMS unit, no declaration is required.		
Do I need to use DAS?	No. If you are participating in this exemption, you are exempt from the requirements of the NE multispecies regulations. This includes the requirement to be on a NE multispecies trip while using gillnet, longline, or handgear.		
Can I participate if I am in a sector?	Yes, simply declare DOF on your VMS unit. You will not be required to use DAS on this trip, and you will not have groundfish discards counted against your sector's Annual Catch Entitlement (ACE).		
Can I keep groundfish?	No, you may not retain any groundfish on these trips. If you want to retain groundfish in addition to spiny dogfish, you must declare into the groundfish fishery at the start of the trip.		
Do I need to call for an observer?	No, you do not need to notify the Pre-Trip Notification System prior to your trip. However, your trip may still be selected for observer coverage.		