



# Northeast Region Bulletin

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## **Northern Red Hake Possession Limit Reduction**

*Effective Date: 0001 hours, September 20, 2012, through April 30, 2013*

Based on available information, we have determined that 90 percent of the total allowable landings for northern red hake has been landed. Therefore, effective 0001 hours, September 20, 2012, 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.

### *Frequently Asked Questions*

<b>Does this reduction only apply to vessels targeting whiting and that are fishing in one of the whiting exempted fishing areas?</b>	No, this applies to all vessels in possession of northern red hake.
<b>Is it possible for the possession limit to go back up if landings slow down?</b>	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.*