



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
NORTHEAST REGION
55 Great Republic Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930-2276

Northeast Multispecies Fishery
Handgear B Cod Trip Limits for Fishing Year 2011
Effective October 3, 2011

Effective October 3, 2011, we are reducing the trip limits for Gulf of Maine (GOM) cod and Georges Bank (GB) cod as shown in the table below, for vessels fishing in the common pool fishery under a Northeast multispecies Handgear B permit.

Stock	Old Landing Limit	New Landing Limit
GOM Cod	75 lb/trip	50 lb/trip
GB Cod	75 lb/trip	25 lb/trip

The GOM and GB cod trip limits for Handgear B vessels are required to be adjusted proportionally to cod trip limit adjustments made for NE multispecies days-at-sea (DAS) vessels. Due to an oversight, the Handgear B trip limit for GOM or GB cod was not adjusted concurrently with DAS adjustments made during fishing year (FY) 2011.

For GOM cod, the current 350 lb per DAS landing limit represents a 56.3-percent reduction from the initial 800 lb per DAS limit. Therefore, the GOM cod landing limit for Handgear B vessels is reduced to 50 lb per trip (75 lb per trip reduced by 56.3 percent = 32.8 lb per trip, rounded up to 50 lb per trip).

For GB cod, the current 300 lb per DAS landing limit represents an 85-percent reduction from the initial 2,000 lb per DAS limit. Therefore, the GB cod landing limit for HB vessels is reduced to 25 lb per trip (75 lb per trip reduced by 85.0 percent = 11.3 lb per trip, rounded up to 25 lb per trip).

If a common pool sub-annual catch limit is projected to be under-harvested by the end of FY 2011, we will consider in-season adjustments to increase the trip limit. The rates of harvest of all NE multispecies stocks are updated weekly on the internet at <http://www.nero.noaa.gov>.

Please contact the Sustainable Fisheries Division at (978) 281-9315 if you have any questions regarding these changes.

This small entity compliance guide 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.

