

AMENDMENT 1 TO THE SUSTAINABLE HARVEST SECTOR 1 OPERATIONS PLAN

APPROVED BY THE NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE MARCH 6, 2013

EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 28, 2013, FOR THE 2012 FISHING YEAR

2.6. Exemption Requests

FY2011 Exemptions Continued in FY2012

- (1) 120-day block out of the fishery required for Day gillnet vessels;
- (2) 20-day spawning block out of the fishery required for all vessels;
- (3) limits on the number of gillnets imposed on Day gillnet vessels;
- (4) prohibition on a vessel hauling another vessel's gillnet gear;
- (5) limits on the number of gillnets that may be hauled on GB when fishing under a groundfish/monkfish DAS;
- (6) limits on the number of hooks that may be fished;
- (7) DAS Leasing Program length and horsepower restrictions;
- (8) the GOM Sink Gillnet Mesh Exemption January through April;
- (9) extension of the GOM Sink Gillnet Mesh Exemption through May;
- (10) prohibition on discarding legal-size unmarketable fish;
- (11) daily catch reporting by sector managers for sector vessels participating in the CA I Hook Gear Haddock Special Access Program (SAP);
- (12) gear requirements in the U.S./Canada Management Area;
- (13) powering vessel monitoring systems (VMS) while at the dock;
- (14) DSM for vessels fishing west of 72 30' W. long.;
- (15) DSM for Handgear A-permitted sector vessels; and
- (16) DSM for monkfish trips in the monkfish Southern Fishery Management Area (SFMA).

New exemptions for FY 2012

- (17) Prohibition on fishing inside and outside of the CA I Hook Gear Haddock SAP while on the same trip;
- (18) 6.5 inch (16.5 cm) codend minimum mesh size requirement for trawl gear utilizing a codend mesh size of 4.5 inch (11.4 cm) or greater by vessels on a targeted redfish trip in the GOM when either a NEFOP or ASM is present;
- (19) prohibition on a vessel hauling another vessel's hook gear; and
- (20) the requirement to declare intent to fish in the Eastern U.S./Canada SAP and the CA II Yellowtail Flounder/Haddock SAP prior to leaving the dock.

Upon approval, each sector vessel will be issued a Letter of Authorization (LOA) specifying the exemptions granted. Vessels must comply with all applicable Federal regulations and laws not specifically exempted in the LOA.