

**AMENDMENT 2 TO THE SUSTAINABLE HARVEST SECTOR III  
OPERATIONS PLAN**

APPROVED BY NOAA'S NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE DECEMBER 4,  
2015

EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 4, 2015, THROUGH APRIL 30, 2017

This amendment modifies some of the voluntary restrictions that Sustainable Harvest Sector III implemented for fishing years 2015 and 2016. Section 2.2.9.2 of the Operations Plan is revised to read:

Gulf of Maine Cod Program

Sector Members agree to abide by the following fishing restrictions to reduce catch of Gulf of Maine cod. In the event the GOM cod allocation is increased, the NMFS implements other GOM cod effort control restrictions, or for other cause, these restrictions may be canceled by the Sector.

- No sector trip fishing allowed in any Gulf of Maine statistical area west of Wlon 70 deg. 00 min, excepting gillnet gear with 10" or greater mesh size.
- No sector trip fishing in a rectangular area of Wildcat Ridge during the months of February, March, and April, bounded by these coordinates, excepting gillnet gear with 10" or greater mesh size:
  - 1 (Northwest): Nlat 43 deg. 16.0 min / Wlon 69 deg. 44.0 min
  - 2 (Southwest): Nlat 43 deg. 03.0 min / Wlon 69 deg. 44.0 min
  - 3 (Northeast): Nlat 43 deg. 16.0 min / Wlon 69 deg. 30.0 min
  - 4 (Southeast): Nlat 43 deg. 03.0 min / Wlon 69 deg. 30.0 min
- Minimum allocation of 250 pounds of Gulf of Maine cod for any vessel to start a sector trip in the Gulf of Maine Broad Stock Area
- Daily cod catch report required for any vessel fishing in the GOM BSA.