



New England Fishery Management Council

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John F. Quinn, J.D., Ph.D., *Chairman* | Thomas A. Nies, *Executive Director*

June 29, 2018

Mr. Chris Oliver
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries
National Marine Fisheries Service
1315 East-West Highway
Room 14636
Silver Spring, MD 20610

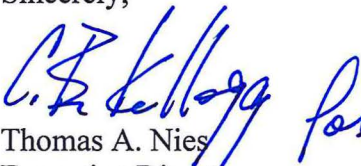
Dear Chris:

In response to E.O. 13771 and 13777, the New England Fishery Management Council has reviewed the regulations currently implementing fishery management plans (FMPs) for Northeast Multispecies (groundfish), Atlantic Sea Scallops, Atlantic Herring, Small-Mesh Multispecies (whiting and red hake), Monkfish, the Skate Complex, Atlantic Deep-sea Red Crab and Atlantic Salmon. As a result, and with input from NOAA/NMFS, its advisory panels, and the public, the Council has identified regulations that are unnecessary, outdated, or ineffective (see attached table). The Council will continue to work closely with NOAA/NMFS to remove or revise these regulations in Council actions in the upcoming year or at the next available opportunity.

Additionally, the Council periodically revises and updates its FMPs, with the exception of the Atlantic Salmon FMP, every 1-3 years in response to changes in fish stock abundance, other environmental conditions or economic and community needs. As part of these changes, many rules and regulations are regularly modified and, if no longer needed, they are eliminated.

Please let me know if you have any questions,

Sincerely,


Thomas A. Nies
Executive Director

cc: Mr. Michael Pentony, GARFO RA
Mr. Alan Risenhoover, NMFS/NOAA

New England Fishery Management Council Recommendations for Regulations to be Eliminated or Revised in Response to E.O 13771 and E.O. 13777

FMP	#	SECTION	DESCRIPTION OF REGULATION
GROUND FISH	1	§648.82(j)(1)(ii)	120-Day block out of the fishery required for day gillnet vessels in sectors
	2	648.82(g)	20-day spawning block out of the fishery required for all vessels in sectors
	3	§§648.14(k)(6)(ii)(A), 648.84(a), §648.14(k)(6)(ii)(B)	Prohibition on a vessel hauling another vessel's gillnet gear in sectors
	4	§648.14(k)(6)(ii)(B)	Limits on the number of hooks that may be fished in sectors
	5	§648.82(k)(4)(ix)	DAS Leasing Program length and horsepower restrictions in sectors
	6	§648.87(b)(1)(v)(A)	Prohibition on discarding fish that could be legally landed but are un-marketable in sectors
	7	§648.85(b)(7)(iv)(G)	Prohibition on fishing inside and outside of the CA I Hook Gear Haddock SAP while on the same trip in sectors
	8	§648.85(a)(3)(iii)	Gear requirements in the Eastern U.S./Canada Management Area in sectors
	9	§648.85(b)(8)(iv), §648.85(b)(3)(iv),	Seasonal restrictions for the Eastern U.S./Canada Haddock SAP in sectors
	10	§648.85(b)(3)(iii)	Seasonal restrictions for the CA II Yellowtail Flounder/ Haddock SAP in sectors
	11	§648.83, §648.86	Exemption from special permit requirement for measuring catch by a sampling technician of fish returned to the sea in sectors
	12	§648.80(a)(3)(i), (a)(4)(i), (b)(2)(i)	Prohibition on combining small-mesh exempted fishery and sector trips in Southern New England in sectors
	13	§648.80(a)(4)(iv), §648.80(b)(2)(iv)(B), §648.80(b)(2)(iv)	Limits on the number of gillnets for day gillnet vessels fishing outside the Gulf of Maine in sectors
	14	§648.80(a)(3)(i), (a)(4)(i), (b)(2)(i), (c)(2)(i)	6.5-inch minimum mesh size requirement for trawl nets to allow a 5.5-inch codend on directed redfish trips in sectors
	15	§648.85(b)(7)(v)(C)	Daily catch reporting by sector managers for sector vessels participating in the Closed Area I Hook Gear Haddock Special Access Program in sectors
	16	§§648.85(b)(8)(v)(D), 648.85(b)(3)(v)	Requirement to declare an intent to fish in the Eastern U.S./Canada SAP and the CA II Yellowtail Flounder/Haddock SAP prior to leaving the dock in sectors
	17	§648.10(b)(4)	Requirement to carry VMS for Handgear A vessels fishing in a single broad stock area in sectors
	18	§648.14(k)(6)(ii)(B)	Prohibition on a vessel hauling another vessel's gillnet gear in sectors
	19	§648.87(b)(iii)(v)	Extra-large mesh requirement to target dogfish on trips excluded from at-sea monitoring in SNE and inshore GB in sectors
	20	§648.90 (c)(4)(iii)(d)	Flexible Area Action System
	21	§648.85 (d)(2)	B-Days Program
	22	§648.85 (b)(3)	Special Access Program for Georges Bank yellowtail flounder (for possible revision of threshold to access area)
	23	§648.85(b)(7)	Special Access Program for Closed Area I Hook Gear Haddock for sector vessels
HERRING	24	§648.201(a)	Restricts possession of herring once ACL harvested.
	25	§648.202 (b) (2)	Pre-landing VMS notification requirement 6 hours before landing
	26	§648.202 (b) (2)	Prohibition on operational discards in GF closed areas
RED CRAB	27	§648.260 (a) Annual specifications process.	The Red Crab PDT shall meet annually to review the status of the stock and fishery.