

Cod-end Compliance Assistance Program (CAP)

- The dealer/manufacturer will provide cod-end mesh size to a measured specification (not the extension)
- CAP will cover cod end available only for 5-1/2, 6, and 6-1/2 inch mesh sizes (pilot program)
- The dealer will place a tamper proof tag on the cod-end with the date of purchase and mesh-size indicated on the bill-of-sale/invoice
- CAP timeline TBD [6/12/24] months
- Dealer to provide maintenance guidelines/schedule for cod-ends
- USCG will measure cod-ends that are in the CAP and record the date-of-sale and mesh size from the tag, along with the usual measurement data
- After a period of time, the data from USCG measurements will be used to determine the normal life span and when net hardening reduces mesh measurements to identify realistic CAP time line
- NOAA will be consulted concerning the effect on the resource of expected net hardening, from 6-1/2 to 6 inches and from 6 to 5-1/2 inches
- General Counsel Enforcement Section may modify the Penalty Schedule for vessels participating in the Cod-end CAP (to include enhances FIX-IT opportunities)
- CAP does not limit other enforcement actions based on mitigating/aggravating circumstances