



Greater Atlantic Region Bulletin

NOAA Fisheries, Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930

For Information Contact:
Sustainable Fisheries Division
(978) 281-9315

<http://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/>
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Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Vessels

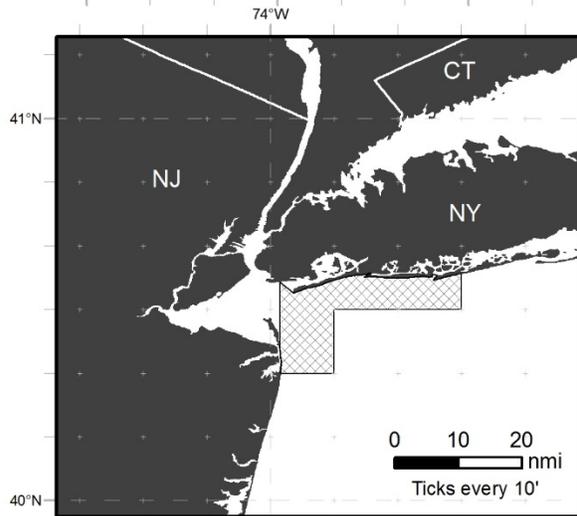
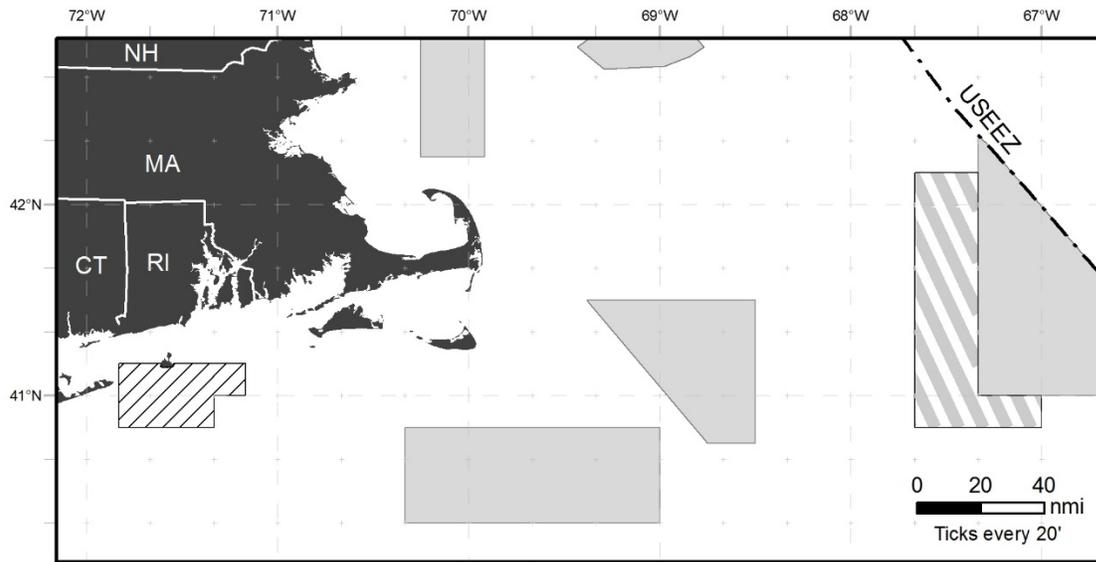
Southern Windowpane Flounder Accountability Measures Implementation

Effective August 1, 2017, trawl vessels fishing with a codend mesh size of 5 inches or greater must use an approved selective trawl gear (Haddock separator trawl, rope separator trawl, or Ruhle trawl) in certain areas of southern New England. These gear restrictions apply when fishing in the Southern Windowpane Flounder Large Accountability Measure (AM) Area 1 and 2 (see figure on page 2).

Fishing year 2015 catch exceeded the total quota for southern windowpane flounder. Due to this overage, we are required to implement gear-restricted areas for all trawl vessels during the 2017 fishing year. These gear restrictions will remain in place until further notice. We are considering a future action to remove the southern windowpane AM areas before the end of the 2017 fishing year.

More information on windowpane flounder AMs can be found here:
<http://www.nero.noaa.gov/regsinfodocs/windowpaneaminfosheet.pdf>.

Northern and Southern Windowpane Accountability Measure Areas



- Groundfish Closed Areas

- Northern Windowpane Flounder (NWF) Accountability Measure (AM) Areas**
 - NWF Large AM Area

- Southern Windowpane Flounder (SWF) Accountability Measure (AM) Areas**
 - SWF Large AM Area 1
 - SWF Large AM Area 2