



# Greater Atlantic Region Bulletin

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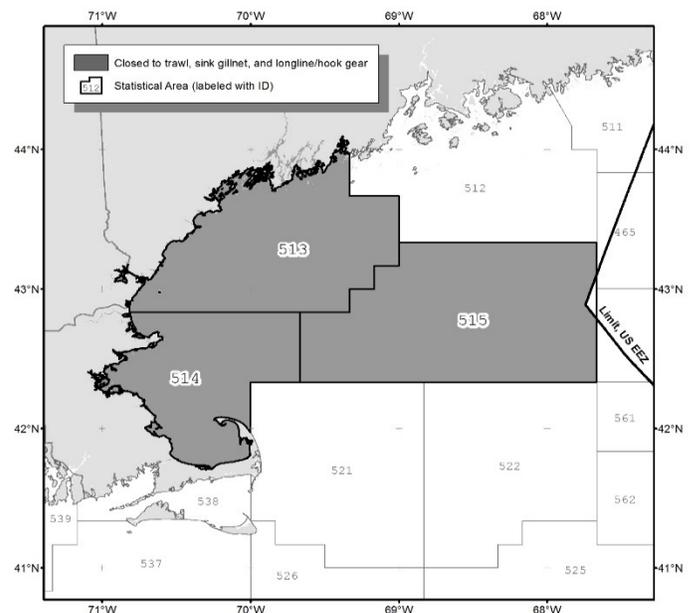
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## Northeast Multispecies Common Pool Vessels Closure of the Trimester Total Allowable Catch Area for Gulf of Maine Haddock *Effective Date: June 29, 2018, through August 31, 2018*

Effective at 0845 hours on June 29, 2018, statistical areas 513, 514, and 515 are closed for the remainder of Trimester 1, through August 31, 2018. During this closure, common pool vessel fishing with trawl, sink gillnet, or longline/hook gear, including handgear vessels, may not fish for, harvest, land, or possess regulated multispecies in or from this area. The closure is required because 90 percent of the Trimester 1 Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for Gulf of Maine (GOM) haddock has been caught. This area will reopen at the beginning of Trimester 2, at 0001 hours, September 1, 2018.

If you have crossed the vessel monitoring system demarcation line and are currently at sea on a groundfish trip, you may complete your trip in all or part of the closed areas. If you have set sink gillnet gear prior to June 29, 2018, you may complete your trip to retrieve that gear.



<i>Frequently Asked Questions</i>	
<b>Why is this action being taken?</b>	We are required to close the Trimester TAC Area for a stock when 90 percent of the Trimester TAC is caught.
<b>How much of the quota has been caught?</b>	Based on data through June 17, it is projected that over 90 percent of the Trimester 1 quota for GOM haddock has been caught. Quota monitoring reports are available at: <a href="http://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/">http://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/</a> .
<b>What happens if the Trimester TAC is exceeded? Underharvested?</b>	If the Trimester 1 or Trimester 2 TAC for a stock is exceeded, the overage is deducted from the Trimester 3 TAC. Any unused portion of the Trimester 1 or Trimester 2 TAC for the stock is carried forward to the following trimester. No unused portion of the total annual quota may be carried over to the following fishing year.
<b>What happens if the annual quota is exceeded?</b>	If the 2018 fishing year quota is exceeded, the amount of the overage will be deducted from the common pool's quota for fishing year 2019.

*For small entity compliance guides, this bulletin complies with section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement and Fairness Act of 1996. This notice is authorized by the Regional Administrator of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Greater Atlantic Region.*