

## Amendment 16 Public Comments

#6 a	Examples of Batch emails received Example #1– End Overfishing – Example of 8,796 total Example #1a - End Overfishing with Comments added – 26 total Example #2 – Immediate Action – End Overfishing – 538 total Example #3 – Mismanaged fisheries – 175 total Example #4 – Comments re: Allocation years- 27 total Example #5 – DEIS – re:CA1 – 137 total Example #6 – A16 strong measures – 22 total	Originals On CD #1
#6b	Examples of Batch Postcards received – 248 total	On CD #2
#6c	Individual comments received via email	On CD #1
#6d	Recreational comments received via email	On CD #1
#6e	Comments received by Proposed Sector Participants	On CD #2
#6f	Comments received by Government Agencies	On CD #2
#6g	Written Letters received via Mail/Fax or Email attachments	On CD #2



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**From:**  
**To:** <MultsAmendment16@noaa.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 12, 2009 11:22 AM  
**Subject:** End Overfishing in New England

National Marine Fisheries Service Regional Administrator

Dear National Marine Fisheries Service Regional Administrator,

I support immediate action to end overfishing and to restore New England's historic groundfish fishery. To achieve this goal, I enthusiastically support the full, effective and timely implementation of sector management and strongly recommend that the following measures be adopted and applied across the entire New England groundfish fleet by 2010:

- Science-based annual catch limits on all managed fish stocks
- Strong accountability measures that ensure fishing ceases once annual limits are reached and that correct overages if they occur
- A comprehensive monitoring and reporting system that provides accurate estimates on all fish caught (landings and discards of all species)

Full implementation of these measures will not only bring groundfish management into compliance with the new requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Act but will also help create a fair and level playing field among all fishermen, whether participating in a sector or not.

Please ensure the above measures are adopted for all vessels in 2010.

Sincerely,  
Christopher Chase  
18 Clifton St.  
Wallingford, CT 06492



**From:**  
**To:** <MultsAmendment16@noaa.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 15, 2009 11:40 AM  
**Subject:** End Overfishing in New England

National Marine Fisheries Service Regional Administrator

Dear National Marine Fisheries Service Regional Administrator,

I support immediate action to end overfishing and to restore New England's historic groundfish fishery. To achieve this goal, I enthusiastically support the full, effective and timely implementation of sector management and strongly recommend that the following measures be adopted and applied across the entire New England groundfish fleet by 2010:

- Science-based annual catch limits on all managed fish stocks -
- Strong accountability measures that ensure fishing ceases once annual limits are reached and that correct overages if they occur -
- A comprehensive monitoring and reporting system that provides accurate estimates on all fish caught (landings and discards of all species)

Full implementation of these measures will not only bring groundfish management into compliance with the new requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Act but will also help create a fair and level playing field among all fishermen, whether participating in a sector or not.

Please ensure the above measures are adopted for all vessels in 2010.

The ocean's dead zones are a result of our land-based actions. We are all connected and rely, indeed live, on the vitality of all life. The oceans intricate web is key to the sustenance of us all.

Sincerely,  
Gaynell Meij  
159 Sheepskin Hollow Rd  
East Haddam, CT 06423



Regional Administrator Patricia Kurkul  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
One Blackburn Drive  
Gloucester, MA 01930

Dear Regional Administrator Kurkul,

I am writing to ask you and your agency to take immediate action to end overfishing and help restore New England's historic groundfish fishery. Groundfish stocks have been undergoing fishing for decades, with overall groundfish abundance at only one-third the level needed to support healthy and sustainable populations.

By implementing sector management, the NMFS and NEFMC can take an important step to successfully end and prevent overfishing in New England and rebuild depleted groundfish populations.

However, for this new management system to work, it will require that all vessels, whether participating in a sector or not, adhere to the same rules on how much fish can be sustainably taken from the ocean.

I strongly recommend that the following measures be adopted and implemented across the entire groundfish fleet by 2010:

1. Science-based annual catch limits on all managed fish stocks
2. Strong accountability measures that ensure fishing ceases once limits are reached and that correct overages if they occur
3. A comprehensive monitoring and reporting system that provides accurate estimates on all fish caught (landings and discards of all species)

Full implementation of these measures will not only bring groundfish management into compliance with the new requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Act but will also help create a fair and level playing field for all groundfish fishermen.

You and the Council have worked tirelessly to develop effective sector management in the New England groundfish fishery. I hope you will protect the investments of sector members and strengthen their ability to work together by ensuring all the above measures are adopted for all groundfish vessels by 2010.

Sincerely,  
Catherine Long  
32 Ponderosa Drive  
Colchester, VT 04556





**From:**  
**To:** <MultsAmendment16@noaa.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 01, 2009 3:54 PM  
**Subject:** DEIS for Amendment 16 to the Northeast Multispecies FMP

Jun 1, 2009

Chair John Pappalardo

Dear Chairman Pappalardo and Regional Administrator Kurkul Chair Pappalardo,

New England has mismanaged its fisheries for decades, damaging our oceans and coastal communities. Amendment 16 to the Northeast Multispecies Groundfish Fishery Management Plan should:

- Eliminate any further overfishing on cod, flounder and other groundfish and rapidly rebuild these species.
- Approve the fishery sectors. They provide fishermen flexibility in how and when they fish without jeopardizing rebuilding.
- Ensure that all commercial fisheries operate under annual catch limits and accountability measures that close the fisheries if the quotas are caught.
  
- Guarantee that sectors and the common pool fishermen operate under an similar sets of management requirements.
- Require 100% dockside monitoring of all commercial landings and adequate at-sea observations of all commercial catch
- Preserve access to the fish for a broad cross-section of New England fishermen.

Thank you for consideration of my concerns.

Sincerely,

Mr. Paul Saba  
1206 E Linden St  
Tucson, AZ 85719-3629



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**From:**  
**To:** <MultsAmendment16@noaa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 03, 2009 8:14 AM

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to voice my opinion and concerns on the DEIS for Amendment 16 of the Northeast Multispecies FMP. In regards to this matter, the first and foremost consideration is the allocation years that should be used in basing this decision. I support the utilization of the years 2001 - 2006, as this is best representation of the recent impact that recreational fishing has on the overall stocks concerning groundfish populations within the GOM.

Using the allocation years from 2001 through 2006, there is no need to change the current size, bag limits or seasons for fishing Gulf of Maine (GOM) cod. Additionally, utilizing the years 2001 - 2006 would also allow the minimum size for GOM haddock be reduced to 18 inches. Using data that would include the years 1996 - 2001 is antiquated in its concept, as decisions today should be based on the real-time information that current research technologies allow. Additionally, the data from 1996 - present minimize the accurate influence the recreational fisheries have on these stocks.

Should the New England Fisheries Management Council decide to use the allocation years 1996 - 2006, and a reduction is necessary in GOM cod and haddock bag limits, possession limits and seasons, then I strongly endorse Option Number Three for cod (which is a closed season Nov 1 - April 15 - no size/possession changes) and Option Number One for haddock (increases GOM haddock size limit to 21" - no season or bag limit).

As the latest available data from 2001 - 2006 demonstrate a sustainable level to the stocks present, then the economic impact that the different options have on the charter boats and local amenities (hotels, motels, restaurants, gas stations, bait supplies, etc.) must be evaluated. The other options that restrict bag limits or increase size limits would have a significant negative impact on said economies as less people would invest the capital to fish these stocks. These local economies are already experiencing a negative impact due to the national and global economic situation, and further strain is unjustified and unwarranted.

In closing, please hear my voice - use the 2001 - 2006 allocation data and make no changes to the current size, bag limits or seasons for fishing Gulf of Maine (GOM) cod; additionally, please reduce the minimum size for GOM haddock to 18 inches. However, should the allocation years 1996 - 2006 be considered, please vote for Option Number Three for cod and Option Number One for haddock.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Albert E. Carlow  
375 Steere Farm Rd  
Harrisville, RI 02830



**From:**  
**To:** <MultsAmendment16@noaa.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 02, 2009 3:16 PM  
**Subject:** DEIS for Amendment 16 to the Northeast Multispecies FMP and turn NEFMC recommendation for 100% monit

## Amendment 16

Dear Regional Administrator Kurkul,

Groundfishermen and our shared groundfish resource deserve every protection they can get at this critical time. I urge you to quickly and completely implement the Council's requested action regarding Closed Area I. Specifically, please explicitly prohibit all herring vessels, including both vessels in a pair trawl team, from entering Closed Area I without a federal observer on board. And please explicitly prohibit any dumping of unsampled catch.

In addition, as we transition the region's groundfishery to sector-based management, I ask that you and your agency require all fishermen (not just sector participants) to follow science-based, annual catch limits and accountability measures. This will ensure that once a catch limit for a species is reached, fishing stops.

You and the Council have worked tirelessly to develop effective sector management in the New England groundfish fishery. I hope you will protect the investments of sector members and strengthen their ability to work together by ensuring all groundfish vessels are bound by a hard, annual catch limit by 2010.

Sincerely,  
francis mastri  
po box 10  
bpt, CT 06601

cc:  
Regional Administrator Patricia Kurkul



**From:** "Jeany ( <jeany.calderaro@noaa.gov>  
**To:** <MultsAmendment16@noaa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 03, 2009 8:14 PM  
**Subject:** Re: DEIS for Amendment 16 to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan

Jun 3, 2009

Regional Administrator Kurkul

Dear Regional Administrator Kurkul: Kurkul,

The time has come to end overfishing of New England groundfish once and for all.

I urge you to ensure that Amendment 16 is strong enough to do the job and conserve groundfish populations. The measure chosen for managing Northeast Multispecies must include:

- \* A process by which scientists determine annual catch limits based on the best information and conservative strategy;
- \* A way of counting all fish that are caught through at-sea monitoring and observer coverage, dock-side monitoring and dealer reporting; and
- \* Accountability measures to guarantee that catch limits are not exceeded through hard total-allowable-catch caps and in-season closure of stock areas.

Sincerely,

Jeany Calderaro  
PO Box 246  
Burlingame, CA 94011-0246

