

#6d

**Amendment 16 Public Comments  
Received Via Email – Recreational**



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**From:** "Artie Caissie" <artiecaissie@msn.com>  
**To:** <MultsAmendment16@noaa.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 29, 2009 5:30 PM  
**Subject:** Ammendment 16

Hello.

I would like to voice my opinion on the proposed amendment 16. I think lowering the limit for Recreational/Charter would be devastating. This would certainly be not be good for the Charter industry. I think it would be incredibly unfair to the recreational community also. It would almost make it not worth fishing. There are so many other productive things that could be done. I wonder if limiting the size on cod so you would have to throw the larger spawning fish back would not be a better approach. I know there is a similar rule with lobstering as you cannot keep lobsters with a carapace over 5" I believe. Could you not have cod between say 24 and 34 or something to that affect. I also believe the closure from November 1 to April 15th a much better approach.

I would also like to say that some type of limit for haddock would make sense and instead of lowering the size raising it. 20" and 20 fish would be more than adequate per angler. I just have to re enforce that when you limit cod to 6 fish it defeats the purpose of spending 150 dollars on fuel. Thanks for your time. Artie Caissie

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**From:** "Scott Bradley" <scott@tidehuntercharters.com>  
**To:** <MultsAmendment16@noaa.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 30, 2009 7:16 AM  
**Subject:** Propose GOM Cod Regs

Dear Sir/Madam,

The proposed six cod retention limit would be detrimental to my charter business as well as many others who run six-pack charters. Spring cod trips give my clients an opportunity to stock their freezers, which helps offset the price of the trip. Limiting each angler to six fish would definitely hurt my business. An April 15 opening seem more logical and would not impact me as I don't usually fish until May 1.

Thanks,

Capt. Scott Bradley  
[www.tidehuntercharters.com](http://www.tidehuntercharters.com)

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**From:** <trucnoxam@aol.com>  
**To:** "undisclosed-recipients:"  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 31, 2009 12:04 PM  
**Subject:** Groundfish changes

To whom it may concern:

I am in favor of option three. Giving back two weeks makes the most sens. I do not agree with the recommendation for dropping down to six fish per angler this will really kill the charter party industry and hurt local tackle shops and hotels as well. I also think that a 19" haddock is still a good minimum size. The restrictions have paid off and as a codfish tagger I do see the improvements.

respectfully Capt. Curt Maxon  
Charter boat Relentless Green Harbor Ma

57 rock st  
Norwood, Ma  
02062

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Wanna slim down for summer? Go to [America Takes it Off](#) to learn how.

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**From:** "Robert Wickman" <wickysan@gmail.com>  
**To:** <MultsAmendment16@noaa.gov>; <Pat.Kurkul@noaa.gov>; <paul.diodati@state.ma.us>; <phoward@nefmc.org>; <Ripcham@verizon.net>; <BarryGibson6@aol.com>; <johnp@ccchfa.org>  
**Cc:** "Chris Terzella" <cterzella@lourdes.com>; "Dave Russell" <usandjapan@yahoo.com>; "George Reel" <greel@us.ibm.com>; "Mark Pichette" <mdp@eitny.com>; "Mike Woytach" <MWoytach@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 31, 2009 4:30 PM  
**Subject:** DEIS for Amendment 16 to the Northeast Multispecies FMP

Gentlemen,

I live in Endicott, NY and have fished for cod every year, weather permitting, out of Green Harbor, MA for many years now. My buddies and I have seen the cod limits shift from no limit to 10 codfish per fisherman and now potentially to a 6 codfish limit. With the increasing expense of gas and lodging, I can assure you that **I will stop fishing for cod if the limit goes to 6 or any additional size restrictions are imposed.** Our trip this year met with bountiful catches of cod, but we fell significantly shy of our limit as we put back 4-5 slightly undersized fish for every keeper. The cod fishery is doing very well and the abundance of fish bodes well for future years. The 10 fish limit is working very effectively in the best interests of the long-term health of the fishery. Please weigh all of this and the potential for similar losses of revenue as you make your decision.

Regards, *Bob Wickman*

120 Pine Knoll Rd.  
Endicott, NY 13760  
607-785-3419 hm ofc  
607-761-7668 mobile  
[Robert.L.Wickman@gmail.com](mailto:Robert.L.Wickman@gmail.com)

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**From:** "Steve Schott" <SteveSchott@comarkcorp.com>  
**To:** <MultsAmendment16@noaa.gov>; <Pat.Kurkul@noaa.gov>; <paul.diodati@state.ma.us>;  
<phoward@nefmc.org>; <Ripcham@verizon.net>; <BarryGibson6@aol.com>;  
<johnp@ccchfa.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 01, 2009 5:58 PM  
**Subject:** DEIS for Amendment 16 to the Northeast Multispecies FMP

Dear Sirs:

As a recreational fisherman and boat owner, I was disappointed to hear the recommendations of the committee to choose option 2 to reduce the bag limit of Cod from 10 to 6 and extend the season.

With the cod fishing grounds 20-30 miles out and the price of fuel high, it is a tremendous expense to go fishing and with a reduced bag limit, would harm this sport or worse yet, increase the number of people to make the shorter run to the spawning grounds in May/June to get a few huge breeders.

Please reconsider this and **please adopt option #3** of no changes to the current regulations.

Thank You,

Steve Schott  
Framingham, MA

Hailing Port: Newburyport, MA

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**From:** "Brad Mills" <bradley.mills@comcast.net>  
**To:** <undisclosed-recipients@noaa.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 01, 2009 7:44 PM  
**Subject:** DEIS for Amendment 16 to the Northeast Multispecies FMP

Good Day,

As an avid recreational fisherman, owner of a fishing forum, and associate of dozens of Charter and Head Boat operations (that rely on the GOM fishery for their livelihood), I must respectfully request that you take into consideration the decimation that the wrong decision could have to this industry. Reduction of the GOM Cod bag limit (Option 2) will literally put many charter operations (six-pack and head boat) out of business. I fully understand the intent to rebuild this fishery, however, tighter restrictions **MUST** be made and **ENFORCED** against the commercial operations, as their discarded by-catch (dead) alone outweighs much of what the recreational industry even catches. The fishery is in dire need of **EFFECTIVE** management, and the options being put on the table seem almost haphazard in their direction.

I implore you to act in a fashion that allows the recreational fishery to continue and keep many businesses alive in these already tough economic times.

For the GOM Cod regulation adjustments, I would encourage you to recommend (vote) for Option 3 or 1, in that order, as they are the most sensible for the entirety of the industry.

As for the Haddock Options, any are viable, but Option 2 or 1, in that order, again, would be most sensible in order to balance the regulations.

As I stated earlier, **STRICT** and **ENFORCE** rules must be assessed against the commercial industry. I am not anti commercial, in any way, however, I know many captains of these boats, and have sailed with them a few times on 2-3 trips. Their tactics are unethical and, in all honesty, their integrity relative to the regulations they currently have are simply not abided by.

Please take the right action to manage this fishery. The Magnussen-Stevens act has positive intents, but with the lobbying power that the commercial industry seems to have over this and many other fisheries, the recreational industry loses every time, while they continue to pillage the sea like pirates.

Sincerely,

Bradley S Mills  
Canton, CT  
Owner/Operator : [www.nbssportfishing.com](http://www.nbssportfishing.com)



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**From:** "John Prystowski" <john@qual-techmfg.com>  
**To:** <MultsAmendment16@noaa.gov>  
**Cc:** <Pat.Kurkul@noaa.gov>; <paul.diodati@state.ma.us>; <phoward@nefmc.org>;  
<Ripcham@verizon.net>; <phoward@nefmc.org>; <phoward@nefmc.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 02, 2009 9:05 AM  
**Subject:** Cod & Haddock Regulations

Common guys are you for real????

I request that option three (3) be implemented for Codfish in the Gulf of Maine and option number one (1) be implemented for the Haddock fishery in this same area. We fish both species recreationally and there is no good reason for the Haddock to **NOT** be at 21". There are plenty of large fish out there. As far as Cod goes 6 fish is a ludicrous bag limit, and 26" min size fish will make it two difficult for 6 anglers whom are chartering a boat to go home with their limit. Keep in mind all the New York, Jersey, and PA ect... guys coming up to NE for this great fishery also support restaurants, hotel & motel, Tolls (state money), fuel stations, and most importantly The NE charter fleet.

Regard,  
John Prystowski  
Phone 413-374-0265

Joan O'Leary

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**From:** Paul Howard  
**Sent:** Monday, June 01, 2009 8:27 AM  
**To:** Tom Nies  
**Cc:** Joan O'Leary  
**Subject:** FW: Amendment 16 to the Groundfish Fishery Management Plan

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Karen LiCausi [mailto:tkjj@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 01, 2009 6:55 AM  
**To:** Pat Kurkul; Paul Diodati; Paul Howard; Rip Cunningham; Barry Gibson; John Pappalardo  
**Subject:** Amendment 16 to the Groundfish Fishery Management Plan

Dear Sirs:

I am a recreational fisherman who fishes cod and haddock on Stellwaggon Bank and other areas in the GOM. To fish these species requires a lot of effort and expense. I do understand the need to conserve and grow this resource. Could you please consider the option of closing the season for cod an extra two weeks and increasing the size of haddock to 21 inches. This option would continue to make fishing these species an affordable option for recreational fishermen.

Sincerely  
Anthony LiCausi  
64 Linden Road  
Melrose, Ma 02176

Joan O'Leary

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**From:** Paul Howard  
**Sent:** Monday, June 01, 2009 8:22 AM  
**To:** Tom Nies  
**Cc:** Joan O'Leary  
**Subject:** FW: DEIS for Amendment 16 to the Northeast Multispecies FMP  
  
**Importance:** High

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**From:** Robert Wickman [mailto:wickysan@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 31, 2009 4:30 PM  
**To:** multsamendment16@noaa.gov; Pat Kurkul; Paul Diodati; Paul Howard; Rip Cunningham; Barry Gibson; John Pappalardo  
**Cc:** Chris Terzella; Dave Russell; George Reel; Mark Pichette; Mike Woytach  
**Subject:** DEIS for Amendment 16 to the Northeast Multispecies FMP  
**Importance:** High

Gentlemen,

I live in Endicott, NY and have fished for cod every year, weather permitting, out of Green Harbor, MA for many years now. My buddies and I have seen the cod limits shift from no limit to 10 codfish per fisherman and now potentially to a 6 codfish limit. With the increasing expense of gas and lodging, I can assure you that **I will stop fishing for cod if the limit goes to 6 or any additional size restrictions are imposed.** Our trip this year met with bountiful catches of cod, but we fell significantly shy of our limit as we put back 4-5 slightly undersized fish for every keeper. The cod fishery is doing very well and the abundance of fish bodes well for future years. The 10 fish limit is working very effectively in the best interests of the long-term health of the fishery. Please weigh all of this and the potential for similar losses of revenue as you make your decision.

Regards, *Bob Wickman*

120 Pine Knoll Rd.  
Endicott, NY 13760  
607-785-3419 hm ofc  
607-761-7668 mobile  
[Robert.L.Wickman@gmail.com](mailto:Robert.L.Wickman@gmail.com)

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**From:** "Susan Murphy" <Susan.A.Murphy@noaa.gov>  
**To:** "Douglas Christel" <Douglas.Christel@noaa.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 08, 2009 10:50 AM  
**Subject:** [Fwd: Fw: Fishing]

----- Original Message -----

**Subject:** Fw: Fishing  
**Date:** Mon, 08 Jun 2009 09:22:38 -0400  
**From:** Pat Kurkul <Pat.Kurkul@noaa.gov>  
**To:** 'George.Darcy@noaa.gov' <George.Darcy@noaa.gov>, 'Susan.A.Murphy@noaa.gov' <Susan.A.Murphy@noaa.gov>

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**From:** AMY PROULX <mapleone@prodigy.net>  
**To:** pat.kurkul@noaa.gov <pat.kurkul@noaa.gov>  
**Cc:** mapleone@prodigy.net <mapleone@prodigy.net>  
**Sent:** Mon Jun 08 09:16:48 2009  
**Subject:** Fishing

Dear Ms. Kurkul,

My name is Bill Proulx. I am an avid recreational fisherman.

I have spent alot of time fishing the Gloucester area and from what I saw the commercial fishing methods are what is really hurting the fish stocks. In many cases countless short fish are inadvertently killed and thrown back. The sky is black with birds feeding on the discarded fish.

The hook and line recreational anglers are not putting a dent in the numbers. Already we are extremely limited from November 1st to April 1st and to further restrict the recreational anglers would be unfair.

A very bad idea would be to raise the minimum size of cod to 26 inches. This would result in anglers having to hook and release more fish. Of course some released fish will die due to their wounds.

Thank you for your consideration.

Bill Proulx

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**From:** "Susan Murphy" <Susan.A.Murphy@noaa.gov>  
**To:** "Douglas Christel" <Douglas.Christel@noaa.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 08, 2009 11:10 AM  
**Subject:** [Fwd: Fw:]

----- Original Message -----

**Subject:**Fw:

**Date:** Mon, 08 Jun 2009 10:42:30 -0400

**From:** Pat Kurkul <Pat.Kurkul@noaa.gov>

**To:** 'George.Darcy@noaa.gov' <George.Darcy@noaa.gov>, 'Susan.A.Murphy@noaa.gov' <Susan.A.Murphy@noaa.gov>

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**From:** Marvelle, Jeff (MMS) <Jeff.Marvelle@merrimack.k12.nh.us>  
**To:** pat.kurkul@noaa.gov <pat.kurkul@noaa.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon Jun 08 09:31:23 2009  
**Subject:**

I am a recreational fisherman from New Hampshire. I am writing to share my opinion about the future possible recreational ground fishing regulations.

I have a hard time believing that recreational fisherman and fisherwoman impact the cod, haddock, wolfish or any other ground fish population or habitat anywhere near the impact the commercial fishing impacts.

Please protect my fishing rights. I do not wish economic turmoil for the commercial fishing industry but something must be done to preserve and rebuilt this natural resource. The commercial fisheries will stop when it is no longer profitable to continue which will be too late.

I would like to enter statistics but I am unable to find any. I would be curious to learn how many tons of fish come out of the Gulf of Maine, Jeffries, and Stellwagon both commercially and recreationally. At the risk of ruining my reputation, I don't think I made a dent in the stripper, bluefish, or ground fish populations.

Jeff Marvelle  
[jeff.marvelle@merrimack.k12.nh.us](mailto:jeff.marvelle@merrimack.k12.nh.us)

