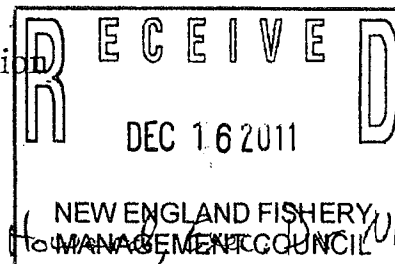


Correspondence

Stellwagen Bank Charter Boat Association
P.O. Box 1221
Marshfield, MA 02050



CC: Paul Howard
978-465-3116

December 16, 2011

The Honorable John Kerry
218 Russell Building
Second Floor
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Kerry:

On behalf of the Stellwagen Bank Charter Boat Association ("SBCBA"), we are extremely disappointed by the latest results of the Gulf of Maine ("GOM") cod stock assessment. The Stellwagen Bank Charter Boat Association is comprised of over one hundred Charter Boat Captains and Mates that sustain themselves by fishing for Northeast Multi Species and primarily target codfish in the GOM. According to the most recent New England Fishery Management Council ("NEFMC") cod stock assessment, in less than a year, the cod population has gone from a sustainable and highly productive fishery to being on the verge of a complete collapse. This finding is inconsistent with recent UMASS Dartmouth State cod population studies as well as the number of cod and other bottom fish that are being caught in the Gulf of Maine by SBCBA members as well as other recreational fishermen.

We fully support your written request to the National Marine Fisheries Service ("NMFS") to conduct another comprehensive GOM cod stock assessment. Further, we ask for an evaluation of the means and methods utilized to statically evaluate the status of the cod biomass present in the Gulf of Maine. We are very concerned that additional effort controls including additional seasonal closures and/or size or bag limits will have a highly detrimental effect on our struggling businesses and will force the closure of many Charter Boat Operators.

Historically, the GOM Charter/Party Boat Operators have made huge sacrifices in their fishing efforts in order to stay within compliance of the burdensome and overly restrictive Northeast Multi Species regulations. In 2003, Amendment 13 to the Northeast Multispecies Management Plan imposed a Charter/Party boat restriction of just ten codfish as the daily bag limit. Additional limits were implemented in 2006 that included an increase in the minimum size of GOM cod from 22" to 24" and a closed season for GOM cod from Nov 1st - April 1st. This five month closure reduced the Charter/Party cod fishing season by forty two percent. In 2009, this seasonal closure was increased by an additional action implemented under Framework 42 by increasing the closed season on codfish for Charter/Party vessels during the first fifteen days in April. All these measures where intended to increase the sustainable levels of cod biomass in the GOM and up until the most recent GOM cod assessment, appeared to be working.

The GOM Charter/Party fishermen ask that you pursue all possible options to allow for the extension date of the rebuilding period of the GOM codfish stocks. Without an extension, it will be the last straw for many hard working fishermen who have sacrificed

u:TN (12/19)

Stellwagen Bank Charter Boat Association
P.O. Box 1221
Marshfield, MA 02050

over the years doing their part to help rebuild the GOM cod stocks. If GOM codfish retention restrictions become severe enough as to warrant government authorized permit buyout or distribution of emergency funds, the GOM Charter/Party Operators need to be fully included in any relief funds directed to the region.

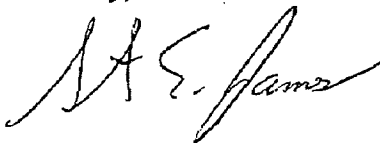
The excitement and adventure of GOM cod fishing draws anglers from all over the country who want to experience deep-sea sport fishing. They come with hopes of taking one of America's finest food fish back home and to spend their vacation and hard earned money with us. They support the local seaside businesses with the purchase of lodging, meals, gasoline, tackle, and supplies which all contributes to our local economy. Without reasonable bag limits and the current season, these anglers will simply fish elsewhere devastating our businesses and local economies.

We are asking for your support to make sure that the NMFS invites us to future meetings regarding this matter as stakeholders and whose businesses depend on this fishery. We are no different than the GOM Commercial Fisherman and have just as much a vested interest in the management and access to the resource.

In closing, I greatly appreciate your time and look forward to working with you and the members of your staff in finding a solution which will allow the Charter/Party industry to continue in a traditional fishery in the GOM for codfish.

If you have any questions please contact me at (781) 834-2899 or email at bostonbiggame@hotmail.com

Sincerely,



Steven James, President
Stellwagen Bank Charter Boat Association

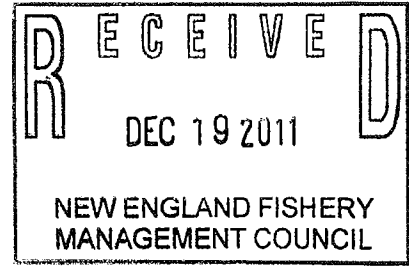
Copy: United States Senator, Scott Brown
United States Representative, John Tierney
United States Congressman William Keating
Mr. Eric Schwab, Assistant Director, National Marine Fisheries Service
Mr. Paul Diodati, Director, Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries
Mr. Robert Zales, President, National Association of Charter Boat Operators
Mr. James Donofrio, Executive Director Recreational Fishing Alliance
Mr. Paul Howard, Executive Director NEFMC
Mr. Barry Gibson, Chairman NEFMC Recreational Fishing Advisory Panel

3

CPF Charters "Perseverance"
P.O. Box 732
Brant Rock, MA 02020
www.cpfcharters.com

December 19, 2011

The Honorable John Kerry
218 Russell Building
Second Floor
Washington, DC 20510



RE: Gulf of Maine Cod Stock Assessment

Dear Senator Kerry:

As a Charter Boat captain that actively fishes the Stellwagen Bank waters that is located within the Gulf of Maine ("GOM") I am extremely disappointed by the latest results of the GOM cod stock assessment. According to the most recent New England Fishery Management Council ("NEFMC") cod stock assessment, in less than a year, the cod population has gone from a sustainable and highly productive fishery to being on the verge of a complete collapse. This finding is inconsistent with the recent University of Massachusetts ("UMASS") Dartmouth State cod population studies as well as the number of cod and other bottom fish that are being caught in the Gulf of Maine by me and other Charter Boats as well as other recreational fishermen.

I fully support your written request to the National Marine Fisheries Service ("NMFS") to conduct another comprehensive GOM cod stock assessment. The NMFS incorrectly estimated that status of the Pollack stock assessment in the past. I also request that an assessment or evaluation of the means and methods utilized to statically evaluate the status of the cod biomass present in the GOM also be conducted to properly assess the cod biomass.

Additional effort or controls including additional seasonal closures and/or size or bag limits will have a highly detrimental effect on my Charter Boat business. Historically, the GOM Charter/Party Boat Operators have made huge sacrifices in their fishing efforts in order to stay within compliance of the burdensome and overly restrictive Northeast Multi Species regulations. In 2003, Amendment 13 to the Northeast Multispecies Management Plan imposed a Charter/Party boat restriction of just ten codfish as the daily bag limit. Additional limits were implemented in 2006 that included an increase in the minimum size of GOM cod from 22" to 24" and a closed season for GOM cod from Nov 1st – April 1st. This five month closure reduced the Charter/Party cod fishing season by forty two percent. In 2009, this seasonal closure was increased by an additional action implemented under Framework 42 by increasing the closed season on codfish for Charter/Party vessels during the first fifteen days in April. All these measures were intended to increase the sustainable levels of cod biomass in the GOM and up until the most recent GOM cod assessment, appeared to be working. I ask that you pursue all

cc: Council, TN (12/19)

CPF Charters "Perseverance"
P.O. Box 732
Brant Rock, MA 02020
www.cpfcharters.com

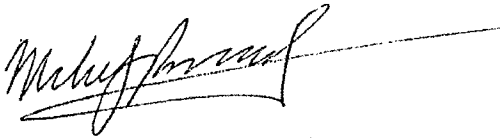
possible options to allow for the extension date of the rebuilding period of the GOM codfish stocks.

The excitement and adventure of GOM cod fishing draws anglers from all over the country who want to experience deep-sea sport fishing. They come with hopes of taking one of America's finest food fish back home and to spend their vacation and hard earned money with us. They support the local seaside businesses with the purchase of lodging, meals, gasoline, tackle, and supplies which all contributes to our local economy. Without reasonable bag limits and the current season, these anglers will simply fish elsewhere devastating our businesses and local economies.

I greatly appreciate your time and look forward to working with you and the members of your staff in finding a solution which will allow me and my fellow Charter Boat Captains to continue in a traditional fishery in the GOM for codfish.

If you have any questions please contact me at (617) 291-8914 or email at cpfcharters@yahoo.com.

Sincerely,

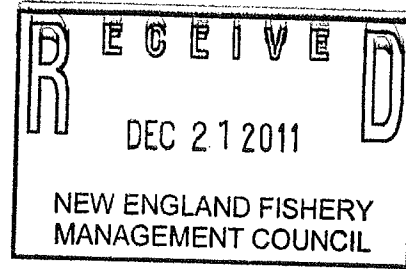


Capt., Michael J. Pierdinock
CPF Charters
Stellwagen Bank Charter Boat Association
Recreational Fishing Alliance
Mass Striped Bass Association
Green Harbor Tuna Club

Cc: United States Senator, Scott Brown
United States Representative, John Tierney
United States Congressman William Keating
Mr. Eric Schwab, Assistant Director, National Marine Fisheries Service
Mr. Paul Diodati, Director, Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries
Mr. Robert Zales, President, National Association of Charter Boat Operators
Mr. James Donofrio, Executive Director Recreational Fishing Alliance
Mr. Paul Howard, Executive Director NEFMC
Mr. Barry Gibson, Chairman NEFMC Recreational Fishing Advisory Panel

16 December 2011

The Honorable John Kerry
One Bowdoin Square, Tenth Floor
Boston, MA 02114



Dear Senator Kerry:

We, the undersigned group of 61 academic scientists, are writing to request your help facilitating a public review of an important marine conservation and management proposal for the waters off the coast of New England. Recently NOAA's Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary (SBNMS) released a draft proposal to designate a Sanctuary Ecological Research Area (SERA) within its boundaries (http://stellwagen.noaa.gov/library/pdfs/sbnms_sera_proposal.pdf). The rationale for the SERA proposal is to delineate an area to conduct monitoring and research to better understand how human uses of the marine environment affect biological diversity, including those species managed for sustainable harvest. By design, the SERA has three sub-areas and will allow long term studies of marine communities under different fishing regimes as well as a limited area with no-fishing that will serve as a reference site. There currently is no such area in the Gulf of Maine. Without a true research/reference area, understanding the effects of human uses of the oceans, the foundation for ecosystem management, is severely compromised. The SERA will permit such research, the results of which will address the management needs of both SBNMS and New England fisheries.

Scientists and managers contributing to the design of the SERA proposal understood that it would be referred by NOAA to the New England Fishery Management Council (NEFMC) for consideration in an ongoing Essential Fish Habitat amendment process. The referral by NOAA to the NEFMC is the key critical step to initiating an open and public review. Following its own lengthy public process, the SBNMS Sanctuary Advisory Council voted by a wide margin to forward the proposal to the NEFMC. Unfortunately, NOAA has not yet carried out that recommendation leaving the SERA proposal in bureaucratic limbo. Referring this proposal to the NEFMC is not a public notice of impending regulation but simply opens the door for a useful public discussion. Much discussion and analysis would remain once the Council opens that deliberation, with many possible outcomes as the SERA proposal – even in the most positive scenario - is combined with other contemplated management actions such as opening fishery closed areas.

This proposal clearly addresses the needs of SBNMS, the National Marine Fisheries Service, the NEFMC and the fishing community. While it may not be adopted as a result of the NEFMC and public review process, it deserves an appropriate forum to be aired. Unfortunately, it appears that political sensitivity, given the many additional conflicts currently in play in the realm of New England fisheries, may be overriding NOAA's stewardship responsibilities.

We ask for your support and encourage you to contact the Department of Commerce and NOAA to request they officially forward the SERA proposal to the NEFMC. This simple action formally initiates a public conversation. If DOC and NOAA are afraid of words, where is natural resource management in our Nation headed? Thank you, in advance, for your consideration.

Sincerely¹,

Les Kaufman, Ph.D.
Professor of Biology
Boston University Marine Program
Boston, MA

cc: TN, Corneil (12/21), Michelle

Richard F. Ambrose, Ph.D.
Professor of Environmental Science
University of California
Los Angeles, CA

Richard Appeldoorn, Ph.D.
Professor
Department of Marine Sciences, University of Puerto Rico
Mayaguez, PR

Dr. Nancy A. Auer
Associate Professor Biological Sciences
Michigan Technological University
Houghton, MI

Peter J. Auster, Ph.D.
Research Professor of Marine Sciences
University of Connecticut
Groton, CT

Mark C. Benfield, Ph.D.
Professor
School of the Coast and Environment, Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA

Dr. Daniel R. Brumbaugh
Research Associate
Institute of Marine Sciences, University of California
Santa Cruz, CA

Ann Bucklin, Ph.D.
Professor and Head, Department of Marine Sciences
Director, Marine Sciences and Technology Center
University of Connecticut
Groton, CT

David M. Burdick, Ph.D.
Research Associate Professor
Department of Natural Resources and the Environment,
University of New Hampshire
Durham, NH

Jeb Byers, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Marine Ecology
University of Georgia
Athens, GA

Lawrence B. Cahoon, Ph.D.
Professor of Biology and Marine Biology
University of North Carolina
Wilmington, NC

Patrick Christie, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
School of Marine and Environmental Affairs and Jackson School of International Studies
University of Washington
Seattle, WA

Benjamin Cuker, Ph.D.
Professor of Marine and Environmental Studies
Hampton University
Hampton, VA

Paul K. Dayton, Ph.D.
Professor of Oceanography
Scripps Institution of Oceanography
La Jolla, CA

Mary Beth Decker, Ph.D.
Research Scientist
Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, Yale University
New Haven, CT

Michael P. De Luca
Senior Associate Director
Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences, Rutgers University
New Brunswick, NJ

Fred C. Dobbs, Ph.D.
Professor
Department of Ocean, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences,
Old Dominion University
Norfolk, VA

Tim Essington, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
University of Washington
Seattle, WA

James A. Estes, Ph.D.
Distinguished Professor
Department of Ecology and Evolution, University of
California
Santa Cruz, CA

Ron J. Etter, Ph.D.
Professor
Biology Department, University of Massachusetts
Boston, MA

Scott C. France, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Biology
University of Louisiana at Lafayette
Lafayette, LA

Tamara Frank, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Nova Southeastern University Oceanographic Center
Dania, FL

Roger T. Hanlon, Ph.D.
Senior Scientist
Marine Resources Center, Marine Biological Laboratory
Woods Hole, MA 02543

Gene Helfman, Ph.D.
Professor Emeritus of Ecology
Odum School of Ecology, University of Georgia
Athens, GA

Scott Heppell, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, Oregon State
University
Corvallis, OR

Mark Hixon, Ph.D.
Professor
Department of Zoology, Oregon State University
Corvallis, OR

Lewis S. Incze, Ph.D.
Research Professor
School of Marine Sciences, University of Maine
Walpole, ME

John Janssen, Ph.D.
Professor
School of Freshwater Sciences, University of Wisconsin-
Milwaukee
Milwaukee, WI

Peter Jumars, Ph.D.
Professor of Marine Sciences
Darling Marine Center, University of Maine
Walpole, ME

Christopher C. Koenig, Ph.D.
Reef Fish Ecology Group
Florida State University Coastal and Marine Laboratory
St. Teresa Beach, FL

Scott D. Kraus, Ph.D.
Vice President of Research
New England Aquarium
Boston, MA

Dr. Lori LaPlante
Associate Professor
Saint Anselm College
Manchester, NH

Don R. Levitan, Ph.D.
Professor
Department of Biological Science, Florida State
University
Tallahassee, FL

Ken Lindeman, Ph. D.
Professor
Florida Institute of Technology
Melbourne, FL

James Lindholm, Ph.D.
James W. Rote Distinguished Professor of Marine
Science & Policy
California State University Monterey Bay
Seaside, CA

Romuald N. Lipcius, Ph.D.
Professor of Marine Science
Virginia Institute of Marine Science, The College of
William & Mary
Gloucester Point, VA

J. Ellen Marsden, Ph.D.

Professor
Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural
Resources, University of Vermont
Burlington, VT

Steven Miller, Ph.D.

Research Professor
University of North Carolina
Wilmington, NC

John C. Ogden, Ph.D.

Emeritus Professor of Integrative Biology
University of South Florida
Tampa, Florida

Dr. Michael K. Orbach

Professor of Marine Affairs and Policy
Nicholas School of the Environment, Duke University
Beaufort, NC

Robert T. Paine, Ph.D.

Professor Emeritus of Biology
University of Washington
Seattle, WA

Mark R. Patterson, Ph.D.

Director, Autonomous Systems Laboratory
College of William & Mary
Gloucester Point, VA

Michael A. Rex, Ph.D.

Professor of Biology
University of Massachusetts
Boston, MA

Joe Roman, Ph.D.

Research Assistant Professor
University of Vermont
Burlington, VT

Matthias Ruth, Ph.D.

Roy F. Weston Chair in Natural Economics
University of Maryland
College Park, MD

Stuart Sandin, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Marine Ecology
Scripps Institution of Oceanography
La Jolla, CA

Eric Schultz, Ph.D.

Associate Professor
Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology,
University of Connecticut
Storrs CT

Timothy M. Shank, Ph.D.

Associate Scientist
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
Woods Hole, MA

Su Sponaugle, Ph.D.

Professor Marine Biology & Fisheries
Rosenstiel School of Marine & Atmospheric Science,
University of Miami
Miami, FL

Ben Steele, Ph.D.

Professor and Chair
Department of Natural Sciences, Colby-Sawyer College
New London, NH

Robert S. Steneck, Ph.D.

Professor of Oceanography, Marine Biology and Marine
Policy
School of Marine Sciences, University of Maine
Walpole, ME

Bradley G. Stevens, Ph.D.

Professor and Distinguished Research Scientist
Living Marine Resources Cooperative Science Center,
University of Maryland Eastern Shore
Princess Anne, MD

Stephen T. Tettelbach, Ph.D.

Professor of Biology
C.W. Post Campus, Long Island University
Brookville, NY

Brian N. Tissot, PhD

Professor
School of Earth & Environmental Science, Washington
State University
Vancouver, WA

Dr. Robert L. Vadas, Sr.

Professor Emeritus
University of Maine
Orono, ME

Penny Vlahos, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor
Department of Marine Sciences, University of
Connecticut
Groton, CT

Robert Warner, Ph.D.

Professor of Marine Biology
University of California
Santa Barbara, CA

Les Watling, Ph.D.

Professor of Biology
University of Hawaii at Manoa
Honolulu, HI

Judith S. Weis, Ph.D.

Professor
Department of Biological Sciences, Rutgers University
Newark, NJ

Charles Yarish, Ph.D.

Professor
Departments of Ecol. & Evolutionary Biology and
Marine Sciences, University of Connecticut
Stamford, CT

Phil Yund, Ph.D.

Director, Marine Science Center & Center for Land-Sea
Interactions
University of New England
Biddeford, ME

Cc:

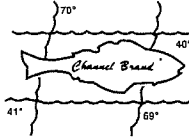
Senator Scott Brown (MA)
Senator Olympia Snowe (ME)
Senator Susan Collins (ME)
Senator Jeanne Shaheen (NH)
Senator Kelly Ayotte (NH)
Senator Richard Blumenthal (CT)
Senator Joseph Lieberman (CT)
Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (RI)
Senator Jack Reed (RI)

Representative Joe Courtney (CT)
Representative Rosa DeLauro (CT)
Representative James Himes (CT)
Representative Jim Langevin (RI)
Representative David Cicilline (RI)
Representative Michael Capuano (MA)
Representative Barney Frank (MA)
Representative Edward Markey (MA)

Representative John Tierney (MA)
Representative Stephen Lynch (MA)
Representative Frank Guinta (NH)
Representative Mike Michaud (ME)
Representative Chellie Pingree (ME)

Secretary of Commerce John Bryson
Undersecretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere Dr. Jane Lubchenco
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries Eric Schwaab
Assistant Administrator for Ocean Service David Kennedy
NMFS Regional Administrator Patricia Kurkul
SBNMS Superintendent Craig MacDonald
New England Fisheries Management Council Executive Director Paul Howard
New England Fisheries Management Council Chair Rip Cunningham

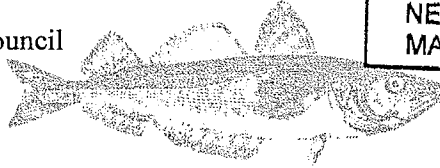
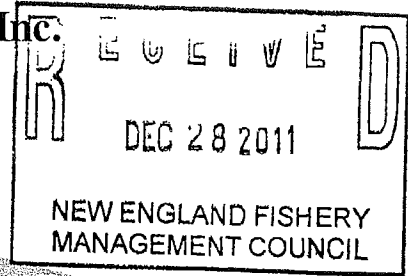
¹ - All of the scientists listed here have requested directly that they be included in this letter. Affiliations after each name simply indicate academic affiliations and do not imply that the contents of this letter reflect the policies of those institutions.



Channel Fish Processing Co., Inc.

December 22nd, 2011

Mr. Colin Cunningham, Chair
New England Fishery Management Council
50 Water Street, Mill 2
Newburyport, MA 01950



Dear Mr. Cunningham:

Channel Fish Processing Co., Inc is a long established, New England based, seafood processor interested in purchasing a steady supply of Redfish from New England groundfish fishermen.

We are encouraged by recent successful experimental fishing for redfish by fishermen enrolled in groundfish sectors, and we are hopeful that this work will lead to increased opportunities for fishermen and processors alike.

We understand that the several groundfish sectors have applied for an exemption from the minimum mesh size restrictions of the multispecies plan in order to efficiently and effectively harvest their allocation of redfish.

We ask for your support for the request for exemption of the minimum mesh size restrictions.

Sincerely,

Steve Atkinson
National Sales Manager
Channel Fish Processing Co., Inc.



Cc Karen Roy - N.E.F.M.C.





Paul J. Diodati
Director

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

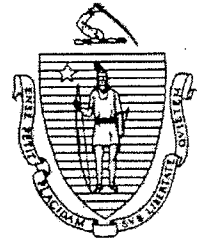
Division of Marine Fisheries

251 Causeway Street, Suite 400

Boston, Massachusetts 02114

(617)626-1520

fax (617)626-1509



Deval Patrick
Governor

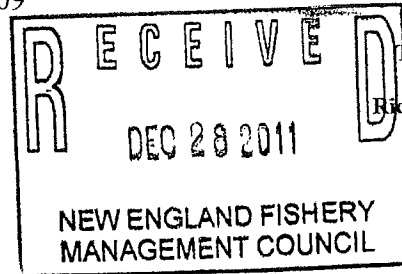
Timothy P. Murray
Lt. Governor

Richard K. Sullivan, Jr.
Secretary

Mary B. Griffin
Commissioner

December 20, 2011

Patricia Kurkul
Northeast Regional Administrator
National Marine Fisheries Service
55 Great Republic Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930



Re: Directed Dogfish Exempted Fishery Request

Dear Pat,

I am writing to urge consideration of an Exempted Fishery Request by the Georges Bank Cod Fixed Gear Sector (Fixed Gear Sector). In a December 6th letter to you the Fixed Gear Sector requests exemptions from certain groundfish monitoring and discard related provisions while fishing on designated spiny dogfish trips.

Recent management actions have underscored the rebuilt status of dogfish and resulted in another annual increase in the spiny dogfish quota, at a time when groundfish sector operations are struggling to break-even. Current information available from the fishery indicates that incidental catch of groundfish is minimal when dogfish are targeted by fixed gear, warranting a sensible approach to management of fishing trips directed on non-groundfish by sector vessels. An exempted fishery (50 CFR 600.745) appears to be the appropriate process for assessing the suitability of amended regulations.

It is my understanding that should you determine the Fixed Gear Sector's application warrants further consideration then a notice will be published in the Federal Register. I look forward to providing more detailed comments on any and all exempted fishery permit requests for directed dogfish trips by groundfish sector vessels at that time.

Sincerely,

Paul J. Diodati, Director

- Cc: Eric Brazer, Fixed Gear Sector Manager
John Pappalardo, CCCHFA
Paul Howard, NEFMC Executive Director
Rip Cunningham, NEFMC Chair
Terry Stockwell, NEFMC Groundfish Oversight Committee Chair
Tom Nies, NEFMC Groundfish FMP Analyst
Mark Grant, NMFS Sector Analyst
Melissa Vasquez, NMFS Sector Analyst

cc: Executive (1/4)

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DEVAL L. PATRICK
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
STATE HOUSE • BOSTON, MA 02133
(617) 725-4000

TIMOTHY P. MURRAY
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

January 6, 2012

The Honorable John E. Bryson
Secretary of Commerce
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20230



Dear Secretary Bryson:

I write to express my concern regarding the recent news surrounding the new preliminary stock assessments indicating a dramatic change to the Gulf of Maine (GOM) cod. As you know, cod is both a key symbol of the Commonwealth's natural heritage, and a key component of our fishing industry. Because cod is such an integral part of the groundfishery, any change in its abundance and allocation will have tremendous impacts for the entire Gulf of Maine groundfishery, which has an annual value of \$30 million and is central to the livelihoods of hundreds of fishermen and their families. Therefore, I am appreciative that NOAA is taking steps to review additional data, keep stakeholders informed, and explore alternatives to maintain stability in both the groundfishery and the fishing industry.

It is important that we get this right for our fishermen. To that end, I have made the Commonwealth's Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF), through its partnership with the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth's

Secretary John Bryson
January 6, 2012
Page 2

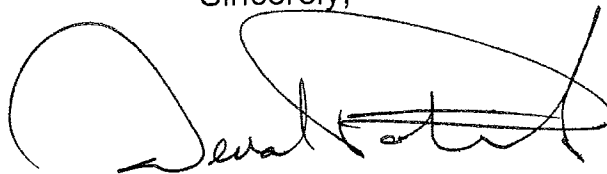
School of Marine Science and Technology and Marine Fisheries Institute (MFI), available to provide assistance and information to NOAA Fisheries during its review of the current stock assessments and ongoing policies. MFI and DMF have a wealth of institutional knowledge on this topic as they were involved in efforts to address a similar crisis facing the fishery in 1999.

Additionally, I want to urge NOAA Fisheries to adopt maximum flexibility in order to design pragmatic management and restoration policies that maintain stable fisheries and fishing communities.

Finally, I understand the Department is closely reviewing the Commonwealth's November disaster request for the economic loss Massachusetts' fishermen have incurred due to the transition to catch shares. I want to once again urge a favorable response so that we can protect the Commonwealth's historic and economically important groundfish fleet.

Thank you for your consideration, as well as your service to the nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald R. Iversen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning and a long, sweeping tail that ends in a sharp hook.

CC: Senator John Kerry
Senator Scott Brown
Representative Barney Frank
Representative Bill Keating
Representative Mike Capuano
Representative John Tierney
Representative Steven Lynch
Eric Schwaab, NMFS Administrator

Secretary John Bryson

January 6, 2012

Page 3

Rick Sullivan, EEA Secretary

Bill White, EEA Assistant Secretary

Mary Griffin, DFG Commissioner

Paul Diodati, DMF Director

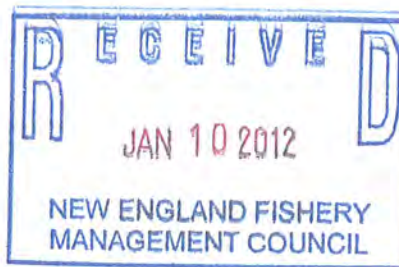
Dr. David Pierce, DMF Deputy Director

Dr. Brian Rothschild, MFI Co-Chair

Paul Howard, NEFMC Executive Director

C.M. Cunningham, NEFMC Chairman

91 FAIRVIEW AVE
PORSTMOUTH NH 03801



**NORTHEAST HOOK
FISHERMAN'S ASSOCIATION**

January 9, 2012

New England Fishery Management Council

50 Water Street, Mill 2
Newburyport, MA 01950
Phone: (978) 465-0492
Fax: (978) 465-3116



Dear NEFMC Council Members:

We represent a group of Commercial Fishermen with the Limited Access Handgear HA Permits, employing the use Rod and Reel or Hand lines to catch Cod, Haddock and Pollock along with small quantities of other regulated and non-regulated marine fish.

We are extremely concerned with the latest stock assessment conducted on GOM cod. We believe that the assessment failed to consider the best available science with regard to tagging studies and the latest information pertaining to stock boundaries. The problem is the eastern GOM cod & Eastern Georges bank stocks are not rebuilding while the western GOM and Western Georges bank stock is. Until a new stock assessment can be conducted to consider the most recent scientific research on GOM cod, the GOM cod ACL for the 2012 fishing year should remain fixed at the same level as 2011.

Below is some of the most recent work on GOM cod that was not considered in the latest stock assessment.

1. ***Exploring Fine-scale Ecology for Groundfish in the Gulf of Maine and Georges Bank, Genetic Insights into the Stock Structure of Atlantic Cod in US Waters,***
Adrienne Kovach

http://www.gmri.org/community/seastate/Kovach_Adrienne/Kovach_Adrienne_Abstract.pdf

"The current management models are typically based on the "old dogma" of panmictic populations, and do not consider fine-scale population structure. Stocks encompass large geographic regions with multiple oceanographic features and may be comprised of individuals with potentially different life history histories. As such, their boundaries may not have a biological basis. This may be true for cod in U.S. waters, which are currently managed according to a two stock model, consisting of (1) a Gulf of Maine stock and (2) a stock comprised of Georges Bank and areas southward, from southern New England to the mid-Atlantic coast. Evidence inconsistent with the current management model includes movement data from recent tagging studies (Tallack and Whitford 2008) and genetic data (Lage et al. 2004, Wirgin et al. 2007). "

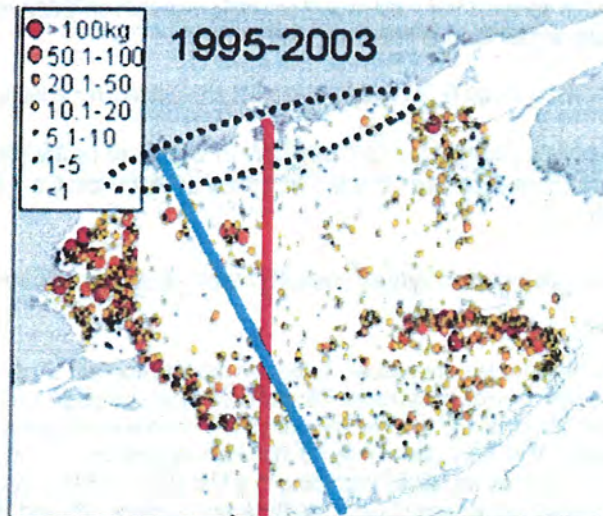
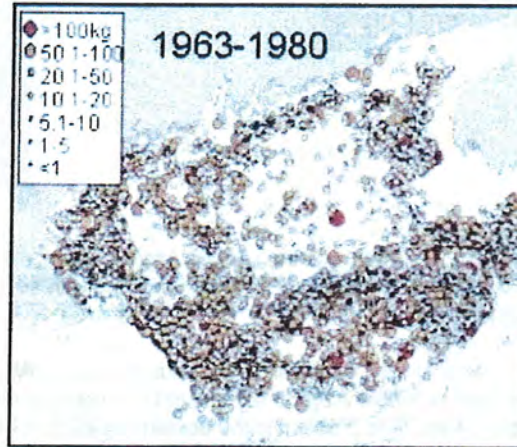
In conclusion, we found strong evidence for population genetic structure that is not consistent with the 2-stock management model. Cod in US waters are broadly structured into 3 groups: 1) a northern spring spawning coastal complex in the GOM, 2) a southern complex consisting of winter-spawning inshore GOM, offshore GOM and sites south of Cape Cod, and 3) a Georges Bank population....

2. **"Workshop on Reconciling Spatial Scales and Stock Structures for Fisheries Science and Management" 2011**

NEW COD STOCKS DEFINED BY WGOM AND EGOM

WGOM WEST OF BLUE OR RED LINE*


EGOM EAST OF BLUE OR RED LINE*



*Exact boundaries (maybe 3) derived by best available science to include tagging studies, genetics, etc.

There will be no longer a commercial cod jig fishery in the GOM if no action is taken. The cod jig fishery was the first in New England and if nothing is done it will be the first to be eliminated if the cuts proposed are made to the GOM cod stocks.

Respectfully,


Marc Stettner

NEHFA MEMBERS: Christopher DiPilato, Paul Hoffman, Hilary Dombrowski, Scott Rice, Ed Snell, Marc Stettner

If you are a holder of a groundfish HA permit and wish to join the NEHFA, please contact the NEHFA at the address above.