

AMENDMENT 1 TO THE NORTHEAST FISHERY SECTOR II SECTOR OPERATIONS PLAN

APPROVED BY NOAA'S NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE MAY 1, 2020

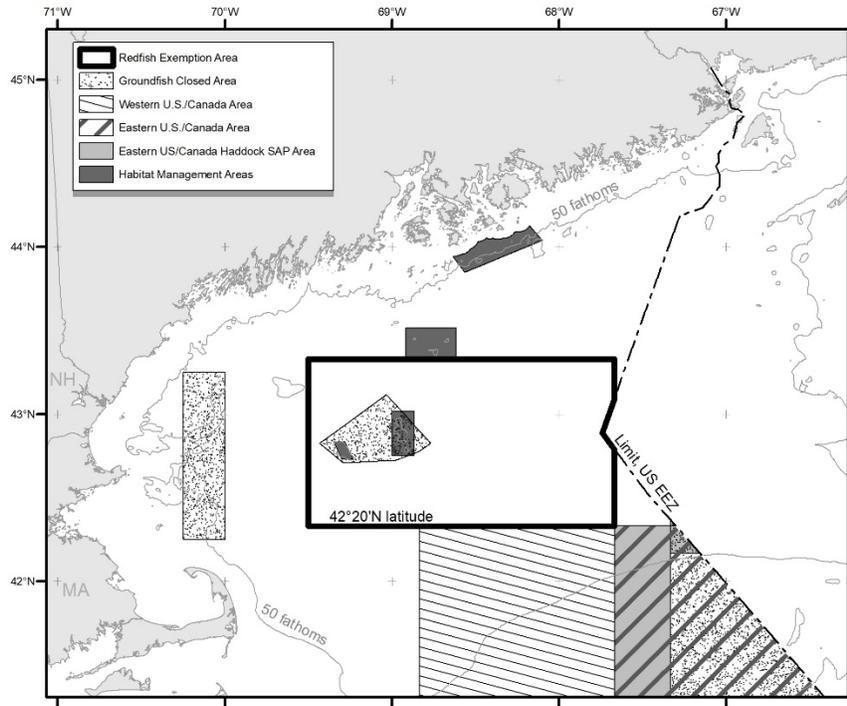
EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 2020, THROUGH APRIL 30, 2021

This amendment strikes all language under Exemption #15, entitled "Minimum codend mesh size for directed redfish trips" listed under Exhibit B and replaces it with the following language:

15 Minimum codend mesh size for directed redfish trips

This exemption allows a sector vessel to fish for Acadian redfish in the designated Redfish Exemption Area, described below, using nets with codend mesh no smaller than 5.5 inches. When fishing inside the Redfish Exemption Area all other restrictions applicable to trawl nets still apply. In order to use this exemption, a vessel must strictly adhere to the following conditions and restrictions:

- 1. The vessel must declare its trip in PTNS consistent with the standard requirements. This exemption does not require additional at-sea monitoring coverage required above the target coverage level for sectors (40% in fishing year 2020).*
- 2. Prior to leaving the dock, the vessel must declare its intent to use the redfish exemption on the trip through the VMS multispecies trip start hail by checking the box "Redfish Trip" under sector exemptions.*
- 3. The vessel must submit a Multispecies Catch Report through its VMS system, each day for the **entire trip**, including Parts 1 and 2 of the trip as described below. The daily report is required if the vessel has declared the exemption, even if the vessel does not target redfish. The vessel must submit Multispecies Catch Reports through VMS in 24-hr intervals for each day of the fishing trip. The report must be submitted by 0900 hr (9:00 a.m.) on the date following the date the fish were caught. The report must provide a good faith estimate of the amount each regulated species caught on each day of the trip.*
- 4. The vessel may use a codend with 5.5-inch mesh (square or diamond) and greater within the Redfish Exemption Area (excluding areas otherwise closed to fishing activity). The area is shown below.*



The Redfish Exemption Area is bounded on the east by 67°40' West Longitude and the U.S.-Canada Maritime Boundary, the north by 43°20' North Latitude, the west by 69°30' West Longitude, and the south by 42°20' North Latitude. It is defined by the following coordinates, connected by straight lines in the order listed:

Point	N. Lat.	W. Long.
A	43°20.00'	69°30.00'
B	43°20.00'	67°40.00'
C*	43°06.23'	67°40.00'
D*	42°53.24'	67°44.55'
E*	42°47.17'	67°40.00'
F	42°20.00'	67°40.00'
G	42°20.00'	69°30.00'
A	43°20.00'	69°30.00'

*Approximate points corresponding to the intersections of 67°40' W. longitude and the U.S.-Canada Maritime Boundary, and the area's eastern boundary following the U.S.-Canada Maritime Boundary.

- During a Redfish Exemption Trip, any codend that is only authorized on a Redfish Exemption Trip must be stowed not available for use consistent with the methods outlined in 50 CFR 648.2 until the vessel has completed the requirements identified in paragraph 8 below. Although vessels are not required by this exemption to stow their smaller mesh codend below deck in all cases, vessels transiting closed area are reminded participation in this exemption does not waive the transiting restrictions outlined in § 648.81(e).

Part 1 of Redfish Exemption Trip

- When a vessel declares a "Redfish Trip" via VMS, it may fish outside the Redfish Exemption Area during Part 1 of the Redfish Exemption Trip in accordance with

otherwise applicable regulations and sector exemptions. However, fishing outside of the Redfish Exemption Area first is optional. A vessel may choose to immediately transit to the Redfish Exemption Area and begin fishing.

- 7. Any catch thresholds do not apply for Part 1 of the trip.*

Part 2 of Redfish Exemption Trip: Fishing With a Smaller Mesh Codend

- 8. When the vessel plans to target redfish, it must travel to the Redfish Exemption Area. Once the vessel is in the Redfish Exemption Area, before fishing with a codend with smaller than 6.5-inch mesh, it must send a Multispecies Catch Report via VMS. This report is in addition to the daily Multispecies Catch Reports that are required when utilizing this exemption. The vessel must send a Multispecies Catch Report providing a good faith estimate of all fish caught by the vessel that day between 12:01 AM and the time of the report, and must fill out Step 5 in the report, indicating that it intends to fish with a smaller mesh codend and use the exemption immediately after sending the report. After the vessel is in the Redfish Exemption Area and submits the required catch report, it may make available for use the 5.5-inch mesh codend and begin using it. The vessel may use a 5.5-inch mesh codend (or greater) for the remainder of the trip in Redfish Exemption Area.*
- 9. Once a vessel sends the Multispecies Catch Report via VMS indicating that it is switching to the smaller mesh codend (Step 5), it is prohibited from fishing outside the Redfish Exemption Area.*
- 10. The vessel must submit a final daily catch report, in addition to other required reports, and a Trip End Hail via VMS once it stops fishing and begins its return to port. The vessel may not fish outside the Redfish Exemption Area.*

Summary Of All Redfish Exemption Trip Reporting Requirements

- 1. Submit a Multispecies Trip Start Hail declaring a redfish trip*
- 2. Submit VTRs for each chart area, gear, and/or mesh size fished.*
- 3. Submit daily catch reports of all kept fish by 9 AM the following day.*
- 4. Send a catch report of all kept fish since 12:01 AM of that day, with Step 5 of the catch report completed prior to fishing under the exemption.*
- 5. Submit a final daily catch report and Trip End Hail once fishing is complete.*

Monitoring Catch Thresholds

For all trips declaring the redfish exemption and targeting redfish during Part 2 of the trip, at least 50% of the total groundfish kept must be redfish. For observed trips (NEFOP/ASM/EM) declaring the redfish exemption and fishing a smaller than 6.5-inch mesh codend during Part 2 of the trip, total groundfish discards (including redfish) may not exceed 5% of all kept fish. If after at least one month, it is determined that the sector is not meeting either of these two thresholds, NMFS will notify the sector and be given 30 days to modify fishing behavior in order

to meet both thresholds. NMFS retains the authority to rescind the exemption if either threshold is not being met.

This document also amends this operations plan by adding the following to Exhibit C:

2020 SECTOR MEMBERS: The following table identifies NEFS II Members during FY 2020.

<i>MRI</i>	<i>Permit #</i>	<i>Vessel Name</i>	<i>Owner</i>
8	CPH	CPH	Catherine F Lobster Co Inc
14	144413	AMANDA & ANDY II	Santapaola Fisheries Inc
34	150909	WATER TENDER NINE	Russo Fishing Corp.
51	220152	HELEN S III	GRACE & ROSA INC
68	151165	JUDITH LEE ROSE	GFCP Inc.
106	151427	RAZZO	Raz Fishing Co.
111	231052	CAT EYES	Cat Eyes Fisheries Inc.
117	CPH	CPH	Heidi and Heather Fisheries, LLC
131	CPH	CPH	A & J Fisheries
133	CPH	CPH	A & J Fisheries
149	CPH	CPH	A & J Fisheries
157	CPH	CPH	Dennis P. Robillard Jr.
160	CPH	CPH	Daniel M Murphy
168	CPH	CPH	PHILIP A POWELL
173	CPH	CPH	A & J Fisheries
175	231019	KATHRYN LEIGH	KATHRYN LEIGH FISHERIES INC
178	152187	TERMINATOR II	Paul Theriault
185	CPH	CPH	Joseph Jurek
187	231209	MARIA G S	J Sans Jr Fisheries Inc.
189	231302	EARLY TIMES	Early Times Fisheries
214	233139	AARON & ALEXA	Ashley & Anthony Fisheries Inc
223	150593	SKIFF	Santapaola Fisheries Inc
228	146819	LORI B	Heidi and Heather Fisheries, LLC
238	CPH	CPH	Richard E Burgess
240	CPH	CPH	Richard E Burgess
248	CPH	CPH	Jam Fishing Co.
252	149677	LADY JUSTINE	RMV Inc.
255	152364	SABRINA MARIA	Cottone Inc.
259	CPH	CPH	PAJAM Fishing Corp
288	CPH	CPH	Irma Fishing LLC
293	150485	LITTLE STORM	Carl Bouchard
309	150483	MONI HONI	Carl Bouchard
310	CPH	CPH	Carl Bouchard

314	CPH	CPH	<i>Little Sandra Corp</i>
320	CPH	CPH	<i>Richard E Burgess</i>
330	CPH	CPH	<i>Emilie Inc.</i>
347	CPH	CPH	<i>Renegade Fishing LLC</i>
367	CPH	CPH	<i>Heidi and Heather Fisheries, LLC</i>
370	CPH	CPH	<i>Vincie N Inc.</i>
372	250311	MANFORD L PORTER	<i>Homarus Americanus Inc</i>
373	250313	MISS SANDY	<i>Taormina Fishing Corp.</i>
381	CPH	CPH	<i>PHILIP A POWELL</i>
443	149710	SOLINA SOO	<i>PHILIP A POWELL</i>
446	250887	S S MELON III	<i>Melon Fiseries Inc</i>
459	CPH	CPH	<i>Homarus Americanus Inc</i>
470	CPH	CPH	<i>AGV Company Ltd</i>
477	251853	CLAUDIA MARIE	<i>A & J Fisheries</i>
485	152350	MY GRACE	<i>Sal & Sons</i>
490	CPH	CPH	<i>s.s. Fisheries Inc.</i>
512	250508	SANTO PIO	<i>Maria SS Dellume</i>
525	CPH	CPH	<i>PHILIP A POWELL</i>
575	CPH	CPH	<i>A & J Fisheries</i>
593	CPH	CPH	<i>Stefanie Noto</i>
664	150369	UNNAMED	<i>Captain Dominic and Bros.</i>
669	CPH	CPH	<i>P & V Fishing Corp.</i>
735	330448	TYLER	<i>F/V TYLER INC</i>
769	330260	GRACE MARIE	<i>AGV Company Ltd</i>
773	CPH	CPH	<i>Lily Jean Corp.</i>
816	330362	CAPTAIN DOMINIC	<i>Captain Dominic and Bros.</i>
825	CPH	CPH	<i>G&N Fishing Corp.</i>
843	410167	PRINCESS LAURA	<i>LAURA INC</i>
844	310995	MIDNIGHT SUN	<i>Lisa T Corp</i>
907	410220	ORION	<i>Princess Diana I Inc.</i>
1009	149233	KEYWEST	<i>Sandler Fisheries Inc.</i>
1043	410242	MISS TRISH II	<i>Russo Fishing Corp.</i>
1153	410106	CAPT JOE	<i>Princess Elena Inc.</i>
1251	CPH	CPH	<i>WOOD FISHERIES INC</i>
1433	148668	FOXY LADY	<i>PHILIP A POWELL</i>
1439	CPH	CPH	<i>JAS FISHERIES INC</i>
1456	CPH	CPH	<i>Russo Fishing Corp.</i>
1482	CPH	CPH	<i>Richard E Burgess</i>
1484	123845	BANTRY BAY	<i>Daniel M Murphy</i>
1493	250659	DEBRA ANN II	<i>FV DEBRA ANN II LLC</i>
1505	320892	SEAFARMER II	<i>Sandler Fisheries Inc.</i>

1531	CPH	CPH	Heidi L Burgess
1534	121155	DUNLIN	Michael Frontiero
1608	CPH	CPH	Jeff and Jane Tutine
1610	240998	TINA & TOM	Tina and Tom Inc.
1639	115856	ALLISON CAROL	Peter S. Mondello
1647	150700	1988 SEANYMPH	Chadwick Fish and Lobster
1652	121338	LABOR IN VAIN	Douglas Germain
1701	240355	KENNETH J DUNCAN	Homarus Americanus Inc
1722	CPH	CPH	Joseph Jurek
1724	149632	ALYSSA & ANDREW	James Vanderpool
1734	214761	HARVEST MOON	F/V Harvest Moon Inc.
1749	CPH	CPH	Russo Fishing Corp.
1766	230139	AMANDA LEIGH	JAS FISHERIES INC
1767	250366	ANGELA & ROSE	RMV Inc.
1798	CPH	CPH	Sebastian Noto
1806	144816	THREE W'S	MS9635BE
1807	149318	RYAN ZACHARY	Heidi and Heather Fisheries, LLC
1810	150574	UNNAMED	Raz Fishing Co.
1818	146860	MYSTIQUE LADY	Joseph Jurek
1843	CPH	CPH	Russo Fishing Corp.
1846	CPH	CPH	Carl Bouchard
1859	CPH	CPH	Ashley & Anthony Fisheries Inc
1878	CPH	CPH	Lily Jean Corp.
1921	110688	AMANDA & ANDY III	Santapaola Fisheries Inc
1950	CPH	CPH	Daniel M Murphy
1960	CPH	CPH	Heidi and Heather Fisheries, LLC
1987	149295	LADY ELAINE	Dennis Oconnell
1997	220748	CAROL ANN	Carol Ann & Sons Inc
2011	CPH	CPH	PHILIP A POWELL
2014	CPH	CPH	A & J Fisheries
2016	151757	EXPLORER IV	Explorer II Corp.
2019	241144	JOANN FRANCES	F/V Joann Frances
2032	CPH	CPH	Ashley & Anthony Fisheries Inc
2088	212924	LADY J	David Jewell
2091	150702	TINA & TOM II	Tina and Tom Inc.
2119	CPH	CPH	Northern Edge Inc.
2127	CPH	CPH	A & J Fisheries
2165	118832	MISS MEREDITH	Matthew G. Cooney
2176	CPH	CPH	Russo Fishing Corp.
2177	CPH	CPH	Richard E Burgess
2192	CPH	CPH	Jam Fishing Co.

2195	CPH	CPH	Catherine F Lobster Co Inc
2320	124061	MISS CARLA	Arthur Sawyer Jr.
2327	150785	MIKES SKIFF	Michael Frontiero
2352	CPH	CPH	Lily Jean Corp.
2369	150401	MARK TWAIN	Mark Twain Corp.
2370	CPH	CPH	John L Greenleaf
2391	CPH	CPH	Russo Fishing Corp.
2533	CPH	CPH	John G Sharkey
2804	CPH	CPH	A & J Fisheries
3354	CPH	CPH	Island Queen Fishing Corp
3524	221275	CATHERINE M	Robert J Edwards
3607	149686	PEPPA	Corrado Buccheri
3636	223677	TOBY ANN	Brian Higgins
3787	CPH	CPH	A & J Fisheries
4300	152444	NATIVE SON	Chadwick Fish and Lobster
47802	148239	SEA OX	TOM S LUPO
47848	134630	AMBER AND JOHN	Ruth D Inc.
47905	CPH	CPH	Catherine F Lobster Co Inc