

DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

34.10 Maine Groundfish Management Plan

1. Groundfish Management Plan

B. Size, Possession and Gear Restrictions

(2) Recreational - size, possession and gear restrictions

- (a) Persons aboard charter, party and recreational fishing vessels are subject to the following minimum fish sizes:

Minimum Fish Sizes (TL)	
Species	Size Inches (cm)
Cod.....	24 (63.7 cm)
Haddock.....	18 (45.7 cm) <del>19 (48.3 cm)</del>
Pollock.....	19 (48.3 cm)
Witch Flounder (gray sole).....	14 (35.6 cm)
Yellowtail Flounder.....	13 (33.0 cm)
American plaice (dab).....	14 (35.6 cm)
Atlantic halibut.....	38 (96.5 cm)
Winter Flounder (blackback).....	12 (30.5 cm)
Redfish.....	9 (22.9 cm)
Summer Flounder.....	20 (50.8)

- (c) Possession restrictions

- (iv) Cod may not be possessed on board a charter, party or recreational fishing vessel from November 1 through ~~March 31~~ April 15, inclusive.

## Basis Statement

### Chapter 34(1)(B)(2) Groundfish Management Plan, Recreational - size, possession and gear restrictions

These regulations adopt for charter/party and private recreational vessels the minimum size for haddock of 18 inches, reduced from the previous minimum size of 19 inches. These regulations also extend the seasonal prohibition on the possession of GOM cod by 2 weeks from March 31 to April 15. The regulations provide consistency with NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service rulemaking announcement in the [Federal register January 16, 2009](#), which in part became effective May 1, 2009.

## Summary of Comments

No comments were received.