Atlantic Cod Management Workshops
Atlantic Cod Management

Northeast Multispecies (Groundfish) Fishery Management Plan
• 13 species, 20 stocks, and 2 management units
• Complex management system
  • Atlantic Cod
    • 2 stocks: Georges Bank Cod and Gulf of Maine Cod
      • Transboundary Management Unit US/Canada – Eastern Georges Bank Cod
  • Commercial (sectors and common pool) and recreational catches
    • Limits – catch limits and associated management measures
    • Closures – protection, spawning, and habitat closures
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Stock Status and Rebuilding

• Stock assessments for the Gulf of Maine cod stock and the Georges Bank cod stock generally occur every two years.

• Eastern Georges Bank cod management unit is assessed annually.

• Based on 2019 assessments, the Gulf of Maine cod and Georges Bank cod stocks are overfished with overfishing occurring, and subject to rebuilding plans with rebuild by dates of 2024 and 2026, respectively.

• The stock status of cod in the Eastern Georges Bank management unit is poor and subject to a rebuilding plan in Canada.
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Sectors

- Majority of the commercial fishery
- System of quotas and sector allocations
- Leasing/trading
- Accountability measures
- Gulf of Maine cod protection closures
- Spawning closures
- Reporting and Monitoring- ASM and NEFOP
- Gear and mesh restrictions
- Minimum fish sizes (19 in for cod)
Atlantic Cod Management

Common Pool

- System of trimester quotas
- Trip limits
- Area base restrictions and closure in-season
- Gulf of Maine cod protection closures
- Spawning closures
- Reporting and Monitoring- NEFOP
- Gear and mesh restrictions
- Minimum fish sizes (19 in for cod)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stock</th>
<th>Statistical Area</th>
<th>Gear</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gulf of Maine (GOM) cod</td>
<td>513, 514</td>
<td>Trawl, gillnet, longline/hook</td>
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<tr>
<td>Georges Bank (GB) cod</td>
<td>521, 522, 525, 561</td>
<td>Trawl, gillnet, longline/hook</td>
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Atlantic Cod Management
For all trawl vessels fishing in the GOM/GB Inshore Restricted Roller Gear Area, the maximum diameter of any part of the trawl footrope, including discs, rollers or rockhoppers, may not exceed 12 inches.
Atlantic Cod Management

Recreational

- Angler and For-Hire (party/charter)
- Bag limits
- Seasons
- Minimum fish size
- Spawning closure
- For-Hire Reporting
- MRIP

In Gulf of Maine Regulated Mesh Area

Open season:
- Private Anglers - September 15-30; April 1 - 14
- Party/Charter Anglers - September 8 - October 7; April 1 - 14

Minimum size: 21 inches

Possession limit:
- Private Anglers - 1 fish per day.
- Party/Charter Anglers - 1 fish per day

Outside of Gulf of Maine Regulated Mesh Area

Open season: All year

Minimum size: 21 inches

Possession limit:
- Private Anglers - 10 fish per day.
- Party/Charter Anglers - 10 fish per day
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Habitat/Spawning
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Habitat/Spawning