

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 622

[Docket No. 230726–0175]

RIN 0648–BM13

Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Reef Fish Resources of the Gulf of Mexico; Commercial Trip Limit for Gray Triggerfish

Correction

In Rule Document 2023–16229, appearing on pages 50063–50065, in the issue of Tuesday, August 1, 2023, make the following correction:

On page 50063, in the third column, in the heading, on the thirty-first line, under the heading **DATES**, the text reading “September 11, 2023” should read “September 1, 2023”.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 648

[Docket No. 230810–0190]

RIN 0648–BL95

Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act Provisions; Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast Multispecies Fishery; Framework Adjustment 65

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Final rule; emergency action; request for comments.

SUMMARY: This action approves and implements Framework Adjustment 65 to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan. This rule revises the rebuilding plan for Gulf of Maine cod, sets catch limits for 16 of the 20 multispecies (groundfish) stocks, and makes a temporary modification to the accountability measures for Georges Bank cod. This action also corrects erroneous regulations and removes outdated regulations. This action also implements an emergency action to set fishing year 2023 catch limits for Gulf of Maine haddock. This action is

necessary to respond to updated scientific information and to achieve the goals and objectives of the fishery management plan. The measures are intended to help prevent overfishing, rebuild overfished stocks, achieve optimum yield, and ensure that management measures are based on the best scientific information available. The emergency action is necessary to avoid a potential shut-down of the groundfish fishery in the Gulf of Maine in fishing year 2023, while still preventing overfishing for Gulf of Maine haddock.

DATES: Effective August 18, 2023, except for the temporary specification of the Gulf of Maine haddock catch limits under Catch Limits for Fishing Years 2023–2025 in **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**, which are effective August 18, 2023 through February 14, 2024. Comments on the emergency action for Gulf of Maine haddock must be submitted by 5 p.m. EST on September 18, 2023.

ADDRESSES: For this action, NMFS developed a supplement for the Environmental Assessment (EA) for Framework 65. Copies of the supplemental EA for this rulemaking are available on the internet at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/region/new-england-mid-atlantic> and www.regulations.gov.

You may submit comments on the emergency action for Gulf of Maine haddock, identified by NOAA–NMFS–2023–0021, by the following method:

- **Electronic Submission:** Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal. Go to www.regulations.gov and enter NOAA–NMFS–2023–0021 in the Search box. Click on the “Comment” icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments.

Instructions: Comments sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the end of the comment period, may not be considered. All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted for public viewing on www.regulations.gov without change. All personal identifying information (e.g., name, address, etc.), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the sender will be publicly accessible. You may submit anonymous comments by entering “N/A” in the required fields if you wish to remain anonymous.

Copies of Framework Adjustment 65, including the EA, the Regulatory Impact Review, and the Regulatory Flexibility Act Analysis prepared by the New

England Fishery Management Council in support of this action, are available from Thomas A. Nies, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950. The supporting documents are also accessible via the internet at: <http://www.nefmc.org/management-plans/northeast-multispecies> or <http://www.regulations.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Liz Sullivan, Fishery Policy Analyst, phone: 978–282–8493; email: Liz.Sullivan@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Summary of Approved Measures**

The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) adopted Framework Adjustment 65 to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan (FMP) on December 7, 2022. The Council submitted Framework 65, including an EA, for NMFS approval on April 18, 2023. NMFS published a proposed rule for Framework 65 on May 31, 2023 (88 FR 34810), with a 15-day comment period that closed on June 15, 2023.

Under the Magnuson-Stevens Act, the Secretary approves, disapproves, or partially approves measures that the Council proposes, based on consistency with the Act and other applicable law. On behalf of the Secretary, NMFS reviews proposed regulations for consistency with the fishery management plan, plan amendment, the Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act) and other applicable law, and publishes the proposed regulations, solicits public comment, and promulgates the final regulations. Based on information provided in the EA, supplemental EA, and considered during the preparation of this action, and after consideration of comments, NMFS (we) have approved all of the measures in Framework 65 recommended by the Council, as described below. The measures implemented in this final rule:

- Revise the rebuilding plan for Gulf of Maine (GOM) cod;
- Set shared U.S./Canada quotas for Georges Bank (GB) yellowtail flounder and eastern GB cod and haddock for fishing years 2023 and 2024;
- Set specifications, including catch limits for 16 groundfish stocks: GB haddock, GOM haddock, Southern New England/Mid-Atlantic (SNE/MA) yellowtail flounder, Cape Cod (CC)/GOM yellowtail flounder, American plaice, witch flounder, GB winter flounder, GOM winter flounder, SNE/