

RESTRICTED

International Commission for



the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries

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Proposal by the US Commissioners  
on eliminating the 10% annual exemption from the Trawl Regulations  
in Subareas 3, 4 and 5

At the 1973 Annual Meeting of the Commission, the USA first proposed elimination of the 10% annual exemption from the trawl fishery regulations (*Meeting Proceedings*, No. 16, p. 205). Delegates to Panel 3 and the Joint Meeting of Panels 4 and 5 were generally in agreement that the 12-month clause should be removed from the trawl regulations. In Commissioner's Documents 73/18 and 74/25 the USA has emphasized the need to assure full and equitable administration of regulation on all Contracting Governments. The USA believes that elimination of the 10% annual exemption from the trawl regulation is essential for conservation of species. Accordingly, the attached revised regulations are submitted for adoption by the 24th Annual Meeting.

The following is submitted to replace paragraph 3 of the Subarea 3 mesh size regulation (Comm.Doc. 74/12, p. 4):

"3. That in order to avoid impairment of fisheries conducted primarily for redfish (genus *Sebastes*) in the area specified in paragraph 2 above and which take small quantities of cod, haddock, and other regulated species incidentally, the Contracting Governments permit persons under their jurisdictions to take these species with nets having a mesh size less than that specified in paragraph 1 above, so long as such persons do not have in possession on board a vessel fishing primarily for redfish with small meshed nets amounts of (a) cod, (b) haddock, or (c) other species mentioned in paragraph 1 above taken together in excess of 2,500 kg for each of (a), (b), and (c), or 15% by weight of all fish on board such vessels but in no event in excess of 7,500 kg for each of (a), (b) and (c)."

The following is submitted to replace paragraph 2 of the Subarea 4 mesh size regulation (Comm.Doc. 74/12, p. 5):

"2. That in order to avoid impairment of fisheries conducted primarily for other species and which take small quantities of cod, haddock, and flounders incidentally, the Contracting Governments permit persons under their jurisdictions to take cod, haddock, and flounders with nets having a mesh size less than that required in the preceding paragraph, so long as such persons do not have in possession on board a vessel fishing primarily for other species amounts of cod, haddock, or flounders in excess of 2,500 kg for each species, or 15% by weight of all fish on board caught in Subarea 4 but in no event in excess of 7,500 kg for each species."

The following is submitted to replace paragraph 2 of the Subarea 5 mesh size regulation (Comm.Doc. 74/12, p. 5):

"2. That in order to avoid impairment of fisheries conducted primarily for other species and which take small quantities of cod, haddock, and yellowtail flounders incidentally, the Contracting Governments permit persons under their jurisdictions to take cod, haddock, and yellowtail flounders with nets having a mesh size less than that required in the preceding paragraph, so long as such persons do not have in possession on board a vessel fishing primarily for other species amounts of cod, haddock, or yellowtail flounders in excess of 2,500 kg for each species, or 15% by weight of all fish on board caught in Subarea 5 but in no event in excess of 7,500 kg for each species."

The following is submitted to replace paragraph 2 of the Subarea 5 haddock quota regulation (Comm.Doc. 74/12, p. 28):

"2. That in order to avoid impairment of fisheries conducted primarily for other species and which take small quantities of haddock incidentally, the Contracting Governments may permit persons under their jurisdictions to have in possession on board a vessel fishing primarily for other species amounts of haddock not in excess of 2,500 kg, or 15% by weight of all fish on board caught in Subarea 5 but in no event in excess of 7,500 kg."

