

or fax to the Regional Administrator. A check for the cost of the replacement tags must be received before tags will be re-issued.

(2) *Trip gillnet vessels.* When fishing under a multispecies DAS, a Trip gillnet vessel is required to remove all gillnet gear from the water before calling-out of a multispecies DAS under §648.10(c)(3). When not fishing under a multispecies DAS, Trip gillnet vessels may fish in an exempted fishery with gillnet gear as authorized under the exemptions described in §648.80. Vessels electing to fish under the Trip gillnet designation must have on board written confirmation issued by the Regional Administrator, that the vessel is a Trip gillnet vessel.

[61 FR 34968, July 3, 1996, as amended at 62 FR 2620, Jan. 17, 1997; 62 FR 14650, Mar. 27, 1997; 62 FR 15388, Apr. 1, 1997; 62 FR 37156, July 11, 1997; 62 FR 49149, Sept. 19, 1997; 63 FR 11595, Mar. 10, 1998; 63 FR 42592, Aug. 10, 1998]

§648.83 Minimum fish sizes.

(a) *Minimum fish sizes.* (1) Minimum fish sizes for recreational vessels and charter/party vessels that are not fishing under a NE multispecies DAS are specified in §648.89. Except as provided in §648.17, all other vessels are subject to the following minimum fish sizes (TL):

MINIMUM FISH SIZES (TL)	
Species	Size (Inches)
Cod	19 (48.3 cm)
Haddock	19 (48.3 cm)
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)
Winter flounder (blackback)	12 (30.48 cm)
Redfish	9 (22.9 cm)

(2) The minimum fish size applies to the whole fish or to any part of a fish while possessed on board a vessel, except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, and to whole fish only, after landing. Fish or parts of fish must have skin on while possessed on board a vessel and at the time of landing in order to meet minimum size requirements. "Skin on" means the entire portion of the skin normally attached to the portion of the fish or fish parts possessed.

(b) *Exceptions.* (1) Each person aboard a vessel issued a multispecies limited access permit and fishing under the DAS program may possess up to 25 lb (11.3 kg) of fillets that measure less than the minimum size if such fillets are from legal-sized fish and are not offered or intended for sale, trade, or barter.

(2) Recreational, party, and charter vessels may possess fillets less than the minimum size specified, if the fillets are taken from legal-sized fish and are not offered or intended for sale, trade or barter.

(3) Vessels fishing exclusively with pot gear may possess multispecies frames used, or to be used, as bait that measure less than the minimum fish size, if there is a receipt for purchase of those frames on board the vessel.

(c) *Adjustments.* (1) At any time when information is available, the NEFMC will review the best available mesh selectivity information to determine the appropriate minimum size for the species listed in paragraph (a) of this section, except winter flounder, according to the length at which 25 percent of the regulated species would be retained by the applicable minimum mesh size.

(2) Upon determination of the appropriate minimum sizes, the NEFMC shall propose the minimum fish sizes to be implemented following the procedures specified in §648.90.

(3) Additional adjustments or changes to the minimum fish sizes specified in paragraph (a) of this section, and exemptions as specified in paragraph (b) of this section, may be made at any time after implementation of the final rule as specified under §648.90.

[61 FR 34968, July 3, 1996, as amended at 61 FR 49277, Sept. 19, 1996; 63 FR 11595, Mar. 10, 1998; 63 FR 42592, Aug. 10, 1998]

§648.84 Gear-marking requirements and gear restrictions.

(a) Bottom-tending fixed gear, including, but not limited to gillnets and longlines, designed for, capable of, or fishing for NE multispecies must have the name of the owner or vessel, or the official number of that vessel permanently affixed to any buoys, gillnets, longlines, or other appropriate gear so that the name of the owner or vessel or