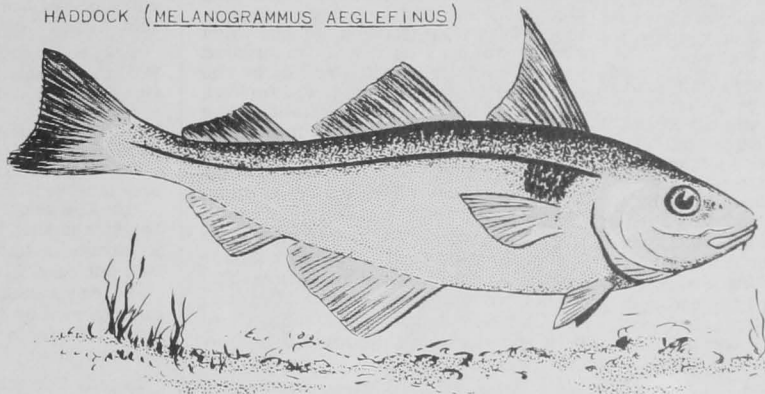


Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

REVISED HADDOCK FISHING REGULATIONS FOR NORTHWEST ATLANTIC: Revised haddock fishing regulations for United States vessels operating in the Northwest

HADDOCK (*MELANOGRAMMUS AEGLEFINUS*)



Atlantic Convention area entered into force on January 1, 1954. The revised regulations incorporate changes proposed by the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries at its Third Annual Meeting in New Haven, Conn., May 25-30, 1953.

The new regulations as published in the Federal Register of December 31, 1953, follow:

Subchapter I—Northwest Atlantic Commercial Fisheries

PART 155—HADDOCK PROVISIONS

Basis and purpose. At its Third Annual Meeting held in New Haven, Connecticut, May 25-30, 1953, the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries, a body created pursuant to Article II of the International Convention for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries signed at Washington, D. C., under date of February 9, 1949, adopted a proposal amending a proposal previously adopted by the Commission concerning the regulation of the taking of haddock in Sub-area 5 of the Convention Area. The proposal adopted at the Third Annual Meeting recommends certain changes in the definition of average mesh size in trawl nets when wet after use and authorizes the Contracting Governments to exercise discretion in determining such average mesh size.

On September 1, 1953, the proposal was accepted by the Governments of the United States and Canada, and, in accordance with the provisions of the International Convention for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries, enters into force with respect to all Contracting Governments on January 1, 1954.

In accordance with section 4 (a) of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Act of 1950 (64 Stat. 1067, 16 U. S. C., 1946 ed., Supp. V, 986) regulations proposed by the Secretary of the Interior to implement the proposal were submitted to the Advisory Committee to the United States Commissioners on the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries on November 10, 1953, at which time the proposed regulations received the approval of the Committee.

By notice of proposed rule making published in the FEDERAL REGISTER on December 2, 1953 (18 F. R. 7658), the public was invited to submit written data, views or arguments in connection with the proposed regulations to Mr. John L. Farley, Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, Washington 25, D. C., not later than 30 days from the publication of the notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER. Careful consideration has been given the views, data and arguments received, and it has been determined that the regulations appearing below should be promulgated to govern the use of trawling nets in the haddock fishery in the area described in the said regulations.

Beginning about September 1, 1953, the proposed regulations were discussed

and formulated in a series of meetings with the representatives of the fishing industry affected, and the text of the proposed regulations was included in the notice of proposed rule making published December 2, 1953. Existing regulations covering the same subject matter expire on December 31, 1953, and the new regulations must become effective January 1, 1954, in order to comply with the action on May 25-30, 1953, of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries. In these circumstances, it has been determined that it is both appropriate and necessary to waive the 30-day period between the date of publication and the effective date of the regulations.

Effective January 1, 1954, the following regulations, replacing Subchapter I—Northwest Atlantic Commercial Fisheries, Part 155—Haddock Provisions, are prescribed:

- Sec.
- 155.1 Meaning of terms.
 - 155.2 Restrictions on fishing gear.
 - 155.3 Tampering with seals prohibited.
 - 155.4 Employment of devices to reduce mesh size prohibited.
 - 155.5 Certain vessels exempted.

AUTHORITY: §§ 155.1 to 155.5 issued under sec. 7, 64 Stat. 1067; 16 U. S. C. 966.

§ 155.1 *Meaning of terms.* When used in the regulations in this part, unless the content otherwise requires, terms shall have the meanings ascribed hereinafter in this section.

(a) *Vessel.* The word "vessel" denotes every kind, type, or description of watercraft, aircraft, or other contrivance, subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, and, or capable of being used, as a means of transportation on water.

(b) *Haddock.* The word "haddock" denotes any fish of the species *Melanogrammus aeglefinus*.

(c) *Haddock fishing.* The words "haddock fishing" mean the catching, taking, or fishing for, or the attempted catching, taking, or fishing for any fish of the species *Melanogrammus aeglefinus*.

(d) *Trawl net.* The words "trawl net" mean any large bag net dragged in the sea by a vessel or vessels for the purpose of taking fish.

(e) *Cod end.* The words "cod end" mean the bag-like extension attached to the after end of the belly of the trawl net and used to retain the catch.

§ 155.2 *Restrictions on fishing gear.* (a) No person shall engage in haddock fishing in the northwest Atlantic Ocean north of 39°00' north latitude and west of 42°00' west longitude with a trawl net or nets, parts of nets or netting having a mesh size of less than four and one-half inches, as defined in this section.

(b) As used in this section, the term "mesh size of less than four and one-half inches" shall mean: (1) With respect to any part of the net except the cod end, the average size of any twenty consecutive meshes in any row located at least ten meshes from the side lacings measured when wet after use, and (2) with respect to the cod end, the average size of any row of meshes running the length of the cod end located at least ten meshes from the side lacings, measured when

wet after use, or, at the option of the user, a cod end which has been approved, in accordance with paragraph (d) of this section, by an authorized representative of the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, as having a mesh size when dry before use equivalent to not less than four and one-half inches when wet after use.

(c) All measurements of meshes when wet after use shall be made by the insertion into such meshes under pressure of not less than ten nor more than fifteen pounds of a flat, wedge-shaped gauge having a taper of two inches in nine inches and a thickness of three thirty-seconds of an inch.

(d) For the purpose of approving dry cod ends before use, as contemplated by paragraph (b) of this section, the average mesh size of such cod ends shall be determined by measuring the length of any single row of meshes running the length of the cod end, parallel to the long axis of the cod end and located at least ten meshes from the side lacings, when stretched under a tension of two hundred pounds, and dividing the length by the number of meshes in such row: *Provided*, That not more than ten percent of the meshes in such row shall be more than one-half inch smaller when measured between knot centers than the average of the row. Cod ends so measured which are constructed of the twines and are of not less than the average mesh sizes specified in the table below may be approved for haddock fishing by any duly authorized employee of the Fish and Wildlife Service by the attachment to such cod end of an appropriate seal or seals.

Twine	Average mesh size
4-ply 45-yard manilla, double strand.	5.625 inches (5 $\frac{5}{8}$ ").
4-ply 50-yard manilla, double strand.	5.625 inches (5 $\frac{5}{8}$ ").

Twine	Average mesh size
4-ply 75-yard manilla, double strand.	5.625 inches (5 $\frac{5}{8}$ ").
4-ply 80-yard manilla, double strand.	5.500 inches (5 $\frac{1}{2}$ ").
109-thread cotton	4.250 inches (4 $\frac{1}{4}$ ").
All nylon	4.250 inches (4 $\frac{1}{4}$ ").

§ 155.3 *Tampering with seals prohibited.* Removing, altering, defacing or in any other way tampering with seals affixed to cod ends in accordance with § 155.2 is prohibited.

§ 155.4 *Employment of devices to reduce mesh size prohibited.* The use from any vessel engaged in haddock fishing in the area described in § 155.2 of any device or method which will obstruct the meshes of the trawl net or which will otherwise, in effect, diminish the size of said meshes is prohibited: *Provided*, That a protective covering may be attached to the underside only of the cod end alone of the net to reduce and prevent damage thereto.

§ 155.5 *Certain vessels exempted.* Nothing contained in the regulations in this part shall apply to:

(a) Any vessel having in possession haddock in amounts less than five thousand pounds or ten percent by weight of all the fish on board such vessel, whichever is larger.

(b) Any vessel duly authorized by the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service to engage in haddock fishing for scientific purposes.

(c) Any vessel documented as a common carrier by the Government of the United States and engaged exclusively in the carriage of freight and passengers.

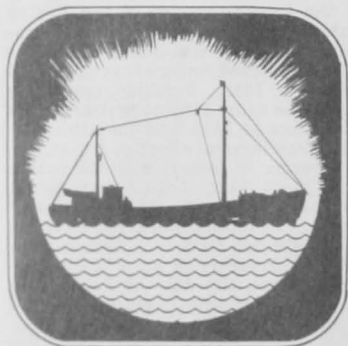
Dated: December 24, 1953.

RALPH A. TUDOR,
Acting Secretary of the Interior.

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CERTIFICATION OF COD ENDS UNDER NORTHWEST ATLANTIC HADDOCK FISHING REGULATIONS:

Under the haddock regulations issued by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (see pp. 59-60) in accordance with the provisions of the International Convention for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries, Service officials are authorized to approve cod ends for use in haddock fishing in the area covered by the regulations. Members of the Branch of Commercial Fisheries who have been authorized to certify cod ends having a mesh of the size specified in the regulations are as follows:



Rockland, Maine	- Churchill T. Smith
Boothbay Harbor, Maine	- David A. McKown
Portland, Maine	- George R. Nichols
Boston and Gloucester, Mass.	- Charles H. Lyles, Homer Haberland, & R. H. Marchant
New Bedford, Mass.	- George W. Snow
Provincetown, Mass.	- Francis Riley

* * * * *

SUOMELA SWORN IN AS ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: Arnie J. Suomela of Portland, Oregon, was sworn in as Assistant Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service on January 11, 1954. Secretary of the Interior McKay had announced Suomela's appointment to the position on November 27, 1953.



LEFT TO RIGHT: CHIEF CLERK FLOYD E. DOTSON, SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR DOUGLAS MCKAY, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE ARNIE J. SUOMELA.

Since 1945 the new Federal official has been Oregon State Director of Fisheries. He is considered one of the Nation's authorities on the salmon fishery, and has done extensive research in Alaska and the Pacific Northwest on this subject.



Interstate Commerce Commission

UNFETTERED TRIP LEASE OF "EXEMPT" TRUCKS PERMITTED: "Exempt" trucks are excluded from ICC rules which require truck leases to be for a period of not less than 30 days, according to a recent order by the Interstate Commerce Commission amending a previous order issued in connection with its Docket MC 43. This action means that truckers carrying exempt commodities (including fresh and frozen fishery products) can continue to lease their equipment to regulated carriers for return movements, thus avoiding empty mileage. This is an important ruling for the fishery industries since they utilize "exempt" trucks for shipping fishery products.

Vehicles may be leased to another carrier following an exempt movement. There may be one return movement in any direction or in one of a series of loaded movements in the general direction of the point from which the exempt movement originated or from the carrier's home base. The only requirement is that the leasing carrier receive

a statement from the owner of the leased vehicle authorizing the driver to lease the equipment and a statement from the driver as to the origin, destination, and time of beginning and ending of last exempt movement.

The provisions of the current outstanding order which regulate the compensation and duration of leases for all other motor vehicles subject to the Commission's jurisdiction have been postponed by the Commission until March 1, 1955. This was done in conjunction with an order reopening the proceeding for reconsideration of the 30-day and compensation requirements.



Eighty-Third Congress (Second Session)

JANUARY 1954

The Second Session of the Eighty-Third Congress commenced on January 6, 1954. Listed below are public bills and resolutions introduced and referred to committees or passed by the Eighty-Third Congress (Second Session) and signed by the President that directly or indirectly affect the fisheries and allied industries. Public bills and resolutions are shown in this section only when introduced and, if passed, when signed by the President; but also shown are the more pertinent reports, hearings, or chamber actions on some of the bills shown in this section from month to month.

DISTRIBUTION OF FISHERY PRODUCTS: S. 2802 (Saltonstall, Kennedy, and 27 other senators), a bill to further encourage the distribution of fishery products, and for other purposes. Introduced in the Senate on January 22 and referred to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries. The bill provides that:

The Secretary of Agriculture shall transfer to the Secretary of the Interior each fiscal year, beginning with July 1, 1954, from moneys made available to carry out the provisions of section 32 of such Act of August 24, 1935, an amount equal to 30 percent of the gross receipts from duties collected under the customs laws on fishery products (including fish, shellfish, mollusks, and crustacea), which shall be maintained in a separate fund and used by the Secretary of the Interior (1) to pro-

mote the free flow of domestically produced fishery products in commerce by conducting a fishery educational service and fishery technological, biological and related research programs, the moneys so transferred to be also available for the purchase or other acquisition, construction, equipment, operation, and maintenance of vessels or other facilities necessary for conducting research as provided for in this section, and (2) to develop and increase markets for fishery products of domestic origin.

In introducing S. 2802, Senator Saltonstall described it as "a bill designed to revitalize the Nation's domestic fishing industry." Senator Saltonstall for himself and Senator Kennedy presented a summary of the bill which was printed in the January 22 Congressional Record, as follows:

SCOPE AND PURPOSE OF THE SALTONSTALL-KENNEDY FISHERIES BILL

The fishing industry throughout the United States is in an increasingly difficult position. Decreased catches, depletion of fishing grounds, and a lack of improved techniques have all harmed this basic American industry. Rising imports have subjected it to particularly severe pressure.

In 1952, the domestic fishing industry caught 4.3 billion pounds of fish and shellfish worth more than \$325 million. Directly and indirectly, the industry employed 550,000 people. As a means of overcoming its difficulties, the basic recommendation of all recent studies, including those authorized by the Congress, is an increase in research and development activities. The fishing industry, however, is one composed of individuals and small companies lacking the resources necessary to carry on these activities on a long-term basis. These recent studies have accordingly made the further recommendation that needed research and development projects be carried on by the Fish and Wildlife Service of the Department of the Interior. For this purpose, additional funds will be needed.

Because the difficulties of the industry so largely stem from competition by imports, the most appropriate source of additional funds for this purpose is the revenue derived from those same imports. Under existing law, however, the only portion of import revenues not turned over to the general Treasury goes to the Department of Agricul-

ture. The law making these funds available to the Department of Agriculture is section 32 of the act of August 24, 1935, by which there is appropriated and made available to the Secretary of Agriculture for each fiscal year an amount equal to 30 percent of the gross receipts from duties collected under the customs laws during the preceding calendar year. The Secretary is directed to use these funds to subsidize the export of agricultural commodities, to make support purchases of such commodities, and to make production payments to farmers. His only authority to use any part of these funds for the benefit of the domestic fishing industry derives from the act of August 11, 1939.

The 1939 act authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to use not more than \$1,500,000 per year of section 32 funds to purchase and divert surplus fishery products for distribution through relief channels. It also permits him to transfer to the Secretary of the Interior \$75,000 to conduct a fishery educational service and \$100,000 to develop and increase markets for fishery products of domestic origin. In practice, the authority to purchase surplus fishery products has never been used, although in recent years the funds for a fishery educational service and for market development have been regularly transferred.

Since enactment of the act of 1939, however, gross receipts from duties on fishery products have increased enormously. In 1940 the total amount was \$4,772,428; by 1952 it had increased to \$11,982,000, an increase

of more than 250 percent. During this same period the value of fishery imports increased from \$40 million to over \$200 million. The domestic industry, in the meantime, by voyaging farther and farther afield at greater and greater expense for every pound of fish caught, has barely managed to hold the share of the market it had at the beginning of the period.

It is thus evident that during a period when the domestic fishing industry has been increasingly in need of assistance in meeting competition from abroad, it has been making increasingly large indirect contributions for purposes unrelated to this need. The proposed bill is aimed at correcting this plainly unfair situation.

To accomplish this the bill would require the Secretary of Agriculture to transfer to the Secretary of the Interior every year from the funds made available under the act of August 24, 1935, that portion derived from the duties on fishery products. The Secretary of Agriculture would still retain power to make support purchases of surplus fishery products under section 1 of the 1939 act should it ever be deemed desirable to exercise this authority. The Secretary of the Interior would have power under section 2 (d) to retransfer funds made available under the proposed bill to the Department of Agriculture for this purpose.

The remaining funds (ordinarily the entire amount) would be used by the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a fishery educational service and fishery research programs and to

develop and increase markets for fishery products of domestic origin. In carrying out these programs the Secretary of the Interior would cooperate with other agencies of the Federal, State, and local governments and with interested private organizations and individuals.

Such functions are, of course, appropriately within the jurisdiction of the Federal Government and are seriously required at the present time. To finance them out of section 32 funds would benefit the fishing industry without any sacrifice to agricultural research. The funds available to the Department of Agriculture under section 32 during recent fiscal years have been in the following total amounts:

1950-----	\$125,600,000
1951-----	111,000,000
1952-----	159,000,000
1953-----	181,000,000
1954-----	172,000,000
1955 (estimated)-----	180,000,000

The Agricultural Act of 1949 provides for an accumulation of section 32 funds by the Department of Agriculture up to a total of \$300 million. Any excess over this amount must be turned back by the Department of Agriculture to the Department of the Treasury. In fiscal 1954, \$27 million has been turned back—a sum, in other words 7 or 8

times the total which would be made available to the Department of the Interior under the proposed bill to meet the research and development needs of the fishing industry.

In the field of biological and oceanographic research, the most urgent need is to explore the reasons for fluctuations in the supply of fish. Reports from the Great Lakes, Alaska, and the Pacific States, and from all along the Atlantic coast from the Grand Banks to Mexico, confirm the importance of stability of supplies in establishing new markets for fishery products. Hope for overcoming this problem lies in research on ocean currents, changes in water temperature, abundance of fish food, and other shifting conditions. With present knowledge it is impossible to distinguish fluctuations in abundance from fluctuations in accessibility and to advise fishermen accordingly.

In the technological field, development could be undertaken of chemical tests for freshness of chilled and frozen fish and shellfish so as to provide means for control of quality. Study could be initiated of methods of freezing shrimp at sea in the Gulf of Mexico area to prevent spoilage. Methods might also be found of handling, freezing, and packaging Southern oysters to broaden the market beyond the now purely local distribution of the fresh product.

To develop and increase markets for fishery products, much more data than is now being collected would be helpful in determining the proper utilization of our salt-water and fresh-water fishery resources. Receipts and wholesale prices could be collected in eight large consuming cities (Philadelphia, Baltimore, Cleveland, Detroit, St. Louis, St. Paul, Los Angeles, and Pittsburgh) not now covered by the Market News Service. Surveys could usefully be made, too, of the distribution of fishery products in New York and Chicago in order to determine the changes in marketing since the advent of frozen packaged fish and shellfish products.

Among the educational projects beneficial to the industry which a lack of funds precludes at this time is the development of new uses for the underdeveloped and less popular species, both fresh-water and salt-water, so as to provide year-round employment and stabilize market prices for the fishermen, processors, marketers, and consumers of domestically produced fishery products.

Many other examples could be cited of projects beneficial to the fishing industry which the funds provided for in the enclosed bill may eventually make possible. Those mentioned, however, should serve to make clear that the need is great, and adoption of the means of meeting it provided for in the proposed bill would be a long step forward.

H. R. 7441 (Knox), a bill to further encourage the distribution of fishery products, and for other purposes (similar to S. 2802) was introduced in the House on January 21 and referred to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

HAWAII AND ALASKA STATEHOOD: Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs on January 19 in executive session voted to approve S. 49, to provide statehood for Hawaii.

The committee also voted to add a new title II to this bill, which would include the Anderson version of H. R. 2982, providing statehood for Alaska. The chairman announced, however, that the new title II has been submitted to the Subcommittee on Territories and Insular Affairs for perfecting changes, a draft of which will be reported back to the full committee within the next few days in order that the bill may be reported to the Senate.

On January 27 the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs in executive session ordered favorably reported with

amendments S. 49, providing statehood for Hawaii (S. Rept. 886). Prior to approval of this bill, the committee, by a vote of 8 to 7, adopted a motion to reconsider the vote by which title II, providing statehood for Alaska, was attached to S. 49.

Following these actions, the committee unanimously agreed that the Alaska bill (S. 50) will be voted on by the committee not later than February 4, and that a meeting be held not later than February 3 for the purpose of marking up this bill.

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL: On January 14 Representative Bailey introduced two bills on water pollution control--H. R. 7168, a bill to extend the duration of the Water Pollution Control Act, to authorize additional amounts for construction loans thereunder and for other purposes; to the Committee on Public Works; and H. R. 7170, a bill to encourage the prevention of stream pollution by providing an amortization deduction for facilities built to treat industrial wastes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

NEW BRITISH FILLET SKINNING MACHINE

A fillet skinning machine has been patented in the United Kingdom in which the fish fillet is drawn past a knife. The knife is first moved to cut perpendicularly through the meat close to the skin and is then inclined to cut between the skin and the meat. The end of the fillet is cut between a small and large roller, the skin of the fillet being towards the larger roller, and the knife being maintained at a constant distance from the larger roller. The fillet is drawn between the rollers. The method is said to be applicable to skinning of flat fish, such as plaice, before filleting.

--Food Manufacture, June 1953.

