



DATE October 11, 2013
TO Interested Parties
FROM Steve Peterson and Glenn Mitchell
RE Soliciting Information and Comment for Economic Analysis Related to Defining Excessive Shares in the Northeast Multispecies Fishery

Compass Lexecon has been asked to provide independent advice to the New England Fishery Management Council to help the Council evaluate potential excessive share limits in the Northeast multispecies fishery. The study is being led by economists Dr. Glenn Mitchell and Dr. Steven Peterson of Compass Lexecon.

We are seeking input from representatives of all of the stakeholders in the fishery and would greatly appreciate your input into our study. To that end, we invite you to participate in a confidential online survey with a small number of questions about the New England groundfish fishery. You can access the survey at: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/KLRWJV9>. Also, you can send your comments to us directly, by email, mail or phone, and we will keep all replies confidential to the extent allowed by law please complete the attached consent form with your response.

For those of you that are involved in the management of a specific sector, and other interested stakeholders, we also ask that you take a bit more time and complete the set of questions in the attached document. These questions are related to your experience with the trading of Annual Catch Entitlement (ACE), and also address other aspects of the fishery that are relevant to the appropriateness of excessive share limits. Feel free to insert your answers directly into the attached document or feel free to contact us and we would be happy to set up a phone call with you and any other members of your sector who would like to participate. Again, we will keep all responses confidential to the extent allowed by law please complete the attached consent form with your response.

Finally, we invite any interested parties to participate in a public webinarhosted by the NEFMC, during which we will ask for additional input on these questions and any other comments. The webinar will occur **Wednesday October 30, 1:00-3:00 PM EST**, accessible by the link: <https://www3.gotomeeting.com/join/755892382>.

Best regards,

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