



Rhode Island
Department of Environmental Management

DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

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TO: Director's Office, RIMFC, Enforcement, Seafood Dealers, and Fishermen
FROM: RI Division of Fish and Wildlife
DATE: March 19, 2014
SUBJECT: Regulation Filing

A technical revision to Part VII of the RI Marine Fisheries regulations was filed today, March 19, 2014.

This change was filed to eliminate any confusion with regard to the regulation allowing for the recreational filleting of Cod, which expired on June 30, 2012. Please note that this matter will be discussed at the next RIMFC Groundfish/Federally Managed Species Advisory Panel Meeting planned for later this month (date tbd - a meeting notice will be sent out via listserv when the date has been set).

The annotated change is as follows:

Part VII - Minimum Sizes of Fish/Shellfish:

7.22.2 – Cod - Recreational Harvest

7.22.2-1 Minimum Size -- No person fishing recreationally shall land or possess any cod measuring less than twenty-two inches (22") total length, ~~or any cod fillet measuring less than fourteen inches (14") in total length in accordance with 7.22.2-1(a)~~, whether caught within the jurisdiction of this State or otherwise.

~~(a) Filleting of Cod – The fillets or cleaned cod (head and tail removed) shall measure at least fourteen inches (14") in length, and each fillet shall have at least two (2) square inches (5.1 square centimeters) of skin left intact to assist in species identification. This section shall remain in effect through June 30, 2012.~~

For a Summary of Changes to the RI Marine Fisheries Regulations, **when posted**, click here:
<http://www.dem.ri.gov/pubs/regs/regs/fishwild/fishamnd.htm>

The regulations can be viewed in their entirety **when posted** at the DEM/DFW Marine Fisheries web site.
<http://www.dem.ri.gov/pubs/regs/regs/fishwild/rimftoc.htm>