

**PART 229—AUTHORIZATION FOR
COMMERCIAL FISHERIES UNDER THE
MARINE MAMMAL PROTECTION ACT
OF 1972**

1. The authority citation for part 229 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*

2. In § 229.32, paragraph (g)(3)(iii)(B) is revised and paragraph (g)(4)(i)(B)(2)(ii) is added to read as follows:

**§ 229.32 Atlantic large whale take
reduction plan regulations.**

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(g) * * *

(3) * * *

(iii) * * *

(B) Allow fishing within a DAM zone with anchored gillnet and lobster trap gear, provided such gear satisfies the requirements specified in paragraphs (g)(4)(i)(B)(1) and (g)(4)(i)(B)(2). These requirements are in addition to requirements found in § 229.32 (b) through (d) but supercede them when the requirements in paragraphs

(g)(4)(i)(B)(1) and (g)(4)(i)(B)(2) are more restrictive than those in § 229.32 (b) through (d). Requirements for anchored gillnet gear in Other Northeast Gillnet Waters are as specified in paragraph (g)(4)(i)(B)(1) and requirements for lobster trap gear in Offshore Lobster Waters, Northern Nearshore Lobster Waters and Northern Inshore State Lobster Waters are as specified in paragraph (g)(4)(i)(B)(2). Requirements for anchored gillnet gear in Cape Cod Bay Restricted Area (May 16 through December 31), Stellwagen Bank/Jeffreys Ledge Restricted Area, Great South Channel Restricted Gillnet Area (July 1 through March 31), Great South Channel Sliver Restricted Area (July 1 through March 31), and Mid-Atlantic Coastal Waters are the same as requirements for Other Northeast Gillnet Waters. Requirements for lobster trap gear in Southern Nearshore Lobster Waters, Cape Cod Bay Restricted Area (May 16 through December 31) and Stellwagen Bank/Jeffreys Ledge Restricted Area are the same as requirements for Northern

Nearshore Lobster Waters and Northern Inshore State Lobster Waters. Requirements for lobster trap gear in the Great South Channel Restricted Lobster Area (July 1 through March 31) are the same as requirements for Offshore Lobster Waters.

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(4) * * *

(i) * * *

(B) * * *

(2) * * *

(ii) Northern Inshore State Lobster Waters and Northern Nearshore Lobster Waters areas buoy weak links- All buoy lines must be attached to the buoy with a weak link having a maximum breaking strength of up to 600 lb (272.4 kg). Weak links may include swivels, plastic weak links, rope of appropriate diameter, hog rings, rope stapled to a buoy stick, or other materials or devices approved in writing by the Assistant Administrator.

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