

Northeast Region Federal Fisheries Initial Permit Application



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
 NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
 NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
 PERMIT OFFICE
 55 Great Republic Drive
 GLOUCESTER, MA 01930-2276
 Tel: (978) 281-9370



Section 1 - Vessel/Owner Information

Is this application for a vessel permit transfer? Yes No

If **Yes**, complete the vessel replacement portion of the Vessel Replacement, Upgrade, and Confirmation of Permit History Application.

Enter information in the spaces provided. All items must be completed.

Vessel Name: _____

Owner Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Owner Telephone: _____

CG Documentation or State Registration Number: _____

Home Port: _____

Principal Port: _____

Previously permitted Vessel Permit # _____ (if applicable)

Section 2 - Vessel Information

Enter information in the spaces provided. All applicable items must be completed.

Vessel Length: _____
 Overall length in feet.

Dredge Size: _____
 Dredge size in feet.

Crew Size: _____
 Average number or crew, including the captain.

Number of Dredges: _____
 Total number of dredges aboard the vessel.

Gross Tonnage: _____
 As recorded on US Coast Guard Documentation.

Pump Horsepower: _____
 This item applies to surf clam/ocean quahog vessels only.

Year Built: _____
 The year the vessel was built.

Construction: Please check _____ the number that applies to your vessel.

1=Wood 2=Fiberglass 3=Steel 4=Other

Main Engine HP: _____
 The vessel engine horsepower.

Propulsion: Please check _____ the number that applies to your vessel.

1=Gasoline 2=Diesel 3=Other

Fish Hold Capacity: _____
 Measured to the nearest 100 pounds.

Number of Charter/Party Passengers: _____
 Number of passengers the vessel is licensed to carry.
 (See Section 4D of instructions for additional documents required)

Signature required on back of form

OMB Control No. 0648-0202; Expiration Date: 04/30/2013

Section 3 – Fishery Information

Gear Codes	120 – Purse Seine	210 – Beach Seine	220 – Boat Seines	310 – Bottom Trawl	320 – Midwater Trawl
330–Other Trawl	410 – Dredge	700 – Gill/Entangling Nets	800 – Pots & Traps	911 – Hand Lines	912 – Rod & Reel
913 – Tub Trawl	1010 – Harpoons	920 – Longlines / Setlines	1400 – Diving Gear	1200 – Other Gears	

Circle the number or letter of the fishery category for which you are applying. Clearly print the associated gear code(s) from the list above. Refer to the instructions for allowable gear code(s) per category.

If you select a fishery category and gear code combination(s) for which your vessel is not eligible, the processing of your permit may be delayed. See instructions for further details or call Northeast Permit Operations at (978) 281-9370.

Fisheries	Open Access Categories	Limited Access Categories Qualified Vessels Only	Gear Code(s)
Atlantic Sea Scallop		2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	
Atlantic Sea Scallop – General		A B C	
Northeast Multispecies	HB I* J K	A C D E F HA	
Monkfish	E	A B C D F G H	
Surf Clam/Ocean Quahog	1 6		410 – Dredge only
Maine Mahogany Quahog		7	410 – Dredge only
Summer Flounder	2* 1		
Scup 2	* 1		
Black Sea Bass	2* 1		
Squid, Mackerel, Butterfish	2* 3 4	1 5	
Spiny Dogfish	1		
Smoothhound	1		
Atlantic Bluefish	1 2*		
Atlantic Herring	D	A B C	
Tilefish	1 2*		
Atlantic Deep-Sea Red Crab	A	B C	
Skate 1			
American Lobster – Non Trap		1 2*	
American Lobster - Trap		A1 A2 A3 A4 A5 A6 AOC	800 – Pots and Traps only

*** Charter/Party permit categories**

Section 5 – Application Checklist & Signature

➔ **Please include the applicable forms below with your signed and dated application**

- _____ **All vessels:** copy of current (not expired) **US Coast Guard (CG) Documentation** or **State Registration**.
- _____ **Corporations, LLCs, Partnerships:** signed and dated list of current owners/officers/partners and their addresses.
- _____ **Limited access Sea Scallop permit holders:** Sea Scallop Vessel Ownership Form with each vessel application.
- _____ **Charter/Party requests:** CG Documentation must state “coastwise” or include a copy of a valid Captain’s license.

I, the undersigned, am the owner or legally authorized agent of the owner of the vessel named in Section 1. I affirm, subject to the penalties provided in 18 USC 1001, that all information provided obtaining this permit is true and correct.

Print Name: _____ **Signature:** _____ **Date:** _____

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 45 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining data needed, and completing and reviewing the information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or suggestions for reducing this burden to: NOAA Fisheries, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930. The Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) requires that potential respondents for permits be notified of certain information regarding their rights and the burden associated with applying for Federal fisheries permits. The purpose and use of these permits are to (1) register industry participants and fishing vessels, (2) list the characteristics of fishing vessels, (3) exercise influence over compliance, (4) provide a mailing list for the dissemination of important information, and (5) register participants to be considered to limited entry. Federal regulations require the determination of this information. Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the PRA, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. OMB Control No. 0648-0202; Expiration Date: 04/30/2013



**National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Regional Office/Fisheries Statistics Office**



Initial Vessel Application

Instructions for Northeast Federal Fishing Vessel Permits

Enclosed are the instructions for completing the Initial Fishing Vessel Application for Federal Northeast Region (NER) fishing permits. This package contains definitions for each field on the application, the additional documents required for a complete application, and a brief definition of the fishery permits. These instructions do not contain all the regulatory provisions that pertain to each fishery, and are not a substitute for the regulations. A copy of the regulations can be obtained through NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service NERO web site: <http://www.nero.noaa.gov>. If you have further questions, please contact the Sustainable Fisheries Division at (978) 281-9315.

Please read and follow the application instructions carefully. Failure to provide all required information and additional documentation will result in the application being returned to you for completion. You cannot fish without a current and valid permit.

Walk-in application processing service is not available. There is a 30-day processing period for all application packages. This 30-day processing period begins when a **correct and complete** application package is received in the Northeast Region Permit Office. Questions? Please refer to the NMFS Northeast Region Web Page at <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/permits/> for applications, instructions, fisheries regulations, and other important information, or call 978-281-9370 or e-mail Permits.ne@noaa.gov.

Mail the completed application package to:

National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Permit Office
55 Great Republic Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930-2276

Section 1 - Vessel and Owner Information (all items must be filled in)

Vessel Name

Current name of vessel, or enter "unnamed" if not applicable.

Owner Name

Include the owner name (business name or person name) **exactly** as it appears on the United States Coast Guard Documentation, State Registration, or Title of Vessel Ownership. If your vessel's state registration does not list all owners of the vessel, also provide a copy of the vessel's title, or other documentation from the appropriate state agency that identifies all vessel owners. If the vessel is owned by a company, LLC, or partnership, you must provide the full name and mailing address of all officers and shareholders in the business (see page 3 for further details).

Address and Telephone Number

Provide primary address and include 4-digit addition to zip code (if known). Also provide area code and phone number (additional phone numbers may be provided).

U.S. Coast Guard Documentation or State Registration Number

Provide United States Coast Guard Documentation Number or State Registration for your vessel. A copy of the USCG Documentation or State Registration is also required, see page 3 for further details.

Home Port

City and State where vessel is moored

Principal Port

City and State where the majority of your landings occur

Section 2 - Additional Vessel Information

(Except where noted, all items on must be completed)

Vessel length:	Overall length in feet
Crew Size:	Average number of crew, including the captain
Gross Tonnage:	As recorded on US Coast Guard Documentation or estimated gross tonnage for state registered vessels
Year Built:	Year vessel was built
Main Engine HP:	Vessel engine horsepower
Fish Hold Capacity:	Measured to the nearest 100 pounds
Dredge Size:	Dredge size in feet (not required if vessel does not use dredge gear)
Number of Dredges:	Total number of dredges aboard the vessel (not required if vessel does not use dredge gear)
Pump Horsepower:	This item applies to surf clam/ocean quahog vessels only
Construction:	1=Wood, 2=Fiberglass, 3=Steel, 4=Other (Circle applicable number)
Propulsion:	1=Gasoline, 2=Diesel, 3=Other (Circle applicable number)
Charter Passengers:	Number of charter/party/headboat passengers the vessel is licensed to carry (see page 3 for additional documents required)

Section 3 - Fishery Information

Except as noted for limited access fisheries, circle a fishery category and enter the applicable gear codes in the spaces provided. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations for further restrictions – <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/ro/doc/the648.htm>

Category

For each fishery you want to apply for, select the category that best describes your fishing operations, and circle the category numbers or letters in the column marked "Category". A description of Northeast fisheries permits and categories is contained in this document on pages 4 – 10.

Gear Code

For each fishery permit and category you select, you must write in the applicable gear codes from the Gear Code table on the application. Write the gear code numbers in the column marked "Gear Code". For certain permit categories, you are restricted on the gear type you can use. For this information, see the description of each fishery below. Where applicable, you may select more than one gear code for a category. **If you do not write in any gear codes, the application cannot be processed and will be returned to you.**

Section 4 – Signature of Owner or Authorized Agent

Sign and date the form. Unsigned, or otherwise incomplete applications, will be returned. Your signature is an affirmation that, under penalty of perjury, all the information provided in order to obtain this permit is true and correct. Submitting false information in connection with an application could subject you to criminal/civil penalties or permit sanctions [18 U.S.C. 1001].

Additional Documents Required

USCG Documentation/State Registration

With each application, submit a copy of your current (not expired) United States Coast Guard (USCG) Certificate of Documentation. If the vessel is not documented, send a copy of a valid (not expired) state vessel registration for the vessel. Do not send your original. We cannot accept a bill of sale or an application for renewal of the USCG Documentation. If your vessel's state registration does not list all owners of the vessel, also provide a copy of the vessel's title, or other documentation from the appropriate state agency that identifies all vessel owners. A permit application will not be accepted if the vessel registration or documentation has expired before we receive it.

Business/Corporate Information

If the vessel is owned by a business, corporation, LLC, or a partnership, the following information must be submitted with the application form:

- A copy of the Certificate of Incorporation/Organization with the initial application.
- Partnerships must submit a copy of the partnership agreement each year which includes the full name and current mailing address of each partner.

Officer/Owner/Shareholder Information

The full name and mailing address of all officers and shareholders in the corporation/LLC regardless of their percentage ownership in the company/vessel. Examples of acceptable documentation include minutes from the Corporation Annual Meeting listing the names and mailing addresses of the officers and shareholders, or a signed and dated letter from a Corporate Officer listing the names and addresses of current officers and shareholders.

Scallop Vessels Owned (Categories 2 - 9 and Individual Fishing Quota - IFQ)

All applicants for scallop permits must attach a completed NMFS scallop ownership form listing and identifying all owners and shareholders. Applicants must provide the full name of each owner and shareholder regardless of their percentage ownership in the vessel.

Charter/Party/Headboat Vessels

If you are applying for a charter/party/headboat permit, submit a valid copy (not expired) of at least one of the following:

- State license showing the vessel is authorized to carry charter/party passengers.
- US Coast Guard Documentation showing vessel is documented for "Coastwise" trade.
- US Coast Guard license to operate or navigate passenger-carrying vessels.

Gillnet Vessels applying for Limited Access NE Multispecies and Monkfish

If applying for a NE multispecies category A, E, or F permit with the intention of fishing with gillnet gear, you must complete sections 1 and 3 of the NMFS Gillnet Form. If you wish to order gillnet tags for either the NE multispecies or monkfish gillnet fishery, you must also submit a completed NMFS Gillnet Form.

Description Northeast Fisheries Permits

Description of Northeast Fisheries Permits – Categories Are Shaded

❖ Atlantic Sea Scallop

Limited Access Permit Categories: These permits may only be issued to vessels that have previously held them or to approved replacements of such vessels. All permits issued will be valid for the entire fishing year. A vessel owner has 45 days from the first effective date of the permit within a permit year to make a change to the limited access Sea Scallop permit category (restrictions apply). If you are applying for a limited access scallop permit, you must attach a completed NMFS scallop ownership form (see section 5B for details). Further restrictions may apply, refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.

2*	Full-Time: This category includes all gear types except bottom trawl.
3*	Part-Time: This category includes all gear types except bottom trawl.
4	Occasional: This category includes all gear types except bottom trawl.
5*	Full-Time Small Dredge: Category 3 (Part-Time) vessel may elect this category for the entire year if the vessel uses one dredge no larger than 10.5 ft. and with no more than five people on board. This category is limited to dredge (gear code 410) gear only.
6*	Part-Time Small Dredge: Category 4 (Occasional) vessel may elect this category for the entire year if the vessel uses 1 dredge no larger than 10.5 ft. and with no more than five people on board. This category is limited to dredge (gear code 410) gear only.
7*	Full-Time: Authorized to use trawl nets: This category is limited to bottom trawl nets (gear code 310) only.
8*	Part-Time: Authorized to use trawl nets: This category is limited to bottom trawl nets (gear code 310) only.
9	Occasional: Authorized to use trawl nets: This category is limited to bottom trawl nets (gear code 310) only.

* A VMS is required to be installed and in continuous operation onboard the vessel.

Limited Access General Category (LAGC) Scallop permit categories: These permits may only be issued to qualified vessels or to approved replacements of such vessels. Further restrictions may apply, refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations. Owners of vessels issued an NGOM or Incidental scallop permit shall have one opportunity each fishing year to request a change in its permit category by submitting an application within 45 days of the effective date of the vessel's permit. After that date, the vessel must remain in that permit category for the duration of the fishing year. If you are applying for an IFQ scallop permit, you must attach a completed NMFS scallop ownership form (See section 5B for details).

A**	LAGC – Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ permit)
B**	LAGC – Northern Gulf of Maine (NGOM permit)
C**	LAGC – Incidental Catch (Incidental permit)

** A VMS is required to be installed, activated, and a) transmitting a positional signal, or b) declared into a scallop power down activity code, or c) issued a VMS 'Letter of Exemption' from NMFS to power down the vessel's VMS unit.

VMS purchase information:

Boatracs	Skymate	Thrane & Thrane
Telephone: 858-458-8100	Telephone: 866-759-6283	Telephone: 757-463-9557
Fax: 858-458-8116	Fax: 703-814-8585	Fax: 757-463-9581

- See page 11 for a list of Northeast Fisheries gear types and their codes

❖ Northeast Multispecies

“Regulated” species (NE multispecies requiring regulated mesh): Cod, haddock, yellowtail flounder, pollock, redfish (ocean perch), winter flounder (blackback), American plaice (dab), witch flounder (grey sole), windowpane flounder (sand dab), white hake, and ocean pout.

Other NE multispecies:

Silver hake (whiting), red hake (ling), offshore hake, Atlantic halibut, and wolf fish.

Limited Access Permit Categories: These permits may only be issued to vessels that have previously held them or to approved replacements of such vessels. All permits issued will be valid for the entire fishing year. A vessel owner has 45 days from the first effective date of his/her permit within a permit year to make a change to the NE multispecies permit category. Further restrictions may apply to specific categories. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.

A*	Day-at-Sea (DAS): This category includes all gear types except dredge gear.
C	Small Vessel Exemption (less than or equal to 30 feet): This category includes all gear types except dredge gear.
D*	Hook Gear: (Vessels in this category may not change category) This category is limited to handlines (gear code 911), rod and reel (gear code 912), tub trawl (gear code 913) and longlines (gear code 920) gear only.
E*	Combination Vessels: (Vessels in this category may not change category) This category includes all gear types except a dredge.
F*	Large Mesh Individual DAS: Category A (Individual DAS) or E (Combination) vessels may elect this category for the entire year provided the vessels meet the following requirements. Category A DAS for vessels fishing under this permit category will be increased by 36%. These vessels must fish with either gillnets or trawl nets having a minimum of 8.5-inch square or diamond mesh when fishing in the Gulf of Maine, Georges Bank, or Southern New England Regulated Mesh Areas, and 7.5-inch diamond or 8.0-inch square mesh when fishing in the Mid-Atlantic Regulated Mesh Area. This category is limited to gear types/codes 120, 210, 220, 310, 320, 330 and 700 only.
HA	Handgear A: (Vessels in this category may not change category) The vessel may possess and land up to 300 lb cod, one Atlantic halibut, and daily possession limit restrictions allowed for the remaining regulated species. This category is limited to rod and reel (gear code 912), handline (gear code 911) or tub trawl (gear code 913) gear only.

* An operational VMS is required to be on board the vessel to fish for groundfish under a NE multispecies DAS.

Open Access Permit Categories: Further restrictions may apply to specific categories. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.

HB	Handgear B: The vessel may possess and land up to 75 lb cod, one Atlantic halibut, and daily possession limit restrictions allowed for the remaining regulated species. This category includes rod and reel (gear code 912), handline (gear code 911) or tub trawl (gear code 913) gear only.
I	Charter/Party: The vessel may possess and land multispecies in the EEZ when carrying passengers for hire (See Section 5D for additional information). This category is limited to rod and reel (gear code 912) and handline (gear code 911) gear only.
J	Scallop Multispecies Possession Limit: The vessel may possess and land up to 300 lb of regulated species while fishing under a scallop DAS. Vessel must have a Limited Access Scallop Permit (Categories 2 – 9) to qualify for this category. This category includes all gear types.
K	Open Access Multispecies: The vessel may fish for silver hake (whiting), red hake (ling), offshore hake, ocean pout, or Atlantic halibut when participating in an exempted fishing program. This category includes all gear types.

- See page 11 for a list of NE Fisheries gear types and their codes.

❖ Monkfish

Limited Access Permit Categories: These permits may only be issued to vessels that have previously held them or to approved replacements of such vessels. Further restrictions may apply to specific categories. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.

A	Vessels may elect this category that were issued permits in this category in the previous fishing year and that do not possess a limited access multispecies (with the exception of a Handgear A) permit or a limited access scallop permit. This category includes all gear types except dredge gear.
B	Vessels may elect this category that were issued permits in this category in the previous fishing year and that do not possess a limited access multispecies (with the exception of a Handgear A) permit or a limited access scallop permit, and that are less than 51 Gross Registered Tons (GRT) and do not qualify for a Category A permit. This category includes all gear types except dredge gear.
C	Vessels may elect this category that were issued permits in this category in the previous fishing year and also possess a limited access multispecies permit or a limited access scallop permit. This category includes all gear types except dredge gear.
D	Vessels may elect this category that were issued permits in this category in the previous fishing year and that also possess a limited access multispecies permit or a limited access scallop permit, and are less than 51 Gross Registered Tons (GRT) and do not qualify for a Category C permit. This category includes all gear types except dredge gear.
F*	Offshore Fishery Program: Vessels may elect this category if they were issued permits in monkfish limited access permit categories A, B, C, or D in the previous fishing year. Vessels electing this category must have an operational Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) installed on the vessel, and are restricted to fishing under a monkfish DAS during the specified season of October 1 – April 30 each year and within the Offshore Fishery Program Area. This category includes all gear types except dredge gear.

* **Operational VMS required**

Limited Access Permit Categories for Vessels Fishing South of 38°20' N. Lat. – Vessels issued a limited access Category G or H permit are restricted to fishing under a monkfish DAS in the area south of 38°20' N. lat.

G	Vessels may elect this category if they were issued permits in this category in the previous fishing year. This category includes all gear types except dredge gear.
H	Vessels may elect this category if they were issued permits in this category in the previous fishing year and that did not qualify for a category G permit. This category includes all gear types.

Open Access Permit Categories: This permit may be issued to any vessel not issued a monkfish limited access permit—to fish for, possess, or land monkfish. Further restrictions may apply to this category. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.

E	Incidental Catch: Allows a vessel to possess and land a limited amount of monkfish, depending on fishing year, area fished, and gear fished. For specific limit amounts, contact the Sustainable Fisheries Division at 978-281-9315. This category includes all gear types.
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Area Declaration: Please note that vessels without an operational VMS unit fishing exclusively in the Northern Fishery Management Area (NFMA) for monkfish must request a Southern Fishery Management Area (SFMA) Exemption Certificate in order to be exempt from the more restrictive management measures of the SFMA. Contact the Permit Office at 978-281-9370. Vessels with an operational VMS unit must declare the appropriate code to indicate they intend to fish exclusively in the NFMA.

- **See page 11 for a list of NE Fisheries gear types and their codes.**

❖ Surfclam/Ocean Quahog

Surfclam and ocean quahog vessels, as well as Maine mahogany quahog vessels, are required to have an operational vessel monitoring system (VMS) on board their vessel. For open access surfclam and ocean quahog vessels, VMS installation and operation must be verified prior to issuance of the permit. Maine mahogany quahog permitted vessels are not required to install a VMS unit until they fish for, land, take, possess, or transfer ocean quahogs under a limited access Maine mahogany quahog permit. For more information on VMS requirements, call 978-281-9315.

Open Access Permit Categories: Further restrictions may apply to specific categories. Refer to Northeast Fishery Regulations.

1*	Surfclam: The vessel may fish for surfclams. This category is limited to dredge (gear code 410) gear only. VMS required.
6*	Ocean Quahog: The vessel may fish for ocean quahogs. This category is limited to dredge (gear code 410) gear only. VMS required.

To possess and land surfclams or ocean quahogs from the EEZ, an allocation of quota is required.

Limited Access Permit Categories: This permit may only be issued to vessels that have previously held it or to approved replacements of such vessels. Further restrictions may apply to this category. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.

7*	Maine Mahogany Quahog: The vessel may harvest and land ocean quahogs without an allocation from the EEZ in the area north of 43° 50' N. latitude. This category is limited to dredge (gear code 410) gear only.
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* Operational VMS required.

❖ Summer Flounder (Fluke)

Limited Access Permit Categories: This permit may only be issued to vessels that have previously held it or to approved replacements of such vessels. Further restrictions may apply to this category. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.

1	Commercial Moratorium: This category includes all gear types.
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Open Access Permit Categories: Further restrictions may apply to this category. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.

2	Charter/Party: May fish for or possess summer flounder in the EEZ while carrying passengers for hire (See Section 5D for additional information). This category includes all gear types.
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❖ Scup (Porgy)

Limited Access Permit Categories: This permit may only be issued to vessels that have previously held it or to approved replacements of such vessels. Further restrictions may apply to this category. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.

1	Scup Commercial Moratorium: This category includes all gear types.
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Open Access Permit Categories: Further restrictions may apply to this category. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.

2	Charter/Party: May fish for or possess scup in the EEZ while carrying passengers for hire (See Section 5D for additional information). This category includes all gear types.
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- See page 11 for a list of NE Fisheries gear types and their codes.

❖ Black Sea Bass

Limited Access Permit Categories: This permit may only be issued to vessels that have previously held it or to approved replacements of such vessels. Further restrictions may apply to this category. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.

1	Black Sea Bass Commercial Moratorium: This category includes all gear types.
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Open Access Permit Categories: Further restrictions may apply to this category. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.

2	Charter/Party: May fish for or possess black sea bass in the EEZ north of 35° 15.3' N. latitude while carrying passengers for hire (See Section 5 D for additional information). This category includes all gear types.
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❖ Squid, Atlantic Mackerel, and Butterfish

Limited Access Permit Categories: These permits may only be issued to vessels that have previously held them or to approved replacements of such vessels. Further restrictions may apply to specific categories. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.

1	Loligo/Butterfish Moratorium: This category includes all gear types.
5	Illex Squid Moratorium: This category includes all gear types.

Open Access Permit Categories: Further restrictions may apply to specific categories. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.

2	Squid/Mackerel/Butterfish Charter/Party: May fish for or possess Loligo or Illex squid, mackerel or butterfish in the EEZ while carrying passengers for hire (See Section 5 D for additional information). This category includes all gear types.
3	Squid/Butterfish Incidental Catch: May fish commercially in the EEZ for up to 2,500 lb of Loligo squid per trip, 10,000 lb of Illex squid per trip, or 600 lb of butterfish per trip (unless the butterfish fishery closes prior to Oct 1 and then a 250 lb limit would be in effect for the remainder of the year). This category includes all gear types.
4	Atlantic Mackerel: May commercially fish for Atlantic mackerel in the EEZ. This category includes all gear types.

Note: Atlantic mackerel at-sea processing vessels must apply for a permit as a dealer/processor.

❖ Smoothhound

Open Access Permit Category: Further restrictions may apply to this category. Please refer to 50 CFR § 635.21 or <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/> for more information.

1	Commercial / Incidental: This permit may be issued to any vessel to commercially fish for, possess, or land smoothhounds caught in or from the EEZ using longline, rod and reel, handline, and bandit gear, and gillnet gear. Further restrictions apply for longline and gillnet gear. This permit also allows a vessel to possess and land a limited amount of incidental smoothhounds harvested with trawl gear. For specific limit amounts, please contact the Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Management Division at 301-713-2347 or visit the HMS webpage at http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/ .
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❖ Spiny Dogfish

Open Access Permit Category: Further restrictions may apply to this category. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations for additional information.

1	General: May commercially fish for, possess, or land spiny dogfish caught in or from the EEZ. This category includes all gear types.
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❖ Atlantic Bluefish

Open Access Permit Categories: Further restrictions may apply to specific categories. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.

1	Commercial: May possess or harvest Atlantic bluefish from the EEZ in excess of the daily possession limit. This category includes all gear types.
2	Charter/Party: May fish for or possess Atlantic bluefish from the EEZ while carrying passengers for hire (See Section 5D for additional information). This category includes all gear types.

❖ Atlantic Herring

Limited Access Permit Categories: These permits may only be issued to qualified vessels or to approved replacements of such vessels. Further restrictions apply to specific categories. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.

A*	All Areas: Authorizes the harvest of herring in any management area, without being subject to possession limits during the time when the total allowable catch (TAC) in the defined management area has not been reached. This category includes all gear types.
B*	Areas 2/3: Authorizes the harvest of herring only in Areas 2 or 3, without being subject to possession limits during the time when the TAC in the defined management area has not been reached. This category includes all gear types.
C*	Incidental Catch: Authorizes the harvest of up to 55,000 lb herring in any management area during the time when the TAC in the defined management area has not been met, with a limit of one landing per calendar day. This category includes all gear types.

*** All vessels applying for and issued a limited access herring permit, with the exception of fixed gear (weirs and stop seines) fishermen, must install and maintain an operable VMS unit, and comply with all VMS notification and reporting requirements. Such vessels may power down the VMS unit when in port, but must re-power the VMS unit and enter an appropriate trip designation prior to leaving port.**

Open Access Permit Categories: Further restrictions may apply to specific categories. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.

D	Open Access: Authorizes the harvest of up to 6,600 lb of herring in any management area during the time when the TAC in these management areas has not been met, with a limit of one landing per calendar day. This category includes all gear types.
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❖ Tilefish

Open Access Permit Categories: Effective November 1, 2009, a vessel must also fish under the authorization of an IFQ Allocation permit to possess more than the incidental trip limit of 300 lb of tilefish. Further restrictions may apply to these categories. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.

1	Open Access Commercial/Incidental: May possess or land tilefish in or from the EEZ, north of the VA/NC border, up to 300 lb per trip. In order for any vessel to possess more than 300 lb of tilefish per trip, the vessel must also fish under the authorization of an IFQ Allocation permit. This category includes all gear types.
2	Open Access Charter/Party: May fish for or possess Tilefish in the EEZ, north of the VA/NC border, while carrying passengers for hire. This category contains all gear types.

❖ Skate

Northeast Skate Complex (Skate) - The following species of skates comprise the NE skate complex and are included under the Federal skate permit: Winter skate; barndoor skate; thorny skate; smooth skate; little skate; clearnose skate; and rosette skate.

Open Access Permit Categories: Further restrictions may apply to this category. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.

1	General: May commercially fish for, possess, or land skate caught in or from the EEZ. This category includes all gear types.
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❖ Atlantic Deep-Sea Red Crab

Limited Access Permit Categories: These permits may only be issued to vessels that have previously held them or to approved replacements of such vessels. Further restrictions may apply to this category. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.

B	Vessels in this category are subject to a baseline trip limit of 75,000 lb. This category is limited to pots and traps (gear code 800) gear only.
C	Vessels in this category demonstrated a qualifying trip with landings greater than 75,000 lb and qualified for a trip limit equal to the larger trip, rounded to the nearest 5,000 lb. This category is limited to pots and traps (gear code 800) gear only.

Open Access Permit Categories: This permit may be issued to any vessel not issued a red crab limited access permit—to fish for, possess, or land red crab in or from the EEZ.

A	May possess or land red crab in or from the EEZ up to 500 lb per trip. This category includes all gear types.
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❖ American Lobster

Limited Access Permit Categories: These permits may only be issued to vessels that have previously held them or to approved replacements of such vessels. If eligible, you may select more than one category. Note, if you designate more than one category, you will be subject to the most restrictive management measures, including trap allocations of all of the categories selected. A vessel owner has 45 days from the first effective date of his/her permit within a permit year to make a change to the American Lobster permit category. Further restrictions may apply to specific categories. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.

1	Commercial Non-Trap: May harvest lobster in the EEZ. This category includes all gear types except pots and traps. If you plan to fish with non-trap gear only, you are not required to elect trap gear areas.
2	Charter/Party Non-Trap: May harvest lobster in the EEZ while carrying passengers for hire. This category includes all gear types except pots and traps. (See Section 5D for additional information)
A1	Commercial Trap Gear Area 1: May harvest lobster in Federal Lobster Management Area 1. This category is limited to pots and traps (gear code 800) gear only.
A2	Commercial Trap Gear Area 2: May harvest lobster in Federal Lobster Management Area 2. This category is limited to pots and traps (gear code 800) gear only. Includes Area 2/3 overlap.
A3*	Commercial Trap Gear Area 3: May harvest lobster in Federal Lobster Management Area 3. This category is limited to pots and traps (gear code 800) gear only. Must have a valid historic allocation to elect this area. Includes Area 2/3 overlap.
A4	Commercial Trap Gear Area 4: May harvest lobster in Federal Lobster Management Area 4. This category is limited to pots and traps (gear code 800) gear only. Must have a valid historic allocation to elect this area.
A5	Commercial Trap Gear Area 5: May harvest lobster in Federal Lobster Management Area 5. This category is limited to pots and traps (gear code 800) gear only. Must have a valid historic

	allocation to elect this area.
A6	Commercial Trap Gear Area 6: May harvest lobster in Federal Lobster Management Area 6. Vessel owner must possess a valid CT or NY state lobster license to be eligible for this category. This category is limited to pots and traps (gear code 800) gear only.
AOC	Commercial Trap Gear Outer Cape Area: May harvest in Outer Cape Federal Lobster Management Area. This category is limited to pots and traps (gear code 800) gear only.

* **Area 3 Trap Reductions:** If you elect to fish with traps in Area 3, please note that this fishing year's trap reduction will take effect on July 1, 2010. Permit holders should keep in mind that their trap allocation may change on July 1 if the Area 3 allocation is, or becomes the most restrictive (lowest) of all designated LCMAs on the permit. Permit holders are advised to consider this when ordering trap tags.

Gear codes and explanations for section 3 of application

Gear Type	Code	Gear Type	Code	Gear Type	Code
Purse Seines	120	Other Trawls	330	Rod and Reel	912
Beach Seines	210	Dredge	410	Tub Trawl	913
Bandit Gear	915	Gill/Entangling Nets	700	Longlines or Setlines	920
Bottom Trawls	310	Pots and Traps	800	Harpoons	1010
Mid-water Trawls	320	Hand Lines	911	Other Gears	1200
		Boat Seines	220	Diving Gear	1400

Public reporting burden for the collection of information on the initial vessel application is estimated to average 45 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining data needed, and completing & reviewing the information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or suggestions for reducing this burden to: National Marine Fisheries Service, Permit Office, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930. The Paperwork Reduction Act requires that potential respondents for a fishing vessel permit be notified of certain information regarding their rights and the burden associated with applying for Federal fisheries permits.

One of the regulatory steps taken by the National Marine Fisheries Service to carry out its conservation and management objectives is the requirement of a permit for users of the resources. All the fisheries included on this application require a permit to fish for or retain these species in or from the EEZ. Section 303 (b)(1) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSFCMA) specifically recognizes the need for permit issuance. The purpose and use of these permits are to: (1) register industry participants and fishing vessels, (2) list the characteristics of fishing vessels, (3) exercise influence over compliance, (4) provide a mailing list for the dissemination of important information to the industry, (5) register participants to be considered for limited access, and (6) provide a universe for data collection samples. Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. Owner name, vessel characteristics, address, phone, and permit information will be released via a NOAA Fisheries website. All other data submitted will be handled as confidential material in accordance with NOAA Administrative Order 216-100, Protection of Confidential Fishery Statistics.