



**United States Department of Commerce**  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
Northeast Region  
55 Great Republic Drive  
Gloucester, MA 01930

March 5, 2012

Dear Federal Fisheries Vessel Permit Applicant:

Enclosed is an Initial Federal Northeast Region (NER) Fishing Vessel Permit Application and Instructions. This package contains answers to some of the frequently asked questions about completing your application.

### **Important**

Please read and follow the application instructions carefully. Failure to provide all required information and additional documentation on or with the application will result in the application being returned to you for completion and or correction. This may significantly delay the issuance of your permit.

### **Federal Vessel Operator Permit**

It is the responsibility of the vessel owner to ensure that their vessel issued NER permits is operated by an individual(s) with a valid Federal Vessel Operator permit. Any individual operating a vessel that is issued NER Federal Fishing Permits and fishing in the EEZ is subject to the vessel operator permit requirements.

The Federal Vessel Operator Permit is a photo ID which is issued by NOAA Fisheries Service. This permit must be carried by the operator of the vessel. Operator permits are issued for a 3-year period and renewal applications are mailed 45 days before the expiration of the permit.

To ensure that your operator has a valid operator permit or to obtain an application, please call the Permit Office at 978-282-8438. You or the operator of your vessel can obtain an application online at <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/permits/forms.html> - the Operator application is contained on the second link down called *Initial Vessel Operator Permit*.

Reminder: Vessel operators are required to report their operator permit number when completing their Vessel Trip Reports (VTRs).

### **Reporting Requirements**

Except as noted below, the owner or operator of a fishing vessel that has been issued a Federal NER Fishing Permit has VTR reporting requirements for all fishing trips taken, regardless of species targeted or waters fished. The two exceptions to this requirement exist for surfclam and ocean quahog vessels which are required to report on clam log reports and for vessels that have only been issued an American lobster permit, which has no Federal reporting requirements. For more information, please call the Vessel Trip Reporting Office at 978-281-9246.



## **Application requirements**

The following documents are enclosed in this package to assist you in completing your application and to help you understand important measures you must comply with as a permit holder:

- ❖ Initial vessel application.
- ❖ Detailed permit application instructions, which include a list of permit categories.
- ❖ Vessel Trip Report (VTR) guidelines.
- ❖ Gillnet form (if applicable).
- ❖ Vessel Ownership form.
- ❖ Summary of control dates for NER fisheries.

This letter and the enclosures only summarize the legal requirements. For a complete understanding of your obligations, you should consult the Code of Federal Regulations. This information can be found at <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/nero/regs/>.

## **Gillnet Form**

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

For more information, please call Permits at 978-282-8458 or download the application at <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/permits/forms/GillnetTagOrderForm.pdf>

## **Sale of Your Catch Requirements**

All vessels issued a Federal NER fishing vessel permit, except those fishing on a party/charter trip, are required to sell their catch of federally managed species only to seafood dealers with a valid Federal NER dealer permit for that species. Federally permitted vessels with NER permits may not sell their catch of federally managed species to persons or seafood dealers that do not have valid Federal NER dealer permits.

## **Lobster Permit Holders**

If you possess a limited access Federal American lobster permit and intend to fish with lobster traps, you must declare into at least one lobster conservation management area (LCMA) and indicate traps (gear code 800) as a gear type on your Federal permit application. Note: 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. For more information, please call Sustainable Fisheries at 978-281-9246.

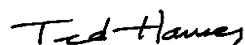
## **Tuna Permit Holders**

Atlantic tunas vessel permits are issued through a separate permitting system, which can be accessed by phone at 888-872-8862 or via the Internet at [www.nmfspermits.com](http://www.nmfspermits.com).

## **Renew or Lose**

All limited access permits for which your vessel is qualified must be renewed each fishing year. If you do not renew the vessel's limited access permit(s) in any fishing year, your vessel will no longer be eligible for the permit(s) in subsequent years.

Sincerely,



Ted Hawes, Operations Manager  
Northeast Permit Office

# 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: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

## 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

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 page 3 of instructions for additional documents required)

### Section 3 – Fishery Information

<b>Gear Codes</b>	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 <b>Qualified Vessels Only</b>	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 T1 T2 T3	
Incidental HMS Squid Trawl		1	
Spiny Dogfish	1		
Atlantic Bluefish	1 2*		
Atlantic Herring	D E	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 4 – 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.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **All vessels:** 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 the collection of information on this application is estimated to average 45 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, gathering needed data and documents, and completing the application. 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 this permit be notified of certain information regarding their rights and the burden associated with applying for Federal fisheries permits. 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. 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.  
Revised 7/30/2010 OMB # 0648-0202 Expires: April 30, 2013



# Vessel Ownership Form

- Completion of this form is required with each application for a Northeast Federal fishing permit.
- List all persons and entities who have an ownership interest in the vessel that is the subject of this application.
- Owners or persons who have an ownership interest in a vessel are defined as and include, but are not limited to, corporations, partnerships, LLCs, persons who are shareholders in a corporation, persons who have formed a partnership (general or limited), and any other entities that have ownership interest in the vessel.

## Section A – Vessel applying for permit

Vessel Name:	Permit or Hull Number:
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**Section B** - All persons and entities that have an ownership interest in the vessel must be listed below. Do not include employees of the business unless they are an owner of the vessel or company.

Mr/Mrs/Ms	First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Suffix Name
Check all that apply - Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Shareholder <input type="checkbox"/>				

Mr/Mrs/Ms	First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Suffix Name
Check all that apply - Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Shareholder <input type="checkbox"/>				

Mr/Mrs/Ms	First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Suffix Name
Check all that apply - Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Shareholder <input type="checkbox"/>				

I, the undersigned, am the owner or legally authorized agent of the owner of the vessel named in *Section A* above. I affirm, subject to the penalties provided in 18 U.S.C. 1001, that all information that I have given in obtaining this permit is true and correct.  
 OMB# 0648-0202 Expires 04/30/2013

Name of Applicant (print clearly) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please use the back of this form to provide information on all persons with an ownership interest in the vessel.

**Page 2 - Section B Continued** - All persons and entities that have an ownership interest in the vessel must be listed below. Do not include employees of the business unless they are an owner of the vessel or company.

Mr/Mrs/Ms	First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Suffix Name
Check all that apply - Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Shareholder <input type="checkbox"/>				

Mr/Mrs/Ms	First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Suffix Name
Check all that apply - Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Shareholder <input type="checkbox"/>				

Mr/Mrs/Ms	First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Suffix Name
Check all that apply - Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Shareholder <input type="checkbox"/>				

Mr/Mrs/Ms	First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Suffix Name
Check all that apply - Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Shareholder <input type="checkbox"/>				

Mr/Mrs/Ms	First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Suffix Name
Check all that apply - Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Shareholder <input type="checkbox"/>				

I, the undersigned, am the owner or legally authorized agent of the owner of the vessel named in *Section A* above. I affirm, subject to the penalties provided in 18 U.S.C. 1001, that all information that I have given in obtaining this permit is true and correct.  
 OMB# 0648-0202 Expires 04/30/2013

Name of Applicant (print clearly) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please copy this form as needed to provide information on all persons with an ownership interest in the vessel in Section A.



National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)  
Northeast Permit Office (978) 282-8438

## Review checklist for Initial Vessel Applications



- ✓ Ensure your application is complete
- ✓ Please review the list below
- ✓ Failure to include this information with your application will result in processing delays or a possible return of your application.

### **Include with your signed and dated initial vessel permit application:**

- A copy of your **valid** Coast Guard Documentation or a copy of your **valid** State Registration. Expired registrations will not be accepted.
- A completed NMFS vessel ownership form listing all persons who have an ownership interest in the vessel.
- If the vessel is owned by a company, LLC or a partnership, please include a copy of the articles of incorporation, articles of organization, or your partnership agreement.
- To be eligible for a Federal party/charter permit you must include a copy of your Captain's License **or** a copy of your U.S. Coast Guard Documentation with a *Coastwise* endorsement.
- If applying for a NE multispecies category A, E, or F permit or a limited access monkfish permit with the intention of fishing with gillnet gear, you must complete the NMFS Gillnet Form and obtain gillnet tags. Call the Permit Office to obtain a gillnet tag application or go to <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/permits/forms.html>







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



**Initial Vessel Application**

**Instructions for Northeast Federal Fishing Vessel Permits**

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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](mailto: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)**

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

### Owner/Shareholder Information via the Vessel Ownership Form

All applicants must attach a completed NMFS vessel ownership form listing and identifying all owners and officers. Applicants must provide the full name of each owner and officer 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 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. Further restrictions may apply. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.

<b>2*</b>	<b>Full-Time:</b> This category includes all gear types except bottom trawl.
<b>3*</b>	<b>Part-Time:</b> This category includes all gear types except bottom trawl.
<b>4</b>	<b>Occasional:</b> This category includes all gear types except bottom trawl.
<b>5*</b>	<b>Full-Time Small Dredge:</b> 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 <b>410</b> ) gear only.
<b>6*</b>	<b>Part-Time Small Dredge:</b> 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 <b>410</b> ) gear only.
<b>7*</b>	<b>Full-Time: Authorized to use trawl nets:</b> This category is limited to bottom trawl nets (gear code 310) only.
<b>8*</b>	<b>Part-Time: Authorized to use trawl nets:</b> This category is limited to bottom trawl nets (gear code 310) only.
<b>9</b>	<b>Occasional: Authorized to use trawl nets:</b> This category is limited to bottom trawl nets (gear code <b>310</b> ) only.

**\* A VMS is required to be installed and in continuous operation onboard the vessel, unless the vessel is issued a VMS 'Letter of Exemption' from NMFS to power down the VMS unit.**

**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.

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

**\*\* 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**

Telephone: 858-458-8100  
Fax: 858-458-8116

**Skymate**

Telephone: 866-759-6283  
Fax: 703-814-8585

**Thrane & Thrane**

Telephone: 757-463-9557  
Fax: 757-463-9581

## ❖ 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, Atlantic halibut, and Atlantic wolffish.

Other NE multispecies:

Silver hake (whiting), red hake (ling), offshore hake, and ocean pout.

**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.

<b>A*</b>	<b>Day-at-Sea (DAS):</b> This category includes all gear types except dredge gear.
<b>C</b>	<b>Small Vessel Exemption</b> (less than or equal to 30 feet): This category includes all gear types except dredge gear.
<b>D*</b>	<b>Hook Gear:</b> (Vessels in this category may not change category) This category is limited to handlines (gear code <b>911</b> ), rod and reel (gear code <b>912</b> ), tub trawl (gear code <b>913</b> ) and longlines (gear code <b>920</b> ) gear only.
<b>E*</b>	<b>Combination Vessels:</b> (Vessels in this category may not change category) This category includes all gear types except dredge gear.
<b>F*</b>	<b>Large Mesh Individual DAS:</b> 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 <b>120, 210, 220, 310, 320, 330</b> and <b>700</b> only.
<b>HA</b>	<b>Handgear A:</b> (Vessels in this category may not change category) The vessel may possess and land one Atlantic halibut and possession limit restrictions for the remaining regulated species and ocean pout. This category is limited to rod and reel (gear code <b>912</b> ), handline (gear code <b>911</b> ) or tub trawl (gear code <b>913</b> ) gear only.

**\* An operational VMS is required to be on board the vessel to fish for groundfish under a NE multispecies DAS, on a sector trip, or a Handgear A vessel in the common pool that intends to fish in more than one broad stock area (BSA) on a single trip.**

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

<b>HB</b>	<b>Handgear B:</b> The vessel may possess and land one Atlantic halibut and other possession restrictions for the remaining regulated species. This category includes rod and reel (gear code <b>912</b> ), handline (gear code <b>911</b> ) or tub trawl (gear code <b>913</b> ) gear only.
<b>I</b>	<b>Charter/Party:</b> The vessel may possess and land multispecies in the EEZ when carrying passengers for hire (See page 3, additional documents required). This category is limited to rod and reel (gear code <b>912</b> ) and handline (gear code <b>911</b> ) gear only.
<b>J</b>	<b>Scallop Multispecies Possession Limit:</b> The vessel may possess and land up to 300 lb of regulated species while fishing under a scallop DAS. <b>Vessel must have a Limited Access Scallop Permit (Categories 2 – 9) to qualify for this category.</b> This category includes all gear types.
<b>K</b>	<b>Open Access Multispecies:</b> 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.

## ❖ 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 for further information.

<b>A</b>	Vessels may elect this category if they 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>B</b>	Vessels may elect this category if they 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.
<b>C</b>	Vessels may elect this category if they possess a limited access multispecies permit or a limited access scallop permit. This category includes all gear types except dredge gear.
<b>D</b>	Vessels may elect this category if they possess a limited access multispecies permit or a limited access scallop permit, and are less than 51 GRT and do not qualify for a Category C permit. This category includes all gear types except dredge gear.
<b>F*</b>	<b>Offshore Fishery Program:</b> Vessels may elect this category if they are eligible for monkfish limited access permit categories A, B, C, or D and have an operational Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) installed on the vessel. Monkfish permit category A, B, C, and D vessels may opt into this program for an entire fishing year, which begins on May 1 and ends on April 30. The request to opt into the offshore fishery must be completed within 45 days of the effective date of the monkfish permit. Vessels in this program are restricted to fishing under a monkfish Days At Sea 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.

<b>G</b>	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.
<b>H</b>	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.

**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 978-282-8438. Vessels with an operational VMS unit must declare the appropriate code to indicate they intend to fish exclusively in the NFMA.

**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.

<b>E</b>	<b>Incidental Catch:</b> 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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## ❖ Surfclam/Ocean Quahog/Maine Mahogany 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.

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

<b>7*</b>	<b>Maine Mahogany Quahog:</b> 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 <b>410</b> ) 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.

<b>1</b>	<b>Commercial Moratorium:</b> 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.

<b>2</b>	<b>Charter/Party:</b> May fish for or possess summer flounder in the EEZ while carrying passengers for hire (See page 3, additional documents required). 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.

<b>1</b>	<b>Scup Commercial Moratorium:</b> 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.

<b>2</b>	<b>Charter/Party:</b> May fish for or possess scup in the EEZ while carrying passengers for hire (See page 3, additional documents required). This category includes all gear types.
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## ❖ 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.

<b>1</b>	<b>Black Sea Bass Commercial Moratorium:</b> This category includes all gear types.
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## ❖ Black Sea Bass (continued)

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

<b>2</b>	<b>Charter/Party:</b> May fish for or possess black sea bass in the EEZ north of 35° 15.3´ N. latitude while carrying passengers for hire (See page 3, additional documents required). 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. Longfin squid was previously referred to as *Loligo* squid. Due to a recent change in the scientific name of longfin squid from *Loligo pealeii* to *Doryteuthis (Amerigo) pealeii*, permits will now use the common name “longfin squid” in all official documents to avoid confusion.

<b>1</b>	<b>Longfin squid/Butterfish Moratorium:</b> This category includes all gear types.
<b>5</b>	<b>Illex Squid Moratorium:</b> This category includes all gear types.
<b>T1</b>	<b>Atlantic Mackerel Tier 1:</b> May fish commercially in the EEZ for unlimited amounts of mackerel. This category includes all gear types. Must submit a fish hold volume certification by December 31, 2012.
<b>T2</b>	<b>Atlantic Mackerel Tier 2:</b> May fish commercially in the EEZ for up to 135,000 lb of mackerel per trip. This category includes all gear types. Must submit a fish hold volume certification by December 31, 2012.
<b>T3</b>	<b>Atlantic Mackerel Tier 3:</b> May fish commercially in the EEZ for up to 100,000 lb of mackerel per trip. This category includes all gear types. Vessels issued Tier 3 permits will be limited to no more than 7% of the annual commercial mackerel quota.

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

<b>2</b>	<b>Squid/Mackerel/Butterfish Charter/Party:</b> May fish for or possess <b>Longfin</b> or <b>Illex</b> squid, mackerel or butterfish in the EEZ while carrying passengers for hire (See page 3, additional documents required). This category includes all gear types.
<b>3</b>	<b>Squid/Butterfish Incidental Catch:</b> May fish commercially in the EEZ for up to 2,500 lb of <b>Longfin</b> squid per trip, 10,000 lb of <b>Illex</b> squid per trip, or 2,500 lb of butterfish per trip. This category includes all gear types.
<b>4</b>	<b>Atlantic Mackerel:</b> May commercially fish for Atlantic mackerel in the EEZ for up to 20,000 lb of mackerel. This category includes all gear types.

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

## ❖ Incidental Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Squid Trawl

**Limited Access Permit Categories:** Further restrictions may apply to specific categories. Refer to Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Fisheries Regulations.

<b>1</b>	<b>Incidental Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Squid Trawl Permit:</b> Allowed only for vessels issued a valid Illex Squid Moratorium permit. Authorizes the limited retention of incidentally-caught swordfish. This category only includes trawl gear.
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## ❖ Spiny Dogfish

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

<b>1</b>	<b>General:</b> 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	<b>Commercial:</b> May possess or harvest Atlantic bluefish from the EEZ in excess of the daily possession limit. This category includes all gear types.
2	<b>Charter/Party:</b> May fish for or possess Atlantic bluefish from the EEZ while carrying passengers for hire (See page 3, additional documents required). This category includes all gear types.

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## ❖ 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*	<b>All Areas:</b> Authorizes the harvest of herring in any management area, without being subject to possession limits during the time when the sub-annual catch limit (ACL) in the defined management area has not been reached. This category includes all gear types.
B*	<b>Areas 2/3:</b> Authorizes the harvest of herring only in Areas 2 or 3, without being subject to possession limits during the time when the sub-ACL in the defined management area has not been reached. This category includes all gear types.
C*	<b>Incidental Catch:</b> Authorizes the harvest of up to 55,000 lb herring in any management area during the time when the sub-ACL in the defined management area has not been reached, 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	<b>Open Access:</b> Authorizes the harvest of up to 6,600 lb of herring in any management area during the time when the sub-ACL in these management areas has not been reached, with a limit of one landing per calendar day. This category includes all gear types.
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## ❖ Tilefish

**Open Access Permit Categories:** A vessel must fish under the authorization of an Individual Fishing Quota Allocation permit to possess more than the incidental trip limit. Further restrictions may apply to these categories. Refer to Northeast Fisheries Regulations.

1	<b>Open Access Commercial/Incidental:</b> May possess or land tilefish in or from the EEZ, north of the VA/NC border, up to 500 lb whole weight, or 455 lb head-on and gutted, per trip. In order for any vessel to possess more than 500 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	<b>Open Access Charter/Party:</b> May fish for or possess tilefish in the EEZ, north of the VA/NC border, while carrying passengers for hire. (See page 3, additional documents required). This category includes 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.

<b>1</b>	<b>General:</b> 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>B</b>	This category is limited to pots and traps (gear code <b>800</b> ) gear only.
<b>C</b>	This category is limited to pots and traps (gear code <b>800</b> ) 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.

<b>A</b>	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 at 50 CFR 697.

<b>1</b>	<b>Commercial Non-Trap:</b> 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.
<b>2</b>	<b>Charter/Party Non-Trap:</b> May harvest lobster in the EEZ while carrying passengers for hire. (See page 3, additional documents required). This category includes all gear types except pots and traps.
<b>A1</b>	<b>Commercial Trap Gear Area 1:</b> May harvest lobster in Federal Lobster Management Area 1. This category is limited to pots and traps (gear code <b>800</b> ) gear only.
<b>A2</b>	<b>Commercial Trap Gear Area 2:</b> May harvest lobster in Federal Lobster Management Area 2. This category is limited to pots and traps (gear code <b>800</b> ) gear only. Includes Area 2/3 overlap.
<b>A3</b>	<b>Commercial Trap Gear Area 3:</b> May harvest lobster in Federal Lobster Management Area 3. This category is limited to pots and traps (gear code <b>800</b> ) gear only. Must have a valid historic allocation to elect this area. Includes Area 2/3 overlap.
<b>A4</b>	<b>Commercial Trap Gear Area 4:</b> May harvest lobster in Federal Lobster Management Area 4. This category is limited to pots and traps (gear code <b>800</b> ) gear only. Must have a valid historic allocation to elect this area.
<b>A5</b>	<b>Commercial Trap Gear Area 5:</b> May harvest lobster in Federal Lobster Management Area 5. This category is limited to pots and traps (gear code <b>800</b> ) gear only. Must have a valid historic allocation to elect this area.
<b>A6</b>	<b>Commercial Trap Gear Area 6:</b> 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 <b>800</b> ) gear only.
<b>AOC</b>	<b>Commercial Trap Gear Outer Cape Area:</b> May harvest in Outer Cape Federal Lobster Management Area. This category is limited to pots and traps (gear code <b>800</b> ) gear only.

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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 and 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 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 pool of participants 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 NMFS 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.

OMB# 0648-0202 Expires: 4/30/2013





**National Marine Fisheries Service  
 (NOAA FISHERIES SERVICE)  
 Vessel Trip Reporting (VTRs)**

This guide provides a list of commonly asked questions regarding VTRs. This document is intended as a guide only and its content is subject to change. For more comprehensive information please refer to the regulations at 50 CFR part 648. Please visit the NOAA Fisheries Service Northeast Regional Office (NERO) online at <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/fso/> and click on “Vessel Trip Report Information” for additional details.

Reporting regulations [50 CFR 648.7] require that the owner or operator of any vessel issued a Federal fishing permit for any of the species listed in the table below submit an accurate and timely VTR for each trip, regardless of area fished, targeted species or permit used. In other words, an owner or operator of a federally permitted vessel possessing any of the permits listed below must submit a VTR for each and every trip taken regardless of where they fish or what they catch.

**Northeast Region Federal permits requiring mandatory reporting**

Northeast multispecies	black sea bass	tilefish	scup
Atlantic sea scallop	Atlantic bluefish	Atlantic deep sea red crab	surfclam
monkfish	Atlantic herring	spiny dogfish	ocean quahog
Atlantic mackerel, squid, and butterfish	Northeast skate	summer flounder	

**Report Submission Timelines:**

- All vessels, except those possessing a Northeast Multispecies or Atlantic Herring permit, required to send VTR’s must submit their VTRs on a monthly basis. VTRs must be received or postmarked by the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month following the month in which the trip occurred.
- Any vessel issued a Federal Northeast Multispecies or an Atlantic Herring permit, regardless of category (limited access, open access or Charter/Party), must submit VTRs on a weekly basis. VTRs must be submitted by midnight of the Tuesday following the reporting week (Sunday through Saturday) in which fish were offloaded for any trip, including trips landing other species.
- Did Not Fish reports are due in accordance with the above submission schedule.
- Submit the white original (NMFS Copy) to:

NMFS  
 Vessel Trip Reporting Office  
 55 Great Republic Drive  
 Gloucester, MA 01930-2276

If you have any questions regarding VTRs, please call the NMFS Vessel Trip Report Office at (978) 281-9246.

## Questions & Answers

### ***If my vessel wasn't fishing, how do I report?***

If a vessel does not fish for an entire calendar month, a "Did Not Fish" report is required. A separate report is required for each such month unless you possess a Federal Northeast Multispecies or an Atlantic Herring Permit.

### ***If I fish in state waters, do I have to submit a trip report?***

Yes. If you possess a Federal permit for any species listed above in Table 1, or are eligible to renew a limited access permit, you then have VTR requirements regardless of what license, permit, or waters you fish.

### ***I was fishing on my "state license", do I have to submit a trip report?***

Yes. If you possess a Federal permit for any species listed above in Table 1, or are eligible to renew a limited access permit, you then have VTR requirements regardless of what license, permit, or waters you were fishing.

### ***I possess only a Federal lobster permit. What are my reporting requirements?***

You have no VTR reporting requirements to NMFS. Please check with your state to determine if you have state reporting requirements.

### ***I possess a Federal lobster permit along with another Federal permit that is listed in the table above, however I never use that permit. What are my reporting requirements?***

Because you possess another Federal permit in addition to your Federal lobster permit, you must report all of your fishing activity including all your lobster trips.

### ***Do I have to report if I take my boat out for recreational purposes?***

No. You only need to report commercial, party, or charter trips. A trip would not be considered recreational if you sold any of your catch or accepted compensation from passengers.

### ***I hold several Federal permits. Do I have to complete more than one VTR per trip?***

In most cases a single report can be used to fulfill all of your reporting requirements.

### ***If I change gear type, gear size, or area fished during a trip, how do I report the trip?***

Complete a separate report page for any change in gear type, gear size, or chart area.

### ***What do I need to provide to my dealer when I offload my catch?***

Vessels must supply the VTR serial number to all federally permitted dealers purchasing the catch. In the instance where you have completed more than one VTR for a trip (see question above), then the serial number from the first VTR completed should be supplied to the dealer(s). The VTR form provides two (2) additional pages intended to be given to the dealers by the vessel representative.

### ***Who can I sell my catch to?***

Federally permitted vessels are only allowed to sell their catch of federally managed species to federally permitted dealers or to take a portion of that catch home for their own consumption. Species that are not regulated by NMFS may be sold elsewhere and in that case, no VTR serial number needs to be supplied.

### ***What if I do not land any fish on a trip?***

If no species are landed, complete all of the trip information and enter "No Catch" in the species code name column (#17).

### ***My supply of VTRs is getting low, how do I get more?***

VTRs can be obtained by mailing the pink renewal form contained in each logbook package to the NMFS address below. You may also obtain VTRs by contacting the NMFS Vessel Trip Reporting Office, either in person, or by telephone at (978) 281-9157 or by contacting your local NMFS Field Office.



National Marine Fisheries Service  
Northeast Regional Office / Northeast Permit Office



**Initial/Renewal\* Application for a Northeast  
Vessel Operator Permit**

Operator cards are required for any operator of a charter/party boat and or a commercial vessel (including carrier and processor vessels) issued a vessel permit from the Northeast Region and possessing or fishing for Atlantic Sea Scallops, Northeast Multispecies, Spiny Dogfish, Monkfish, American Lobster, Atlantic Herring, Atlantic Surfclam, Ocean Quahog, Maine Mahogany Quahog, Atlantic Mackerel, Loligo Squid, Illex Squid, Butterfish, Scup, Black Sea Bass, Golden Tilefish, Skates, Atlantic Deep-Sea Red Crab, or Atlantic Bluefish, in or from the EEZ.

**FIRST TIME APPLICANTS:** fill in Section 1 below, sign and date the back of this application and return it to us with one (1) passport or ID sized photo (see back).

**IF USING THIS APPLICATION AS A RENEWAL:** fill in Section 1 below, write your 8 digit number on the line below, sign and date the back of this application, and return it to us with one (1) passport or ID sized photo (see back).

Your vessel operator number\_\_\_\_\_

\*Preprinted renewal applications are automatically mailed to the address on file approximately 35 days prior to the expiration date, but you may use this application to renew your permit (see below).

**Please complete all sections of this application.**

Incomplete applications will be returned and will be not be processed.  
Submission of all application information is required.

**Section 1**

Last Name\_\_\_\_\_ First Name\_\_\_\_\_ MI\_\_\_ SUFFIX\_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address\_\_\_\_\_

City / ST / Zip Code\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

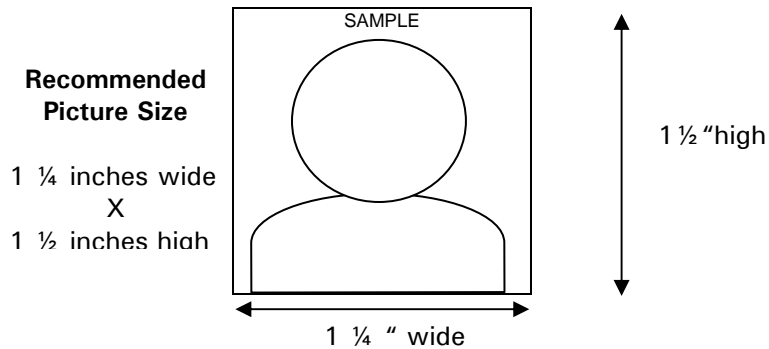
Phone Number\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ (MO/DAY/YR)

Eye Color\_\_\_\_\_ Hair Color\_\_\_\_\_

Weight (lbs)\_\_\_\_\_ Height (ft/in)\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

**You must sign and date this application in Section 2 on back.**

Please enclose **ONE** color passport or I.D. sized photo of yourself, which is recent (taken no more than 1 year prior to the date of this application).



**Section 2**

I affirm that all information I have given on this application is true and correct. Making a false statement on this application is punishable by law [18 USC 1001]. I understand that violations of Federal fisheries laws and regulations may subject me to criminal and civil penalties including fine and/or revocation of license. Further, as a condition of this operator's permit, I agree that if this permit is suspended or revoked pursuant to 15 CFR part 904, I will not be on board a Federally permitted fishing vessel in any capacity while the vessel is at sea or engaged in offloading.

**Signature of Applicant:**

**Date:**

**Return completed applications to:**

**Northeast Permit Office  
 55 Great Republic Drive  
 Gloucester, MA 01930-2276  
 Telephone: (978) 282-8437**

Permit holder name, address, phone number, and the status of the holder's permit 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.

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour 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: NMFS, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930-2276. The purpose and use of these permits are to (1) register industry participants and fishing vessels, (2) exercise influence over compliance, (3) provide a mailing list for the dissemination of important information to the industry, (4) register participants to be considered for limited entry, and (5) provide a universe for data collection samples. Both the MSFCMA and Executive Orders 12866 et al, 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 Paperwork Reduction Act, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.





## Summary of Control Dates for Northeast Fisheries



This fact sheet informs permit applicants that there may be future management action taken by the New England Fishery Management Council, the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, or the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission to establish eligibility criteria for determining future fishing access to the fisheries identified below. In each of these cases, the Council or Commission with management authority for the fishery requested the National Marine Fisheries Service to publish a date, after which vessels may not be eligible to participate in the fishery. This date is known as a control date. This fact sheet informs you that these control dates may potentially be used to determine future participation in the fishery.

THIS INFORMATION IS ADVISORY ONLY. It is intended to inform you only that these control dates have been established and may potentially be used to determine future participation in the fishery. It also provides you with notice that you may wish to locate and preserve records to substantiate and verify fishery participation, for use in the event a limited access program is established in the future.

Establishing a control date does not commit the Councils, Commission, or the National Marine Fisheries Service to develop any particular management system or criteria for participation in these fisheries. The Councils or Commission may choose a different control date, or may choose to establish a management program that does not make use of such a date.

For further information, please contact the appropriate fishery management council or commission:

New England Fishery Management Council (NEFMC) On the web: <a href="http://www.nefmc.org">www.nefmc.org</a> Telephone: 978-465-0492	Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC) On the web: <a href="http://www.mafmc.org">www.mafmc.org</a> Telephone: 302-674-2331
Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) On the web: <a href="http://www.asmfc.org">www.asmfc.org</a> Telephone: 703-842-0740	Summary revised January 2012

Species	Control Date	Council	Current status of management action
Ocean pout	9-9-96	NEFMC	No action currently underway.
Bluefish	5-29-97	MAFMC	No action currently underway.
Spiny Dogfish	5-18-98	MAFMC lead (joint plan with NEFMC)	Amendment 3 is under development and may establish limited access and/or recreational management measures.
Capacity Control Scallop Multispecies, Monkfish DAS	9-10-99	NEFMC	No action currently underway.
Black Sea Bass	6-5-01	MAFMC	Would have established different classes of permits for the fishery; considered in Amendment 13 but not adopted by Council.
Atlantic Mackerel	7-5-02	MAFMC	Amendment 11 to the Squid/Mackerel/Butterfish FMP which implemented a limited access program for the mackerel fishery, has been finalized and NOAA Fisheries is accepting applications until February 28, 2013. See the November 18, 2011, permit holder letter for more information <a href="http://www.nero.noaa.gov/nero/nr/nrdoc/11/11MackLAPermitPHL.pdf">http://www.nero.noaa.gov/nero/nr/nrdoc/11/11MackLAPermitPHL.pdf</a>
Hagfish	8-28-02	NEFMC	No action currently underway.
Whiting/red hake/offshore hake	3-25-03	NEFMC	Amendment 18 to the Northeast Multispecies FMP is under development and may establish some form of limited access for the whiting (small-mesh multispecies) fishery.
Multispecies Charter/Party	3-30-06	NEFMC	No action currently underway.
American Lobster	9-1-99 1-2-09	ASMFC	Management action is currently under development and may establish some form of limited access to fish with traps in Lobster Management Areas 1, 2, and the Outer Cape and potentially allow qualified permit holders to transfer traps in Area 2,3, and Outer Cape.
Skates	7-30-09	NEFMC	No action currently underway.