



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

January 24, 2011

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.

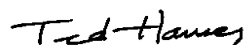
Tuna Permit Holders

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.

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: _____

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

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

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	
Incidental HMS Squid Trawl		1	
Spiny Dogfish	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.
- _____ **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 7/30/2011 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 the Initial Vessel Application



- ✓ 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 application:

- A copy of your **valid** Coast Guard Documentation or a copy of your **valid** State Registration. Expired registrations will not be accepted.
- If your vessel is owned by a corporation or LLC, include a copy of the Certificate of Organization/Incorporation including the full name and address of all officers and shareholders.
- If your vessel is owned by a Partnership, include a copy of Partnership Agreement and the full name and address of each partner.
- 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.
- Include a completed NMFS vessel ownership form listing all persons who have an ownership interest in the vessel.
- 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. Call the Permit Office to obtain this 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

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.

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 (restrictions apply). If you are applying for a limited access scallop permit, you must attach a completed NMFS vessel ownership form (see page 3 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, 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. If you are applying for an IFQ scallop permit, you must attach a completed NMFS vessel ownership form (See page 3 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

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

- 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, 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.

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 one Atlantic halibut and other possession restrictions 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, 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.

HB	Handgear 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 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 page 3 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 in this category may fish for monkfish provided that 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	Vessels in this category may fish for monkfish provided that 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.
C	Vessels in this category may fish for monkfish provided they possess a limited access multispecies permit or a limited access scallop permit. This category includes all gear types except dredge gear.
D	Vessels in this category may fish for monkfish provided 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.
F*	Offshore Fishery Program: Vessels electing this category must have an operational Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) installed on the vessel, and 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**

To fish in the Offshore Fishery Program, a vessel must obtain a monkfish limited access Category F permit and fish under this permit for the entire fishing year, subject to the conditions and restrictions specified. The owner of a vessel, or authorized representative, may change the vessel's limited access monkfish permit category within 45 days of the effective date of the vessel's permit, provided the vessel has not fished under the monkfish DAS program during that fishing year.

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: Vessels electing this category may possess and land a limited amount of monkfish, depending on fishing year, area fished, and gear fished. 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.

❖ 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.

1	Incidental Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Squid Trawl Permit: 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.

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 Individual Fishing Quota 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 includes all gear types.

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

❖ 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 at 50 CFR 697.

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.
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.

❖ 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.

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
Boat Seines	220	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
				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 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



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: www.nefmc.org Telephone: 978-465-0492	Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC) On the web: www.mafmc.org Telephone: 302-674-2331
Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) On the web: www.asmfc.org Telephone: 703-842-0740	Summary revised January 2011

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 has been submitted by the Mid Atlantic Fishery Management Council and, if approved, would establish limited access mackerel fishery.
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.
Loligo & Illex squid	5-20-03	MAFMC	Amendment 14 to the Squid/Mackerel/Butterfish FMP is under development and may establish a catch share program.
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.