

Letter of Authorization (LOA) Request Form

This form may be photocopied



United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NMFS/Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office
55 Great Republic Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930
Phone: (978) 282-8438, Fax: (978) 281-9161

Owner:	Permit Number:
F/V:	Hull Number:

To request an LOA, please enter the owner and vessel information requested above, and a valid start date and end date below. Please see the reverse side of this form for each LOA's enrollment season and minimum enrollment duration.

Please note: A vessel must hold a valid permit in the fishery for which an LOA is requested. Remember to sign and date this form in the spaces provided below. For additional information on the LOAs listed, please see the back of this form, call the Sustainable Fisheries Division at 978-281-9315, or visit www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/aps/permits

You can fax the completed form to: (978) 281-9161 or

Mail the completed form:
NMFS – Permit Office
55 Great Republic Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930

2016 Fishing Year

The **2016 Fishing Year** runs from May 1, 2016 through April 30, 2017

LOA	Requested Start Date	Requested End Date	Enrollment Duration
Herring Carrier			Minimum 7 days
Herring GOM/GB Midwater Trawl			Minimum 7 days
Herring GOM/GB Purse Seine			Minimum 7 days
Herring Transfer and Receive at Sea			No minimum days required
Monkfish (SFMA) **			Minimum 7 days
GOM Cod Landing Limit *			Minimum 7 days
Cultivator Shoals Whiting			Minimum 7 days
Raised Foot Rope Trawl Whiting			Minimum 7 days
P/C Nantucket Lightship Closed Area (CA)			Minimum 7 days
P/C Western GOM Cashes Ledge CA		April 30	No withdrawal allowed
P/C GOM Cod Protection Closures			Minimum 90 days
GOM / GB Transiting			Minimum 7 days
SNE Little Tunny/Gillnet		October 31	No withdrawal allowed
Whiting & Red Hake Transfer-at-Sea			Minimum 7 days
NAFO Regulatory Area***			
Summer Flounder Small-Mesh			Minimum 7 days
Skate (Bait)			Minimum 7 days
Spiny Dogfish (Nantucket Shoals)		October 15	No withdrawal allowed
SMB Transfer-at-Sea			No minimum days required
Atlantic Surfclam/Ocean Quahog GB CA		April 30	No minimum days required

* This LOA is issued to vessels declaring such trips through the Interactive Voice Response (IVR) System.

**Vessels may declare in and out of the Monkfish Exemption Program via their VMS instead of requesting a paper LOA.

*** A vessel must hold a valid High Seas Fishing Permit under 50 CFR part 300 in order to be issued this LOA.

Applicant's Signature: I, the owner or authorized agent of the vessel named above, affirm subject to the penalties provided in 18 U.S.C. 1001, that all information I have provided with this application are true and correct.

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Additional LOA Information and Requirements

For additional information about each LOA program please go to this link:

<http://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/aps/forms.html> or

<http://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/aps/permits>

A vessel issued a valid LOA must carry that LOA on board at all times while enrolled in the LOA program. The effective date of each LOA can be no earlier than one day after the date issued. A vessel's LOA will be valid and in effect for a period no less than its minimum enrollment duration. An LOA automatically expires at the end of a vessel's participation period, unless the owner/operator withdraws from an LOA program prior to that LOA's end date. To be eligible to withdraw from an LOA program, the vessel must meet the minimum enrollment requirement for that LOA and the owner/operator must contact the Greater Atlantic Region Permit Office to obtain a withdrawal certificate. The effective date of a withdrawal certificate can be no earlier than one day after the date requested. If a withdrawal is requested for a future date, then the date requested will be the end date. A vessel is not considered officially withdrawn from an LOA program until the owner/operator receives a withdrawal certificate.

LOA enrollments and withdrawals may be requested by mail, phone, or fax. The participation period for each LOA may not exceed the permit year for that fishery and owners/operators must apply each year to be issued an LOA for a given year.

LOA	Enrollment Season	Enrollment Duration
Herring Carrier	May 1 - April 30	Minimum 7 days
Herring GOM/GB Midwater Trawl	May 1 - April 30	Minimum 7 days
Herring GOM/GB Purse Seine	May 1 - April 30	Minimum 7 days
Herring Transfer and Receive at Sea	May 1 - April 30	No minimum days required
Monkfish (SFMA) **	May 1 - April 30	Minimum 7 days
GOM Cod Landing Limit *	May 1 - April 30	Minimum 7 days
Cultivator Shoals Whiting	June 15 - October 31	Minimum 7 days
Raised Foot Rope Trawl Whiting	September 1 - December 31	Minimum 7 days
P/C Nantucket Lightship Closed Area (CA)	May 1 - April 30	Minimum 7 days
P/C Western GOM Cashes Ledge CA	May 1 - April 30	No withdrawal allowed
P/C GOM Cod Protection Closures	May 1 - April 30	Minimum 90 days
GOM / GB Transiting	May 1 - April 30	Minimum 7 days
SNE Little Tunny/Gillnet	September 1 - October 31	No withdrawal allowed
Whiting & Red Hake Transfer-at-Sea	May 1 - April 30	Minimum 7 days
NAFO Regulatory Area***		
Summer Flounder Small-Mesh	November 1 - April 30	Minimum 7 days
Skate (Bait)	May 1 - April 30	Minimum 7 days
Spiny Dogfish (Nantucket Shoals)	June 1 - October 15	No withdrawal allowed
SMB Transfer-at-Sea	May 1 - April 30	No minimum days required
Atlantic Surfclam/Ocean Quahog GB CA	May 1 - April 30	No minimum days required

* This LOA is issued to vessels declaring trips through the Interactive Voice Response (IVR) System.

** VMS vessels may declare in and out of the Monkfish Exemption Program via their VMS unit instead of requesting a paper LOA.

*** A vessel must hold a valid High Seas Fishing Compliance Permit under 50 CFR part 300 in order to be issued this LOA.

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 5 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions and completing the information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate to: NMFS Permit Office, 55 Great Republic Drive Gloucester, MA 01930. OMB NO. 0648-0202, Expires July 31, 2016.

Owner name, vessel name, hull number, permit number, address, and LOA permit information collected on this form is not confidential and can be made available to the general public or released via a public NOAA Fisheries website. All other data submitted will be handled in accordance with NOAA Administrative Order 216-100, Protection of Confidential Fishery Statistics and Section 402(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.