



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
NORTHEAST REGION
55 Great Republic Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930-2276

Dear Federally Permitted Dealer,

MAY 20 2009

To increase the accuracy of dealer data, we have reviewed, and have decided to discontinue the use of several of the unclassified species codes and their associated unit of measure/market category/grade combinations. This is being done only where more detailed species level identification is available. An example of this would be that dealers are to identify all dogfish at the species level such as "Dogfish, Spiny", "Dogfish, Smooth" or "Dogfish, Chain". The more general "Dogfish, Unc" will no longer be available.

Once implemented, these selections will no longer appear on the SAFIS species tree, or pull-downs menus found in the Federal Trip Ticket Program. Dealers that use Bluefin Data Federal Trip Ticket program must run the program updates to ensure the proper species list is being used. Failure to do so may prevent reports from uploading accurately or being accepted.

Any questions concerning the updating of the Federal Trip Ticket Program may be directed to Claude Petersen at Bluefin Data LLC

(Office: 225-744-0807 Cell: 225-803-1690 claude@bluefindata.com).

SAFIS File Upload users will need to review and edit their species-conversion table to ensure they are reporting to the species level. Once discontinued, use of these codes will result in an upload error

The following unclassified (uncl.) species or species groups will be deactivated on or about **June 01, 2009**:

Clam	Marlin	Shark, Mako	Sturgeon
Crab, Cancer	Porgies	Shark	Tilefish
Dogfish	Scallop	Shark, Carcharinus	Tuna
Eel	Sea Bass	Shark, Thresher	Turtles
Flatfish	Sea Trout	Squids	

If you have questions regarding species identification, please contact your local port agent (as listed at www.nero.noaa.gov/ro/fso/portoff.pdf).

Thank you for your continued cooperation.

Sincerely, _____

Gregory R. Power
Chief, Fisheries Information Section

