



Northeast Region Bulletin

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<http://www.nero.noaa.gov/>
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Days-At-Sea (DAS) Permit Holder

Procedures for Good Samaritan DAS Credit Request

Pursuant to the regulations at 50 CFR 648.53(f)(1), § 648.82(f)(1), and § 648.92(b)(4)(i), a vessel can obtain Good Samaritan DAS credit if assisting the U.S. Coast Guard in a search and rescue operation or towing a disabled vessel. The U.S. Coast Guard does not have the available resources to tow every disabled vessel, but it is essential that they be notified when a vessel becomes disabled. If a fellow vessel is able to assist the disabled vessel, the U.S. Coast Guard needs to be made aware of this so that NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) can verify the events when processing a Good Samaritan DAS credit request. Please follow these instructions when requesting assistance at sea and requesting Good Samaritan DAS Credit.

If you are a distressed vessel at sea:

- First, contact the U.S. Coast Guard to inform them of your condition;
- If the U.S. Coast Guard is unable to assist you at that time, maintain communication with them until a fellow vessel can assist you.

If you are a vessel that has been contacted for assistance and are willing and able to help:

- Proceed to help the vessel in distress;
- If you broke a DAS trip to assist the vessel, you can then submit a Good Samaritan DAS Credit Request Form to NMFS and NMFS will verify the events with the U.S. Coast Guard.

The Good Samaritan DAS Request Form can be found online at
<http://www.nero.noaa.gov/permits/forms/DASCreditForm.pdf>

If you have any questions, please contact Sustainable Fisheries staff at (978) 281-9315.

For small entity compliance guides, this bulletin complies with section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement and Fairness Act of 1996. This notice is authorized by the Regional Administrator of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Northeast Region.