



Greater Atlantic Region Bulletin

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Date Issued: 7/29/2015

ATLANTIC HERRING FISHERY

Updated Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) Reporting Instructions

Effective Date: June 30, 2015

We have updated the VMS Herring Daily Catch Report Form for changes in Atlantic Herring management measures. Please follow the instructions below. We have included a view of the form with new and revised fields highlighted on the back of this letter.

Why have we made these changes?

New and revised reporting requirements will help us monitor river herring and shad catch in the herring fishery (Fields 6-7). We are working on an action that would require you to report slippage events (Field 5), but we have not completed that action yet. We will inform you when you need to complete the additional reporting in Field 5.

Instructions:

- **Fields 1-3:** No changes, please complete them as usual.
- **Field 4:** Please report kept and discarded herring **only** for areas fished. Please leave all other Area fields blank.
- **Field 5:** "Reporting a slippage event with an observer onboard:" This field is not required yet. Please leave this field blank.
- **Field 6:** Please report fishing with either mid-water **or** bottom trawl gear,
- **Field 7:** Please report total fish kept including herring for **each** statistical area fished only. Please leave all other fields blank. We have provided a chart of the statistical areas within each herring management area on the back of this letter. For a larger chart of the stat areas, please visit <http://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/nero/fishermen/charts/stat1.html>.

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.

Herring Daily Catch Form (For Boatracs users, see Macro 45)

Submit this daily report for your Herring trip by 9 AM of the following day.

1. Operator's Permit Number _____
2. Vessel Trip Report (VTR) Serial Number _____
3. Date fish caught (MMDDYY) _____
4.

Herring (lbs)	AREA 1A	AREA 1B	AREA 2	AREA 3
Kept	_____	_____	_____	_____
Discarded	_____	_____	_____	_____
5. Did slippage occur with an observer onboard? Y _ N _
 If yes, select the reason:

_	Safety
_	Mechanical Failure
_	Dogfish
_	Other – Reason: _____
6. Are you fishing mid-water or bottom trawl gear? Y _ N _
 If yes, complete step 7; otherwise, send this report
7. **Total Fish Kept (including herring):**
 Statistical Area _____
 Kept (lbs) _____

Chart of Statistical Areas within Herring Management Areas

