



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NOAA FISHERIES SERVICE  
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Northeast Division  
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## VMS Reporting Instructions for Vessel Owners/Operators McMurdo Fleet Management (formerly Boatracs) Version

**Effective –March 28, 2016**

These instructions are developed for the use of vessel owners and operators who are required to maintain a VMS unit and send reports in accordance with the Greater Atlantic Fisheries Regulations at 50 CFR 648.9 and 648.10. These instructions supplement the regulations and do not replace them. Owners and operators are encouraged to review the regulations.

These instructions are also available on the Greater Atlantic Region (GAR) VMS web page at <http://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/vms/index.html> as shown below:

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## **REPORTING REQUIREMENTS – IN PORT**

1. **Continuous Reporting.** While in port your VMS is required to continuously report your vessel's position to NMFS. Scallop-permitted vessels must report every half-hour, while all other vessels report hourly.

2. **Power Down and Letter of Exemption (LOE).** You may turn the power off to your VMS under specific conditions. You must first consider all of your active GAR permits that require a VMS – your most restrictive reporting requirement will apply. **Table 1** below shows VMS reporting requirements by permit:

<b>Permit (Note 1)</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Start of each Fishing Year:</b>	<b>Exception (Note 4)</b>
Limited Access Scallop	2,3,5,6,7,8	Must report 24/7 every half-hour.	May apply for NMFS <b>Letter of Exemption (LOE).</b>
Surfclam	1	Must report 24/7 every hour.	
Ocean Quahog	6	Must report 24/7 every hour.	
Herring	A,B,C,E, Carrier	Must report 24/7 every hour, except Carrier which must report 24/7 from 1 <sup>st</sup> carrier trip declared via VMS.	
Maine Mahogany Quahog ( <b>Note 2</b> )	7	Must report 24/7 every hour from 1st MMQ trip, regardless of fishing year.	
LAGC Scallop (general category)	A,B,C	Must report 24/7 every half-hour.	May declare the Power Down declaration.
Multispecies ( <b>Note 3</b> )	A,D,E,F	Must report 24/7 every hour from 1st groundfish trip taken and for remainder of fishing year.	May apply for LOE.
Monkfish	F	Must report 24/7 every hour during the Offshore Fishery Program season October 1 to April 30 only.	
Longfin Squid	1	Must report 24/7 every hour.	
Mackerel	T1,T2,T3	Must report 24/7 every hour.	
When electing to provide VMS notifications under:		Must report 24/7 from 1st elected VMS trip taken and for remainder of fishing year.	
Monkfish	A,B,C,D	Reports every hour.	
Occasional Scallop	4,9	Reports every half-hour.	

**Table 1 – In Port VMS Reporting Requirements**

- **Note 1.** Your most restrictive permit applies in determining whether you can power down your VMS in port. Example – if you hold an LAGC scallop permit and a surfclam permit, you must report 24/7 at the dock/mooring and cannot declare the power down code.
- **Note 2.** These vessels are not required to use a VMS until they fish for, land, take, possess or transfer ocean quahogs under a limited access Maine mahogany quahog permit. From that point forward, they must keep the VMS unit on at all times and make trip declarations for as long as the permit is issued to the vessel.
- **Note 3. Sector vessels** must have an operational VMS installed when (1) fishing on a sector trip declared into the groundfish fishery, or (2) when targeting monkfish or skate on a groundfish days-at-sea (DAS); the VMS must be on and used from the first trip until the end of the fishing year.

**Common pool vessels** must have an operational VMS installed when (1) taking the first groundfish DAS trip, or (2) when Category C and HA-permitted vessels are fishing in more than one Broad Stock Area; they must also keep the VMS on and use VMS for all subsequent trips through the fishing year.

- **Note 4.** The regulations at 50 CFR 648.10(c)(2) allow a vessel to power off their VMS after (1) obtaining a NMFS Letter of Exemption (LOE), or (2) sending the power down declaration. The vessel’s most restrictive permit will determine which situation applies. Circumstances that allow an owner to obtain an LOE include (1) the vessel is expected to be out of the water for > 72 consecutive hours, or (2) the vessel will be dockside or moored for a minimum of 30 consecutive days (the vessel may not engage in any fisheries or move from the dock/mooring until the VMS unit is turned back on). The request must be made in advance of the intended exemption period. The LOE application form is available on the VMS web page or by contacting the VMS Team (see **Page 15**). Fill it out and mail, e-mail or fax it to the VMS Team in advance of the date you intend to turn the VMS unit off. You may not turn your VMS unit off until you receive your LOE from NMFS. The LOE must reside on the vessel at all times.

**REPORTING REQUIREMENTS - BEFORE LEAVING PORT**

1. **VMS Power.** If your VMS has been powered off, turn it on and confirm that the unit is reporting normally. You may call the VMS Team to ensure that OLE is receiving your vessel’s signal.
2. **VMS Hardware.** Be sure that your McMurdo FMCT/G (formerly Boatracs) VMS enhanced display unit (EDU) is connected and shows a normal status. The EDU is required in order to be VMS-compliant at sea as it allows NMFS to communicate with your vessel via e-mail.
3. **VMS Software (Macros).** Run the current version of NMFS-required McMurdo Fleet Management macros on your EDU. Failure to operate the required macros will compromise your ability to send proper declarations and forms, and may lead to enforcement action. Approved macro changes are typically sent over the air by McMurdo Fleet Management to all vessels via the satellite network. Contact McMurdo Fleet Management if your unit does not have all the required macros (see **page 17**).

**Effective June 30, 2015 – McMurdo Fleet Management Activity Report (declarations) v16 and Reports (forms) v13**

4. **Activity Declaration.** For every trip, begin by clicking on the button directly below ‘Create Msg’ at the bottom of the EDU screen. Enter the 2-digit macro number of your intended activity:

Macro	Vessel Activity Report	Declaration
14	Version 16.0	Notes ( <i>explanatory notes for macros 20, 21 &amp; 22</i> )
16	Version 16.6	Surfclam; Ocean Quahog
17	Version 16.7	Herring
18	Version 16.8	Mackerel
19	Version 16.9	Longfin Squid
20	Version 16.1	Multispecies Sector
21	Version 16.2	Multispecies Common Pool
22	Version 16.3	Monkfish
23	Version 16.4	Scallop
24	Version 16.5	Declare Out of Fishery; Power Down

**Table 2 – Vessel Activity Report (Declaration) Macros**

The macro form will be shown on your screen. Read each line carefully and enter the information asked for in each required field (and any appropriate optional fields). For macros 20, 21 and 22, be sure to read the associated notes in macro 14. Use the up and down arrow keys to scroll up/down the macro page, and use the 'Enter' key to scroll across a line. Place an 'X' in the appropriate fields for your intended activity. Once you are satisfied that the information entered is correct, click on the button directly below 'Send' at the bottom of the screen. This action sends your activity declaration to NMFS via McMurdo Fleet Management for your intended trip (see two exceptions below). The screen will ask you to confirm sending by hitting the 'Y' key. The screen will then indicate that your declaration message has been 'queued for delivery'.

The logic that verifies whether you sent a 'valid' declaration occurs at the McMurdo Fleet Management Operations Center ('valid' means NMFS regulations allow your chosen combination of gear, DAS, area(s), broad stock area(s), etc.). You will receive an acknowledgment e-mail from McMurdo Fleet Management which is indicated by the 'Message Waiting' light illuminated in red. Click on the button directly below 'Read Next' at the bottom of the screen to view the message. The acknowledgment from McMurdo Fleet Management will be either an acceptance or rejection message. An acceptance indicates that your declaration was valid and forwarded on to NMFS. A rejection indicates that your declaration was sent incorrectly and could not be forwarded on to NMFS. The rejection will provide you a brief description of your error(s); you must send a new declaration until an acceptance is received.

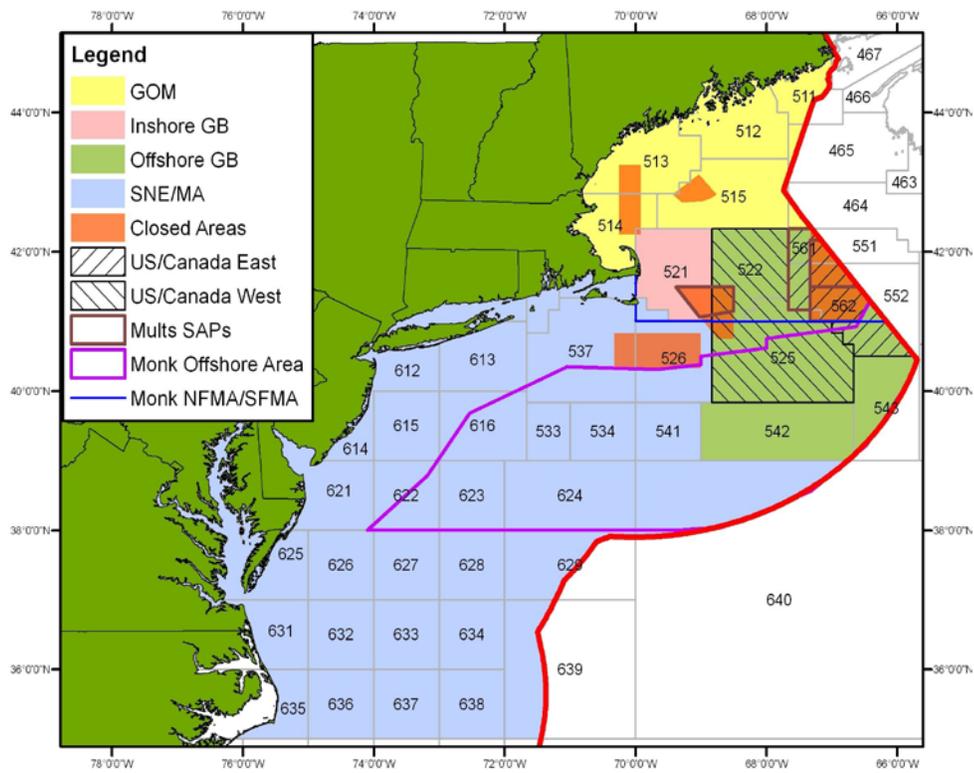
When selecting areas and broad stock areas to fish, **Charts 1-5** on **pages 7-8** may be useful.

**Attachment 1** provides you with screen views and guidance for each of the McMurdo Fleet Management declarations and forms macros. Familiarize yourself with the declaration macros before reading on (please note the 'steps' in many of the declaration screens). **Paragraphs 5 and 6** below provide guidance on sending a declaration for 'Declare Out of Fishery' (DOF) trips and 'Monkfish Option' trips.

a. **Exception 1 - Fishing Inside of, or Inside & Outside of, the VMS Demarcation Line on a Trip.** VMS starts and ends trips as the vessel crosses the VMS demarcation line (see **page 9** for an explanation) and is not able to accurately calculate trip length in these situations. If you intend to fish completely inside the VMS demarcation line, or fish both inside and outside the demarcation line on the same trip, you must (1) declare the trip through the Interactive Voice Response (IVR) Call-In system (**1-888-284-4904**) and (2) declare the DOF activity declaration on your VMS unit (**Note** – If you experience difficulty using the IVR system, call the Analysis and Program Support Division (APSD) for assistance at **(978) 281-9234**. APSD also maintains a back-up IVR message line at **888-487-9994**).

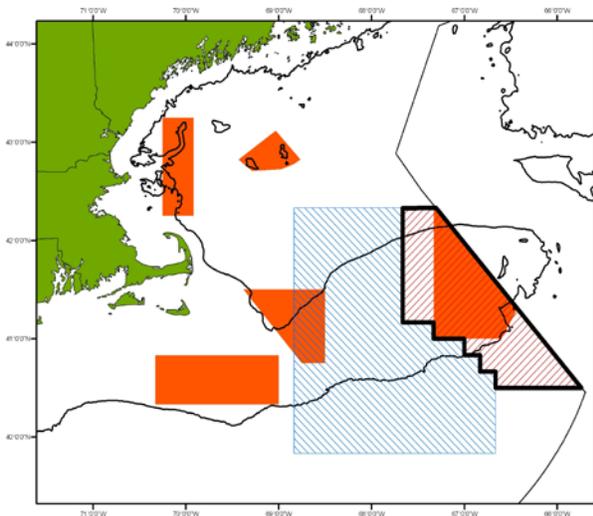
b. **Exception 2 - Fishing on the Same VMS Declaration that was Last Declared.** This alternative method allows owner/operators to call the IVR system and follow the prompts to '**Confirm the Use of a Previous VMS Code**'. It is not to be used in lieu of an inoperable VMS. This feature saves you the step of sending a declaration from your VMS unit and will provide you with a confirmation number; however, it may only be used if your declaration is identical to the last declaration received by NMFS. The IVR system will report to you the last 12-character VMS declaration 'code' received from your vessel so be prepared to know the declaration code you wish to use for your trip. See **Attachment 2** for directions on how to use this feature.

Charts 1-5 depict various areas for Multispecies and Monkfish declaration reporting:

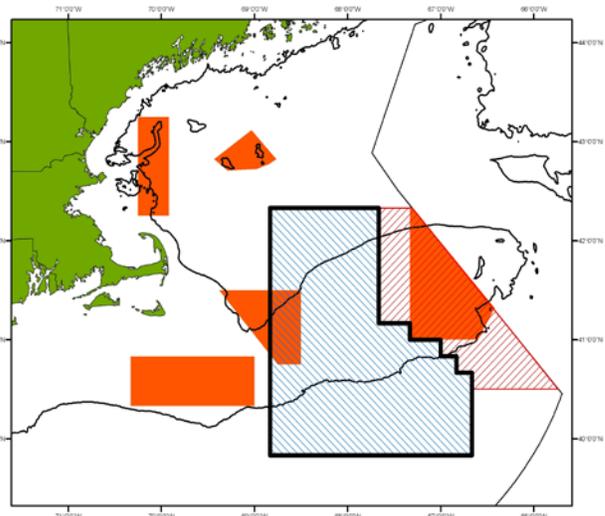


**Chart 1 – Statistical, Closed, Broad Stock, US/Canada, SAP & Monkfish Areas**

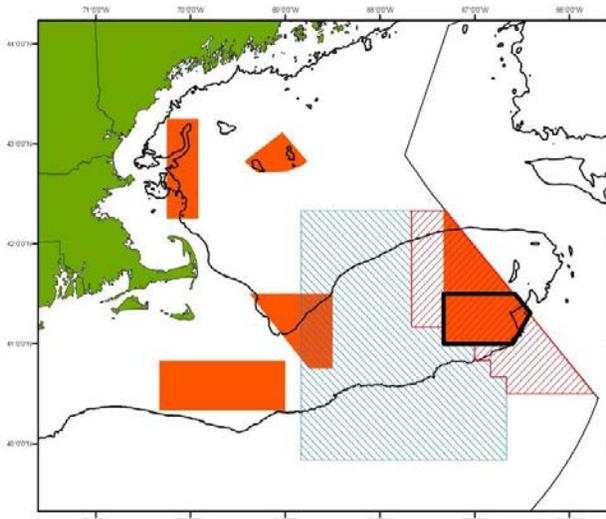
Note - Areas shown below are depicted by heavy black borders.



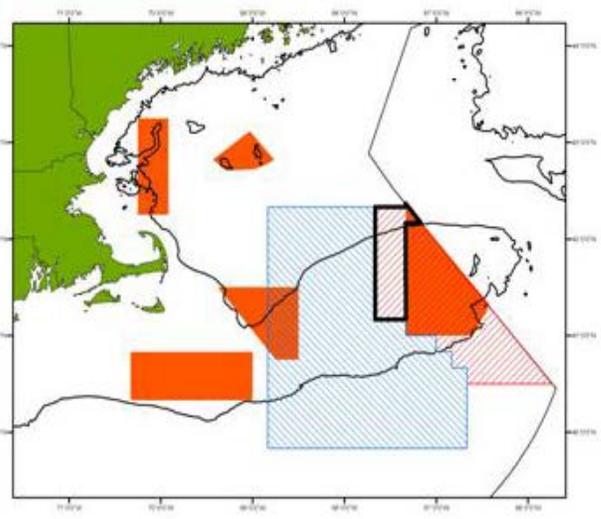
**Chart 2 - Eastern US/Canada Area  
50 CFR 648.85(a)**



**Chart 3 - Western US/Canada Area  
50 CFR 648.85(a)**



**Chart 4 - CA-2 Yellowtail/Flounder Haddock SAP  
50 CFR 648.85(b)**



**Chart 5 - Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP  
50 CFR 648.85(b)**

**5. Declaring Out of Fishery.** These declarations are used whenever the vessel's activity will be any activity other than a limited access scallop trip, general category scallop trip, multispecies sector or days-at-sea trip, monkfish days-at-sea trip, herring trip, surfclam trip, ocean quahog trip, Maine mahogany quahog trip, or longfin squid/mackerel trip. This declaration is also appropriate for any vessel movement away from the dock/mooring when no fishing activity is intended (for example, transits, equipment shakedown/testing, retrieving lost gear, etc). You will find the Declare Out of Fishery or DOF declaration at the top of Macro 24.

There are six (6) DOF declarations to choose from, as follows:

- **Transit without Product Onboard.** Select for all transits between ports when there is no fishing activity, as well as equipment shakedown/testing, retrieving lost gear, etc. (VMS code: DOF-TST-XXXXXX).
- **Transit with Product Onboard.** Select for all transits authorized by regulations in which the vessel is declaring out of a VMS-required fishery and there is product onboard the vessel (VMS code: DOF-TSP-XXXXXX).
- **Fishing - Commercial.** Select for trips when fishing for a non-VMS-required species or for activities covered by Exception 1 on **page 6** (VMS code: DOF-CML-XXXXXX).
- **Fishing - Recreational/Charter.** Select for recreational and charter fishing trips (VMS code: DOF-REC-XXXXXX).
- **Scientific Research.** Select for trips involving scientific research activity when not on an Experimental fishing permit (VMS code: DOF-SCI-XXXXXX).
- **NAFO.** Select only when permitted by NMFS to participate in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) outside the U.S. EEZ (VMS code: DOF-NAF-XXXXXX).

**6. Declaring the Monkfish Option with a Multispecies Declaration.** If you anticipate exceeding the monkfish incidental catch limit while on a multispecies sector or DAS trip and want to retain the monkfish caught, declare the monkfish option in Step 1. This action preserves your ability to change

to a monkfish DAS trip later while at sea (you do not accrue Monkfish DAS unless you decide during the trip to redeclare your trip as a Monkfish trip). However, you must fish your multispecies trip entirely within the monkfish Northern Fishery Management Area (NFMA). Your VMS code will show an ‘M’ (for monkfish option) in the 2<sup>nd</sup> to last character. To declare the option, go to the appropriate multispecies sector (Macro 20) or common pool (Macro 21) declaration screen, then read the text in Step 1 and enter an ‘X’ in the field to the left of ‘Yes’.

**7. Declaration Code.** When received and accepted, your declaration is converted into a 12-character VMS code (format: XXX-XXX-XXXXXX) by McMurdo Fleet Management and transmitted to NMFS. Your acknowledgment message will report the code back to you with a brief description. Check the code and description to be sure they accurately reflect your intended activity. If not, you may always resend a declaration before leaving port.

**8. Declaration Acknowledgment.** Regulations require that you send an accurate declaration; therefore, you are encouraged to await an acknowledgment. An ‘acceptance’ acknowledgment is your confirmation that NMFS will receive the declaration that you sent. It is possible that your declaration may be delivered to NMFS before you receive an acknowledgment; you may always call the VMS Team during the workday to confirm receipt.

**9. Required VMS Reports.** There are activity declarations macros and there are ‘forms’ macros. We have covered the sending of an activity declaration prior to leaving port. Now, we will discuss those forms that, if appropriate for your intended activity, must be sent before leaving port. A list of these forms macros is shown in **Table 3** below. See **Attachment 1** to view these forms.

Macro	VMS Form	Must be sent by:	Purpose
36	Multispecies Trip Start Hail	All Sector vessels declaring a groundfish trip only when fishing on a NMFS exemption(s) or Ops Plan provision(s).	To provide advance notification to enforcement personnel.
49	RSA & EFP Trip Start Hail	All vessels as required by their NMFS RSA or EFP Letter of Authorization.	

**Table 3 – VMS Forms Required to be sent before Leaving Port**

**REPORTING REQUIREMENTS – AT SEA AND RETURNING TO PORT**

**1. VMS Demarcation Line.** The VMS demarcation line is defined by a series of lines connecting 51 coordinates as described in 50 CFR 648.10 and the VMS web page. The line generally follows the contour of the Eastern Seaboard from northern Maine to North Carolina. When your vessel crosses the VMS demarcation line, the NMFS monitoring system automatically records a trip start and trip end event for your trip. Your trip starts on the first VMS position seaward of the line and ends with the first VMS position shoreward of the line.

**2. Trip Start and End.** A VMS trip consists of the VMS-assigned Trip Identification Number, VMS Activity Declaration (Code), Trip Start Date/Time, Trip End Date/Time, and Trip Duration. A VMS trip automatically starts on the first position report sent by your VMS unit that is seaward of the demarcation line (defined as ‘in the Northeast Fishery’). A VMS trip automatically ends on the first position report shoreward of the demarcation line upon the return to port. The declaration that is initially associated with the trip and reported to you in the Trip Start e-mail (described below) is the

last declaration successfully received from your vessel prior to leaving port. The declaration reported to you in the Trip End e-mail is the final declaration associated with the trip and recorded in the NE Region database.

**Note** - Do not declare out of the fishery on your return to port to end your trip or stop your days-at-sea clock – as previously stated, your trip automatically ends with the first VMS position shoreward of the demarcation line on the return to port.

**3. Position Reporting.** While away from the dock or mooring, your vessel's VMS unit must be operational by sending automatic position reports and capable of sending and receiving messages. If you hold a VMS-required limited access or general category scallop permit, your VMS must send position reports on a half-hourly basis regardless of the vessel's activity. For all other permits requiring the use of VMS, the unit must send automatic position reports on an hourly basis regardless of the vessel's activity. For vessels that hold multiple permits, the most restrictive VMS reporting rate applies. If you replace your VMS unit, be sure the replacement unit is correctly set to your vessel's proper reporting rate.

To determine if your McMurdo Fleet Management VMS is positioning normally and sending required position reports to NMFS, there is a light indicator labeled 'No Signal' to the right of the screen. If an amber-colored light is illuminated, the unit is not positioning. An alternate means to check is to press the 'View Status' button (left side of EDU) and 'down arrow' once to check the 'M0' value. The M0 value will have a 'positive' number if 'the unit is positioning (the higher the better, but the average in the Northeast is between 13 and 18). A final means is to call McMurdo Fleet Management 24-hour Client Care (see **page 17**) to verify positioning data, or send an e-mail request to McMurdo Fleet Management (support@boatracs.com) from the VMS unit. E-mail is delivered by a different satellite system; if there is a problem with positioning, e-mail capability may still be available.

**4. If the VMS Unit Stops Positioning.** Please be sure that your VMS unit is well-maintained and sending the required position reports. Periodically check your unit to ensure that it is positioning normally. If your VMS unit stops functioning (positioning and/or messaging) and you're unable to restore normal operation, you are required to terminate your trip and return to port. Notify the VMS Team, and have the unit checked/repared and returned to operational status before the next trip.

**5. NMFS Courtesy E-Mail Notification of Trip Start and End.** The VMS Team manages a script that automatically sends a courtesy trip start and trip end e-mail to your VMS unit for every trip. All costs associated with courtesy e-mails are paid for by NMFS; no cost is incurred by your vessel. The Trip Start e-mail is sent approximately 4 hours after a trip start is recorded by the NMFS monitoring system. The message will be in the following format (example shown):

From:	nmfs.ole.ne@noaa.gov
To:	(vessel's VMS unit e-mail address)
Subject:	F/V (name) - Trip Start
Trip Start:	2014-03-01 09:30
Trip ID:	1301010
VMS Code:	NMS-SEC-OPXWXA. If code is incorrect, return to a port & redeclare.
NE VMS Team:	978-281-9213.

The Trip End e-mail is sent approximately 6-8 hours after a trip end is recorded. If your VMS is

powered down while in port, delivery of the message to your VMS may time out before you receive it. You can also provide the VMS Team with a personal e-mail address to receive the trip start/end e-mails and other e-mails from NMFS (see **Secondary Courtesy E-Mail Address Service** below). The delays in delivery of trip start and end e-mails are a necessary feature of the NMFS VMS trip generation system to ensure accurate trip accounting. The message will be in the following format (example shown):

```
From: nmfs.ole.ne@noaa.gov
To: (vessel's VMS unit e-mail address)
Subject: F/V (name) - Trip End

Trip End: 2014-03-01 21:30
VMS Code: NMS-SEC-OPXWXA
Trip ID: 1301010
Trip Length: 0.5 days
```

6. **Secondary Courtesy E-Mail Address Service.** The VMS Team maintains an e-mail service that allows owners to receive trip e-mails and other NMFS VMS correspondence with the vessel via the owner's personal e-mail address. Go to 'Contact Information' on the VMS web page and see 'VMS Courtesy Messaging'. There is no charge to the vessel owner for this service.

7. **If You Do Not Receive Your Trip E-mail(s).** The VMS Team stops the trip generation program temporarily any time that a delay in delivery of VMS data is detected from one or more VMS vendors. This is necessary to prevent problems with the proper generation of trips that could affect trip accounting. Once the trip generator is restarted, any backlog of trip e-mails should be sent to your vessel and, if appropriate, the secondary e-mail address. For questions, call the VMS Team.

8. **Declaring an Incorrect VMS Activity Declaration.** If your vessel leaves port on a trip and you declared the wrong activity, you should return the vessel to a port (or inside the VMS demarcation line for scallop-permitted vessels on scallop trips) and redeclare the proper activity through your VMS unit. You do not necessarily have to return to the port from which you departed. The vessel must be in a port, or as close to the port as safety dictates. A listing of ports and their OLE-defined geographic location is available on the VMS web page.

9. **Changing the VMS Declaration during a Trip.** When in the NE Fishery, your VMS unit does not allow you to change your trip declaration, except under three specific situations:

- Declaring a 'flex' on a groundfish or monkfish trip;
- Flipping the groundfish DAS type from 'B' to 'A', when possession limits are exceeded; and
- Changing from a multispecies trip to a monkfish DAS trip (only if the monkfish option was declared in port).

If eligible, a vessel may flex, flip and change to a monkfish declaration only once per trip. These actions do not necessarily have to occur simultaneously. These three situations are further described below.

**Note** – Except under specific circumstances when the use of 'Declare out of Fishery with Product Onboard' is authorized by NMFS, you may not send another activity declaration after crossing the demarcation line upon return to port while you have product onboard the vessel.

a. **Declaring a Multispecies or Monkfish ‘FLEX’ Trip.** A flex is declared at sea in the NE Fishery by adding fishing area(s) to the groundfish or monkfish declaration that you sent in port. The flex option is addressed in Macro #14 (Notes #2 and #4) and also in Macro #20 (Step 4). Only one flex per trip is allowed. Sector and common pool vessels have different flex options. To declare a flex, go to the declaration screen that you used to make your initial declaration for the trip, then:

- For Steps 1-3. Choose the same selections you made in port.
- For Step 4. Choose the same program areas that you made in port, and then choose additional areas you want to fish.
- For Step 5. Choose the same broad stock areas (BSAs) that you made in port, and, if appropriate, choose any additional BSAs that you want to fish. Be sure that you select BSAs that encompass the program area(s) that you chose in step 4.

b. **‘Flipping’ the Multispecies Day-at-Sea (DAS) Type.** This situation applies to Multispecies Common Pool vessels only. When multispecies trip limits are exceeded while fishing on a declared Regular or Reserve ‘B’ DAS trip, you must change or ‘flip’ your VMS trip declaration to ‘A’ DAS. To flip, go to the Multispecies Common Pool declaration screen that you used to make your initial declaration for the trip, then:

- Steps 1-2. Choose the same selections you made in port.
- Step 3. Choose ‘Mults A-DAS’.
- Step 4-5. Choose the same selections you made in port.

c. **Changing from a Multispecies to a Monkfish DAS Declaration.** To invoke the monkfish option that you selected with your initial declaration, and change to a monkfish DAS declaration at sea, go to the Monkfish declaration screen, then:

- Step 1. Choose the same selection you made in port.
- Step 2. Choose both Monkfish and Mults DAS.
- Step 3. Choose ‘NFMA’.
- Step 4-5. Choose the same selections you made in port.

Your new Monkfish declaration will retain the trip modifier ‘M’ (for Monkfish Option) in the 2<sup>nd</sup> to last character of the code. You may also flex (one time) either before, during or after changing to a Monkfish DAS declaration. If you do not intend to invoke the monkfish option and want to remain on a groundfish trip declaration, no action is required and you may land your trip on the original declaration. Remember, if you declare the monkfish option before leaving port but decide to fish any part of your trip in the monkfish SFMA, you forfeit your option to change to a Monkfish DAS declaration. Your VMS screen provides brief instructions for changing to a Monkfish DAS declaration. The instructions are located on the Macro 20 (Sector) and Macro 21 (Common Pool) Multispecies declaration screens, with corresponding notes on Macro 14.

10. **Required VMS Reports.** The forms shown below are required to be sent from your VMS unit, as appropriate, while your vessel is at sea and seaward of the VMS demarcation line. A list of these forms is shown in **Table 4** below. See **Attachment 1** to view these forms and specific reporting instructions.

Macro	VMS Form	Must be sent by:	Purpose
35	Multispecies Catch Report	<p><b>Trip-Level Reporting.</b> Submit one report before crossing the VMS demarcation line if:</p> <p>(1) You are declared into a single Broad Stock Area (BSA), and you have not declared into the Eastern US/Canada Area or a sector exemption(s). Complete Steps 1 and 2.</p> <p>(2) You are declared into multiple BSAs outside of the Gulf of Maine (GOM) BSA, and you have not declared into the Eastern US/Canada Area or a sector exemption(s). Complete Steps 1, 2 &amp; 4.</p> <p><b>Daily Reporting.</b> Submit a report for each day of your entire trip by completing Steps 1-4. Each daily report must include an estimate of all catch from 0000 to 2359 hours and must be submitted by 9 AM the following day. A report is required even if you do not catch fish, and regardless of the area actually fished. Daily catch reports are required if:</p> <p>(1) You are declared into the GOM BSA and any other BSA.</p> <p>(2) You are declared into any part of the Eastern US/Canada Area.</p> <p>(3) You are declared into the Redfish Exemption Area.</p> <p><b>Redfish Exemption reporting.</b> In addition to daily reporting (Steps 1-4), you must also submit a report before switching codends by completing Steps 1-5. The report is sent before switching codends; provide an estimate of all catch that day between 0000 hours and the time of the report. The daily report the following day at 9 AM must include any catch from the time you switched codends, until 11:59 PM. You must submit a final report once you have stopped fishing and begin your return to port by completing Steps 1-4.</p> <p><b>Small-Mesh Exemption in Southern New England.</b> You must submit a report by completing Steps 1, 2, 4 &amp; 5 with an estimate of all catch on board, upon completing the large-mesh portion of the trip. You must submit a final report by completing Steps 1, 2 &amp; 4 with an estimate of all catch on board once you have stopped fishing and begin your return to port.</p>	To report VTR and estimated weights prior to landing.
37	Multispecies Trip End Hail	All vessels on groundfish-declared trips at least 6 hours before arrival.	To provide advance notice for the monitoring of offloads.
40	Monkfish Trip Limit Overage DAS Adjustment	Those vessels on monkfish-declared trips that exceed their DAS charge, before crossing the VMS demarcation line on return to port.	To report that the daily trip limit was exceeded by one extra limit so that the vessel's DAS charge may be adjusted.
41	Scallop Daily Catch Report	All Limited Access and LAGC IFQ scallop vessels on scallop-declared trips by 9 am daily.	To report VTR and estimated weights prior to landing.

42	Scallop Pre-Landing Notification	Limited Access and General Category vessels on the following trips at least 6 hours before arrival (or upon crossing shoreward of the demarcation line when a limited access vessel declares out of the limited access scallop day-at-sea fishery to transit to a port south of 39 degrees North with scallops onboard):  (1) All vessels on a declared LAGC scallop trip; (2) A vessel with an LAGC IFQ or NGOM scallop permit on a declared trip <u>outside</u> the scallop fishery when scallops are kept; (3) On a declared limited access scallop access area trip; (4) Declaring out of the limited access scallop day-at-sea fishery to transit to a port south of 39 degrees North with scallops onboard.	To provide advance notice for the monitoring of offloads.
45	Herring Daily Catch Report	All vessels on a declared herring trip by 9 am daily.	To report VTR, and estimated pounds kept and discarded prior to landing.
46	Herring Pre-Landing Notification	All vessels on a declared herring trip at least 6 hours before arrival.	To provide advance notice for the monitoring of offloads.
47	Mackerel and Longfin Squid Daily Catch Report	All Limited Access Mackerel and Limited Access Longfin Squid/Butterfish Moratorium-permitted vessels on a mackerel or longfin squid-declared trip by 9 am daily.	To report VTR and estimated weights prior to landing.
48	Mackerel Pre-Landing Notification	Those Limited Access Mackerel-permitted vessels when the landing will exceed 20,000 lbs at least 6 hours before arrival.	To provide advance notice for the monitoring of offloads.
50	RSA and EFP Trip End Hail	All vessels as required by their NMFS RSA or EFP Letter of Authorization.	To provide advance notice for the monitoring of offloads.

**Table 4 – VMS Forms Required to be Sent While in the NE Fishery**

11. **VMS E-Mail Messaging.** The VMS Team uses e-mail to communicate with your vessel via the VMS. Communications include notifying all VMS vessels of short-notice regulatory changes (area closures, possession limits, etc) and notifying individual vessel operators of potential closed area incursions, VMS non-reporting, declaration miscodings, requests to contact a NMFS enforcement agent or officer, etc. In addition to other notification methods, the Coast Guard may request the VMS vendors to send a severe weather warning. For these purposes, it's important that you monitor your incoming VMS e-mail and maintain the capability to send outgoing e-mail.

12. **Trip ‘Stitching’.** The trip stitching function is a part of the VMS trip generation program. Its purpose is to keep a trip open if a vessel briefly enters and positions shoreward of the VMS demarcation line then exits outside the line to continue its trip. The individual trip segments are stitched or joined together as one trip. For example, vessels that transit through Vineyard and Nantucket Sound may cross the demarcation line several times on their outbound or inbound trip. If trip stitching was not applied, a single trip may be recorded by NMFS as two or more trips, affecting the trip length and/or DAS charge. The rules associated with trip stitching are:

- a. Did the base VMS declaration code (first 6 characters, ie, XXX-XXX) remain the same

before and after the vessel entered the demarcation line? and,

b. Was the vessel inside the demarcation line for less than 4 hours (or, less than 70 minutes for LAGC scallop trips)?

If the answer to both questions above is **yes**, trip stitching will keep the trip intact so that only one trip is recorded. An unintended effect of trip stitching may occur when a vessel ends one trip then departs on another trip within 4 hours under the same base VMS code. Two separate trips may be captured as a single trip. Also, entering back inside the demarcation line for longer than 4 hours, such as transiting the Vineyard/Nantucket Sound area at slow speed, may result in a single trip being recorded as two trips. If you believe that your trip has been erroneously affected by trip stitching, call the VMS Team.

**ADDITIONAL VMS INFORMATION**

1. **DAS Charging for VMS Trips.** The DAS Program is managed by the Analysis and Program Support Division (APSD). Please contact APSD for assistance at **(978) 281-9234**.

2. **VMS Messaging Costs.** Vessel owners are financially responsible for all regulatory reporting requirements through VMS which typically include the messaging shown below. It is recommended that you confirm your payment plan and associated costs with your VMS vendor. NMFS pays for all messages that we send to your vessel and for any additional position reports sent from your VMS unit if NMFS temporarily increases your reporting rate. Vessel owners typically pay for:

- All required 30 or 60 minute position reports sent to NMFS.
- All NMFS-required VMS declarations and reports.
- All other outgoing messages.
- All incoming messages, except those originated by NMFS.

3. **Replacing Your Vessel’s VMS Unit.** Please notify the VMS Team within 3 days of installation of the new unit and prior to your next trip. You will need to submit documentation that you have installed an operational, approved VMS unit. Complete the VMS Certification form available under the ‘Instructions & Forms’ tab on the VMS web page. Mail or fax the form to the VMS Team.

4. **Removing Your Vessel’s VMS Unit.** You may not remove the VMS from the vessel if you’re required to report using VMS. If you cancel or transfer your permits, or sell the vessel and will no longer fish the vessel, contact your VMS vendor. The vendor is responsible for notifying NMFS of any VMS unit deactivations. You may also call the VMS Team to advise us of your intentions.

5. **Contacting the VMS Team.** The VMS Team is located within the Northeast Enforcement Division at the Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA, 01930.

- Phone Number: (978) 281-9213 (follow call prompts)
- FAX Number: (978) 281-9317
- Hours: 7:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday

Name	Position	Responsibility	Contact Info
Bill Semrau	VMS Program Manager	Overall management of the Northeast VMS Program	<a href="mailto:William.Semrau@noaa.gov">William.Semrau@noaa.gov</a> (978) 281-9151
Carol Bleszinski	VMS Technician	Multispecies & Monkfish Reporting; VMS Training; Activations & Deactivations; IVR declaration reporting by VMS vessels.	<a href="mailto:Carol.Bleszinski@noaa.gov">Carol.Bleszinski@noaa.gov</a> (978) 281-9239

Carl Lemire	VMS Technician	Scallop, Surfclam, Ocean Quahog, Maine Mahogany Quahog & NAFO Reporting; VMS Training.	<a href="mailto:Carl.Lemire@noaa.gov">Carl.Lemire@noaa.gov</a> (978) 281-9274
Aimee Ahles	VMS Technician	Herring, Mackerel & Longfin Squid Reporting; Power Down Letters of Exemption (LOE); Welcome Letters.	<a href="mailto:Aimee.Ahles@noaa.gov">Aimee.Ahles@noaa.gov</a> (978) 281-9230
Philip Corcoran	VMS Programmer	VMS Server, scripts, reports and data analysis	<a href="mailto:Philip.Corcoran@noaa.gov">Philip.Corcoran@noaa.gov</a> (978) 281-9309

**Table 5 – VMS Team Contact List**

6. **Alternate E-Mail Address to Contact the VMS Team.** You can send a VMS message at any time to: [nmfs.ole.ne@noaa.gov](mailto:nmfs.ole.ne@noaa.gov). The VMS Team monitors this mailbox during business hours and will respond to your query. Your VMS Trip Start and End e-mails are sent from this address.

7. **Contacting the VMS Support Center.** If you are unable to reach the VMS Team, the National VMS Support Center has extended hours of operation and may be able to answer general questions about VMS registrations and vessel position reporting. The Support Center is also the primary point of contact for the National VMS Reimbursement program (see below). The Support Center will refer technical VMS questions to the appropriate vendor and regulatory questions to the Greater Atlantic Region. The Support Center is located at NMFS Headquarters, Office of Law Enforcement, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD, 20910. Hours of operation are 7:00 am to 11:00 pm, Monday-Friday. Their phone number is **(888) 219-9228 (toll-free)**.

8. **VMS Reimbursement Program.** On the VMS web page, refer to the section entitled ‘VMS Reimbursement Program’ for a summary of the program, and a link to the latest Federal Register announcement of May 6, 2008. Owners/operators who purchased and installed a VMS unit to comply with the following regulatory actions may be eligible for reimbursement of their purchase cost up to \$3,100 as long as funds are available:

- Scallop Framework Adjustment 17
- Multispecies Framework Adjustment 42 and Amendment 16
- Surfclam/Ocean Quahog Framework 1
- Scallop Amendment 11
- Herring Amendment 5
- Squid, Mackerel, Butterfish Amendment 14
- SkyMate ST-2500G and CLS TST type approval non-renewals effective September 30, 2015

Owners/operators who believe they may be eligible should call the VMS Support Center to obtain a confirmation code then submit an application to the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC). Contact the VMS Support Center or refer to the following website: [www.psmfc.org](http://www.psmfc.org).

9. **Contacting NMFS Enforcement.** For law enforcement emergencies only, call the Enforcement Hot Line toll-free on a 24-hour basis at **(800) 853-1964**. Please do not call the Hot Line for a VMS-related equipment or technical issue; rather, contact your respective VMS vendor (below). For law enforcement-related questions or concerns that are of a non-emergency nature, contact your local NMFS enforcement office during business hours as follows:

a. **Northeast Enforcement Division District 1 – New England:**

- Office: Boston, MA
- Coverage: Maine through Connecticut

- Phone Number: (617) 565-1811

**b. Northeast Enforcement Division District 2 – Mid-Atlantic:**

- Office: Wall, NJ
- Coverage: New York through Virginia
- Phone Number: (732) 280-6490

**10. Contacting your VMS Vendor.** McMurdo Fleet Management may be reached at:

- Address: 11610 Iberia Place, Suite 100, San Diego, CA 92128
- Phone: 1-800-262-8722
- Email: support@boatrac.com
- Call Center: 24/7 for technical support
- Web Address: <http://www.mcmurdogroup.com/>

**Attachments:** (1) McMurdo Fleet Management Vessel Activity Reports (Declarations) v16 and Reports (Forms) v13

(2) How to 'Confirm the Use of a Previous VMS Code'.

## CHANGE LOG

DATE	CHANGES
18 Mar 2014	Redrafted to comply with the VMS software upgrade effective this date.
10 Apr 2014	<b>Attachment 1. Page 25. Multispecies Catch Report, Macro #35.</b> Clarified the groundfish sector reporting requirement by adding the following highlighted instruction text: “Important – Sector vessels are only required to submit a trip-level catch report (daily report is not required).”
11 Jun 2014	<b>Page 2, Table of Contents.</b> Added two new subsections under “VMS Declaration”. <b>Page 15. Table 5.</b> The VMS Team contact name and responsibility sections have been updated to reflect personnel changes. <b>Attachment 2.</b> Added new attachment to provide instructions for “Confirming the Use of a Previous VMS Code.”
30 Jun 2014	<b>Attachment 1. Page 25. Multispecies Catch Report, Macro #35.</b> Changed reporting instruction by stating that sector vessels must now submit a daily catch report when declared into the Eastern US/CA Area, Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP, and/or CA-2 Yellowtail/Flounder Haddock SAP.
1 Sep 2014	<b>Page 1.</b> Updated the VMS web address and inserted a newer GARFO website picture. <b>Various pages.</b> Removed references to a September 1, 2014 VMS compliance date for the longfin squid and mackerel fisheries. <b>Page 11.</b> Changed the times for the sending of trip start and trip end notification messages to 4 and 6-8 hours, respectively. <b>Page 14, Table 4.</b> Inserted text in the “Purpose” column for macros 47 and 48.
15 Sep 2014	<b>Page 15.</b> Replaced Tyler Requejo with Robert Bollmann on NE VMS Team Contact List.
1 May 2015	<b>Page 4, Table 1.</b> Removed the power down declaration (exemption) text from Multispecies Sector vessel reporting. <b>Page 9, Table 3.</b> Entered text that Macros 38 and 44 are no longer required to be sent. <b>Pages 13 and 14.</b> Revised the text in the ‘Must be Sent By’ column for Macros 35, 41, 42, 45, 47, 48 and 50. <b>Page 16, Table 5.</b> Replaced Robert Bollmann with Carl Lemire. Added Aimee Ahles. Updated technician responsibilities. <b>Pages 24-26, and 28-33.</b> Added a “Note” regarding regulatory actions and revised the declaration or form instructions. Removed forms and instructions for Macros #38, #43 and #44 on pages 28 and 31.
30 Jun 2015	<b>Page 5.</b> Updated the declaration/forms macro version numbers for the new software upgrade. <b>Page 8.</b> Removed the DOF - Transit declaration, and added 2 new declarations of DOF - Transit with product and without product. <b>Page 9. Table 3.</b> Removed the Scallop Compensation Trip form. <b>Pages 13-14. Table 4.</b> Updated various reporting instructions and removed the Common Pool GOM Cod Trip Limit Exemption form. <b>Page 16.</b> Added the SkyMate and CLS unit non-renewals to the list of eligible reimbursement actions. <b>Attachment 1.</b> Replaced all declaration and form macros with current versions, and updated the reporting requirements.
26 Aug 2015	<b>Various Pages.</b> Boatracs name change to “McMurdo Fleet Management”. Boatracs FMCT/G VMS name change to “McMurdo FMCT/G (Formerly Boatracs)”.
28 Mar 2016	<b>Page 13, Multispecies Catch Report.</b> For ‘Trip-Level Reporting’, changed the ‘multiple BSA’ requirement from Steps 1, 2 & 3 to Steps 1, 2 & 4. For ‘Redfish Exemption Reporting’, changed the ‘switching codends’ requirement from Steps 1-4 to Steps 1-5. For ‘Small Mesh Exemption Reporting in Southern New England’, changed the ‘completing the large mesh portion of the trip’ requirement from Steps 1, 2 & 4 to Steps 1, 2, 4 & 5. <b>Pages 26-27.</b> The changes on Page 13 were also reflected in the Marco #35 instructions.

## ATTACHMENT 1

### McMurdo Fleet Management Vessel Activity Reports (Declarations) v16 and Reports (Forms) v13

**Declaration Macros.** Once you select the appropriate macro to make your declaration, follow the steps when they are provided, and make note of which fields are required and optional. Use the ‘Up’ or ‘Down’ arrow button to move the cursor up or down the macro page. Use the ‘Enter’ button to move the cursor to the right (for example, when there is more than one field on a line). The ‘Up’ arrow button may also be used to move back to a previous field on that line. Unless otherwise directed, place an ‘X’ in the appropriate fields, verify your selection, and then click the ‘Send’ button. The screen will ask you to confirm your selection by entering a ‘Y’ before sending. Send your declaration and then review your acknowledgment message. Send another (correct) declaration if you receive a rejection acknowledgment from McMurdo Fleet Management.

The following pages will show you each of the macros and provide guidance (in the red boxes to the left and/or of the form) for filling in the fields.

**\*\*\* Note: When selecting an area or areas to fish in from the appropriate declaration macro, be sure that the area(s) is open for your intended fishing activity. The areas shown on your VMS declaration macros are entirely independent of any regulation or action by NMFS that opens or closes an area.**

Macro #14 – Notes:

This separate macro was created because some of the explanatory notes in the declaration macros could not fit due to macro size restrictions.

In the declaration macro views on the following pages, there will be field instructions that ask you to review the appropriate note (#1-5) in this macro.

VESSEL ACTIVITY REPORT V16.0  
NE - NOTES

PLEASE REFER TO THIS DOCUMENT AS DIRECTED BY MULTISPECIES AND MONKFISH DECLARATION MACROS.

#1. NOTE: IF YES, YOU MUST FISH ENTIRELY WITHIN THE MONKFISH NFMA. IF YOU EXCEED THE INCIDENTAL MONKFISH LIMIT, YOU MUST REDECLARE YOUR TRIP AT THE MONKFISH DECLARATION SCREEN BY SELECTING NFMA AND THE SAME GEAR, PROGRAM AND BSA(S).

#2. FLEX OPTION: YOU MAY ADD THE OPEN AREA AND/OR WESTERN US/CA AREA TO YOUR EASTERN US/CA AREA, CA-2 YELLOWTAIL/HADDOCK SAP OR EASTERN SAP TRIP ONCE PER TRIP BY REPEATING STEPS 1-5 ON THE MULTISPECIES COMMON POOL SCREEN.

#3. NOTE: IF REDECLARING A MONKFISH TRIP FROM A MULTISPECIES TRIP, SELECT NFMA.

#4. MULTS FLEX OPTION: YOU MAY ADD PROGRAM AREA(S) AND BSA(S) ONCE PER TRIP BY REPEATING STEPS 1-5 ON THE MONKFISH SCREEN.

#5. MONKFISH-PERMITTED VESSELS MUST MAKE BSA SELECTIONS BELOW WHEN USING MULTS DAS IN STEP 5.

Macro #16 – Surfclam and Ocean Quahog declaration:

Step 1. Select the type of trip (only one).

Step 2. For ITQ trips, enter an 'X' only if you intend to fish the 'Reopened Portion of the Georges Bank PSP Area' during your trip.

VESSEL ACTIVITY REPORT V16.6  
NE - SURFCLAM AND OCEAN QUAHOG

STEP 1. (REQUIRED) WHAT TYPE OF TRIP WILL YOU BE FISHING? (NOTE: SELECT ONLY ONE)

- \_ SURFCLAM ITQ TRIP
- \_ OCEAN QUAHOG ITQ TRIP
- \_ MAINE MAHOGANY QUAHOG TRIP

STEP 2. (OPTIONAL) FOR SURFCLAM OR OCEAN QUAHOG ITQ TRIPS, WILL YOU FISH THE REOPENED PORTION OF THE GEORGES BANK PSP AREA? (NOTE: YOU MUST HAVE PRIOR NMFS AUTHORIZATION)

- \_ YES

Macro #17 – Herring declaration:

Step 1. Herring carrier has no gear capable of catching fish. Enter an 'X' by either 'yes' or 'no'. Select only one.

Step 2. Enter an 'X' by the gear you intend to fish. Select 'none' if you answered 'yes' in Step 1. Select only one.

VESSEL ACTIVITY REPORT V16.7  
NE - HERRING

STEP 1. (REQUIRED) ARE YOU DECLARING A HERRING CARRIER TRIP? \_ YES \_ NO

STEP 2. (REQUIRED) WHAT GEAR WILL YOU BE FISHING?

- \_ BOTTOM TRAWL
- \_ MID-WATER TRAWL (SINGLE OR PAIR)
- \_ PURSE SEINE
- \_ OTHER GEAR
- \_ NONE (CARRIER TRIP ONLY)

STEP 3. (REQUIRED) DO YOU INTEND TO RETAIN MACKEREL AND/OR LONGFIN SQUID? \_ YES \_ NO

STEP 4. (OPTIONAL) WILL HERRING RSA QUOTA BE HARVESTED ON THIS TRIP? \_ YES

Step 3. Enter an 'X' by either 'yes' or 'no'. Select only one.

Step 4. Enter an 'X' by 'yes' only if you intend to harvest herring RSA quota.

Macro #18 – Mackerel declaration:

Step 1. Enter an 'X' by either 'yes' or 'no'. Skip to Step 3 if you don't intend to retain herring.

Step 2. If you answered 'yes' to step 1, enter an 'X' by the gear you intend to fish. Select only one.

Step 3. Enter an 'X' by either 'yes' or 'no'. Select only one.

VESSEL ACTIVITY REPORT V16.8  
NE - MACKEREL

STEP 1. (REQUIRED) DO YOU INTEND TO RETAIN HERRING?

- \_ YES \_ NO (IF NO - GO TO STEP 3)

STEP 2. (REQUIRED IF YES TO STEP 1) WHAT GEAR WILL YOU BE FISHING?

- \_ BOTTOM TRAWL
- \_ MID-WATER TRAWL (SINGLE OR PAIR)
- \_ PURSE SEINE
- \_ OTHER GEAR

STEP 3. (REQUIRED) DO YOU INTEND TO RETAIN LONGFIN SQUID? \_ YES \_ NO

Macro #19 – Longfin Squid declaration:

Step 1. Enter an 'X' by either 'yes' or 'no'. Skip to Step 3 if you don't intend to retain herring.

Step 2. If you answered yes to step 1, enter an 'X' by the gear you intend to fish. Select only one.

Step 3. Enter an 'X' by either 'yes' or 'no'. Select only one.

Step 4. Enter an 'X' by 'yes' only if you intend to harvest longfin squid RSA quota.

VESEL ACTIVITY REPORT V16.9  
NE - LONGFIN SQUID

STEP 1. (REQUIRED) DO YOU INTEND TO RETAIN HERRING?  
\_ YES \_ NO (NO - GO TO STEP 3)

STEP 2. (REQUIRED IF YES TO STEP #1) WHAT GEAR WILL YOU BE FISHING?  
\_ BOTTOM TRAWL  
\_ MID-WATER TRAWL (SINGLE OR PAIR)  
\_ PURSE SEINE  
\_ OTHER GEAR

STEP 3. (REQUIRED) DO YOU INTEND TO RETAIN MACKEREL? \_ YES \_ NO

STEP 4. (OPTIONAL) WILL LONGFIN SQUID RSA QUOTA BE HARVESTED ON THIS TRIP?  
\_ YES

Macro #20 - Multispecies Sector declaration:

**Note – For sector vessel use only.**

Step 1. First, read **Note #1** on Macro 14. Enter an 'X' by 'Yes' only if you may need to change your declaration while in the NE Fishery to a monkfish trip.

Step 2. Place an 'X' by the gear you intend to fish. Select only one.

Step 3. Select either one of the 3 choices, or select multis A-DAS and scallop DAS, as appropriate.

VESEL ACTIVITY REPORT V16.1  
NE - MULTISPECIES SECTOR  
READ MACRO 14 NOTE #1  
PRIOR TO FILLING OUT THIS FORM

STEP 1. (OPTIONAL) DO YOU WANT TO ADD THE MONKFISH OPTION? \_ YES (NOTE #1)

STEP 2. (REQUIRED) WHAT GEAR WILL YOU BE FISHING? \_ TRAWL \_ HOOK \_ GILLNET

STEP 3. (REQUIRED) WHAT DAS WILL YOU BE FISHING ON? (NOTE: CHECK ALL THAT APPLY TO YOUR TRIP)  
\_ NO DAS  
\_ MULTS A-DAS  
\_ SCALLOP DAS  
(NOTE: TRAWL GEAR ONLY. YOU MUST ALSO DECLARE SCALLOP TRIP THRU IVR)

STEP 4. (REQUIRED) WHAT PROGRAM AREA(S) WILL YOU FISH IN? (NOTE: CHECK ALL THAT APPLY TO YOUR TRIP) (FLEX OPTION: YOU MAY ADD PROGRAM AREA(S) AND BSA(S) ONCE PER TRIP BY REPEATING STEPS 1-5 ON THIS SCREEN)  
\_ REGULAR ACCESS (OPEN AREA)  
\_ WESTERN US/CANADA AREA  
\_ EASTERN US/CANADA AREA (OUTSIDE SAPS)  
\_ CA-2 YELLOWTAIL/HADDOCK SAP  
\_ EASTERN US/CANADA HADDOCK SAP  
\_ CA-1 HOOK GEAR HADDOCK SAP (HOOK GEAR ONLY)

STEP 5. (REQUIRED) WHAT BSA(S) WILL YOU FISH IN? (NOTE: CHECK ALL THAT APPLY BASED ON THE PROGRAM AREA(S) SELECTED ABOVE))  
\_ GULF OF MAINE  
\_ INSHORE GEORGES BANK  
\_ OFFSHORE GEORGES BANK  
\_ SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND

Step 4. Place an 'X' by each area you intend to fish.

To FLEX, reenter your selections for steps 1-5 again, but select additional area(s) and broad stock area(s) (BSA) in Steps 4 and 5, respectively.

Step 5. Select the BSA(s) that encompass the areas selected in Step 4.

Macro #21 - Multispecies Common Pool declaration:

Note – For **common pool** vessel use only.

Step 1. First, read **Note #1** on Macro 14. Enter an 'X' by 'Yes' only if you may need to change your declaration while in the NE Fishery to a monkfish trip.

Step 2. Place an 'X' by the gear you intend to fish. Select only one.

Step 3. Place an 'X' by the appropriate DAS for your trip. Your choices are:

- multispecies (mults) A
- mults B-Regular
- mults B-Reserve
- mults A & Scallop
- mults B-Regular & scallop
- mults B-Reserve & scallop

To FLIP (change from a B-DAS to an A-DAS), reenter your selections for Steps 1-2 and 4-5 again, but select mults A in Step 3.

VESSEL ACTIVITY REPORT V16.2  
NE - MULTISPECIES COMMON POOL  
READ MACRO 14 NOTES #1 AND #2  
PRIOR TO FILLING OUT THIS FORM

STEP 1. (OPTIONAL) DO YOU WANT TO ADD THE MONKFISH OPTION? \_ YES (NOTE #1)

STEP 2. (REQUIRED) WHAT GEAR WILL YOU BE FISHING? \_ TRAWL \_ HOOK \_ GILLNET

STEP 3. (REQUIRED) WHAT DAS WILL YOU BE USING? (NOTE: CHECK ALL THAT APPLY TO YOUR TRIP. IF YOU SELECT B-DAS, YOU MUST FLIP TO A-DAS IF TRIP LIMIT EXCEEDED)

\_ MULTS A-DAS (ALL PROGRAMS/AREAS)

\_ MULTS B-REGULAR DAS (ONLY SAPS OR B-DAS PROGRAM)

\_ MULTS B-RESERVE DAS (ONLY SAPS)

\_ SCALLOP DAS (NOTE: TRAWL GEAR ONLY YOU MUST ALSO DECLARE SCALLOP TRIP THRU IVR)

STEP 4. (REQUIRED) WHAT PROGRAM AREA(S) WILL YOU FISH IN? (NOTE: CHECK ALL THAT APPLY TO YOUR TRIP) (NOTE #2)

\_ REGULAR ACCESS (OPEN AREA)

\_ WESTERN US/CANADA AREA

\_ EASTERN US/CANADA AREA

(OUTSIDE SAPS)

\_ CA-2 YELLOWTAIL/HADDOCK SAP

\_ EASTERN US/CANADA HADDOCK SAP

\_ CA-1 HOOK GEAR HADDOCK SAP (HOOK GEAR ONLY) (NOTE: YOU MAY NOT SELECT THIS SAP WITH OTHER PROGRAMS)

\_ B-DAS PROGRAM (NOTE: YOU MAY NOT SELECT THIS PROGRAM WITH ANY SAP ABOVE)

STEP 5. (REQUIRED) WHAT BSA(S) WILL YOU FISH IN? (NOTE: CHECK ALL THAT APPLY BASED ON THE PROGRAM AREA(S) SELECTED ABOVE)

\_ GULF OF MAINE

\_ INSHORE GEORGES BANK

\_ OFFSHORE GEORGES BANK

\_ SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND

Step 4. First, if you're at sea and will FLEX (add areas to your initial declaration) read **Note #2** on Macro 14.

Place an 'X' by each area you intend to fish.

To FLEX, reenter your selections for Steps 1-5 again, but select additional area(s) and broad stock area(s) (BSA) in Steps 4 and 5, respectively.

Step 5. Place an 'X' by the BSA(s) that encompass the area(s) selected in Step 4.

Macro #22 – Monkfish declaration:

Step 1. Place an 'X' by the gear you intend to fish. Select only one.

Step 2. Unless this is a Monkfish RSA trip, always select at least Monkfish DAS.

Additionally, if appropriate, select multispecies (mults) DAS and/or Scallop DAS (remember, select mults DAS if your allocation requires you to use both mults and monkfish DAS simultaneously).

Step 3. First, if you're at sea and changing your multispecies declaration to a monkfish declaration, read **Note #3** on Macro 14.

Place an 'X' in one of the two fields. If you intend to fish in both the NFMA and SFMA, then select "Any part of trip fished in SFMA."

VESSEL ACTIVITY REPORT V16.3  
NE - MONKFISH  
READ MACRO 14 NOTES #3, #4 AND #5  
PRIOR TO FILLING OUT THIS FORM

STEP 1. (REQUIRED) WHAT GEAR WILL YOU BE FISHING? (IF REDECLARING A MONKFISH TRIP FROM A MULTISPECIES TRIP, SELECT SAME GEAR)  
\_ TRAWL \_ HOOK \_ GILLNET

STEP 2. (REQUIRED) WHAT DAS WILL YOU BE USING? (NOTE: CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)  
\_ MONKFISH DAS  
\_ MONKFISH RSA DAS (NOTE: MAY NOT BE USED WITH THE MONKFISH OPTION)  
\_ MULTS DAS BY A SECTOR VESSEL  
\_ MULTS DAS BY COMMON POOL VESSEL  
\_ SCALLOP DAS (NOTE: FOR SCALLOP DAS TRIPS, YOU MUST USE TRAWL GEAR ONLY AND DECLARE A SCALLOP DAS TRIP USING THE IVR CALL-IN)

STEP 3. (REQUIRED) WHAT MANAGEMENT AREA WILL YOU FISH IN? (NOTE #3)  
\_ ENTIRE TRIP FISHED IN NFMA, OR IF TRIP STARTED AS MULTISPECIES TRIP  
\_ ANY PART OF TRIP FISHED IN SFMA

STEP 4. (REQUIRED) WHAT PROGRAM AREA(S) WILL YOU FISH IN? (NOTE: CHECK ALL THAT APPLY TO YOUR TRIP)(NOTE #4)  
\_ MONKFISH-ONLY (NO PROGRAM DECLARED)  
\_ MONKFISH OFFSHORE AREA (CAT F ONLY)  
\_ MULTS REGULAR ACCESS (OPEN AREA)  
\_ MULTS WESTERN US/CANADA AREA  
\_ MULTS EASTERN US/CANADA AREA (OUTSIDE SAPS)  
\_ MULTS CA-2 YELLOWTAIL/HADDOCK SAP  
\_ MULTS EASTERN US/CANADA HADDOCK SAP  
\_ MULTS CA-1 HOOK GEAR HADDOCK SAP (HOOK GEAR ONLY)

STEP 5. (REQUIRED) WHAT MULTS BSA(S) WILL YOU FISH IN? (NOTE: CHECK ALL THAT APPLY BASED ON PROGRAM(S) SELECTED ABOVE.) (NOTE #5)  
\_ MONKFISH-ONLY (NO BSA DECLARED)  
\_ GULF OF MAINE  
\_ INSHORE GEORGES BANK  
\_ OFFSHORE GEORGES BANK  
\_ SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND

Step 4. First, if you're at sea and will FLEX (add areas to your initial declaration) read **Note #4** on Macro 14.

Place an 'X' by each area you intend to fish. If you selected only Monkfish DAS in Step 2, then select 'Monkfish-Only' (for CAT F vessels, select 'Monkfish Offshore Area'). If you selected Mults DAS in Step 2, you must select appropriate mults areas here.

To FLEX, reenter your selections for steps 1-5 again, but select additional area(s) and broad stock area(s) (BSA) in Steps 4 and 5, respectively.

Step 5. First, if you have an allocated mults DAS balance, read **Note #5** on Macro 14.

Select those BSAs that encompass the areas selected in Step 4.

However, select 'Monkfish-Only' if you are not using Multispecies DAS.

Macro #23 - Scallop declaration:

**For LAGC scallop trips:**

Enter an 'X' by only one area selection here.

You may then send your declaration, unless you intend to harvest scallop RSA quota (if so, go to the optional question at the bottom of the form, enter an 'X' in the field, and then send your declaration).

**For Limited Access scallop trips:** Select from either paragraph A, B, or C.

If you select paragraph B, select only one area.

You may then send your declaration, unless you intend to harvest scallop RSA quota (if so, go to the optional question at the bottom of the form, enter an 'X' in the field, and then send your declaration).

VESSEL ACTIVITY REPORT V16.4  
NE - SCALLOP

GENERAL CATEGORY (LAGC) PERMIT:  
(REQUIRED) IF YOU WILL BE FISHING  
ON A GENERAL CATEGORY (LAGC) PERMIT,  
SELECT AN AREA AND SEND YOUR  
DECLARATION:

- OPEN (FEDERAL EXEMPTION AREAS)
- MID-ATLANTIC SAA
- CLOSED AREA 1 SAA
- NANTUCKET LIGHTSHIP SAA
- HUDSON CANYON SAA
- ELEPHANT TRUNK SAA
- NGOM (FEDERAL)
- NGOM (STATE ONLY)
- DELMARVA SAA
- STATE WATERS EXEMPTION PROGRAM

LIMITED ACCESS PERMIT:  
(REQUIRED) IF YOU WILL BE FISHING  
ON A LIMITED ACCESS PERMIT, SELECT  
FROM A, B, OR C BELOW, AND SEND  
YOUR DECLARATION:

- A. REGULAR ACCESS TRIP
  - OPEN
- B. SPECIAL ACCESS TRIP
  - MID-ATLANTIC SAA
  - CLOSED AREA 1 SAA
  - CLOSED AREA 2 SAA
  - NANTUCKET LIGHTSHIP SAA
  - ELEPHANT TRUNK SAA
  - HUDSON CANYON SAA
  - DELMARVA SAA
- C. STATE WATERS EXEMPTION PROGRAM
  - OPEN

(OPTIONAL) WILL SCALLOP RSA QUOTA BE  
HARVESTED ON THIS TRIP?  YES

Macro #24 – Revised Declare Out of Fishery & Power Down declarations:

**Declare Out of Fishery:**

Enter an 'X' by only one of the 6 choices.

Please note:

Vessels authorized to transit '**with** product onboard' should declare [DOF-TSP].

'Fishing – Commercial' is to be used for trips targeting non-VMS-required species.

'NAFO' is only for those few vessels receiving NMFS permits to participate in this international fishery outside the U.S. EEZ.

**Power Down:** This declaration is only for use by LAGC scallop-permitted vessels as long as they do not have other permits requiring continuous VMS reporting.

VESSEL ACTIVITY REPORT V16.5  
NE - DECLARE OUT OF FISHERY/POWER DOWN

DOF IS DEFINED AS DECLARING OUT OF LIMITED ACCESS SCALLOP, NE MULTISPECIES OR MONKFISH DAS, LAGC SCALLOP, HERRING, SURFCLAM/OCEAN QUAHOG, MACKEREL/LONGFIN SQUID TRIP; OR DECLARING INTO A SOUTHEAST REGION NON-VMS TRIP.

NOTE: CHECK ONLY ONE BELOW:

- TRANSIT WITHOUT PRODUCT ONBOARD [DOF-TST]
- TRANSIT WITH PRODUCT ONBOARD [DOF-TSP]
- FISHING - COMMERCIAL [DOF-CML]
- FISHING - RECREATIONAL/CHARTER [DOF-REC]
- SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH [DOF-SCI]  
(NOTE: DO NOT USE THIS DECLARATION IF FISHING UNDER AN EFP)
- NAFO - ONLY FOR INTERNATIONAL NW ATLANTIC FISHERY ORG PARTICIPATION [DOF-NAF]

POWER DOWN (RESTRICTED USE)

NOTE: RESTRICTED FOR USE AT THE DOCK/MOORING BY LAGC SCALLOP VESSELS, AND ONLY WHEN THESE VESSELS DO NOT HAVE OTHER VMS PERMITS REQUIRING CONTINUOUS REPORTING. USE OF THIS POWERDOWN DECLARATION WHILE UNDERWAY IS A VIOLATION. ALL OTHER VESSELS ARE NOT AUTHORIZED TO USE THIS DECLARATION.

- NMFS-AUTHORIZED POWER DOWN [PWD-PWD]

**Form Macros.** The following pages display all VMS forms or reports, and instructions (red boxes) for completing them. Remember - Use the **'Up'** or **'Down'** arrow button to move the cursor up or down the macro page. Use the **'Enter'** button to move the cursor to the right (for example, when there is more than one field on a line). The **'Up'** arrow button may also be used to move back to a previous field on that line. Enter the information into the appropriate fields, verify your selections, and then click the **'Send'** button. The screen will ask you to confirm your selection by entering a **'Y'** before sending.

**\*\*\*You will receive a rejection message from McMurdo Fleet Management if you enter invalid information in any field. If so, simply send a new report while being sure to send the correct information. Contact the VMS Team if you need assistance.**

Macro #35 - Multispecies Catch Report:

- All catch reports must contain at least the operator's permit number and VTR number.
- Step 1. Enter your 8-digit operator permit number.
- Step 2. Enter your 8-digit VTR or 14-digit e-VTR number.
- Step 3. Enter the 2-digit month, day and year of the reported catch. **Use the 'Enter' key to move the cursor to the next field to the right.**
- Step 4. First, enter the 3-digit statistical (stat) area where the species kept was harvested (you may enter up to 4 different stat areas on a single catch report).  
  
Next, below each stat area enter the estimated weight of each species kept (up to 6 digits). Finally, be sure to enter the total amount of NON-groundfish kept for each stat area.
- Step 5. Go to the next page  
↓

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MULTISPECIES CATCH REPORT V13

DEPENDING UPON WHERE YOU DECLARE TO FISH AND ANY SECTOR EXEMPTION REQUIREMENTS, YOU MAY BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT THIS REPORT AS FOLLOWS:
(A) FOR DAILY REPORTS, BY 9 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY; OR
(B) FOR A TRIP-LEVEL REPORT, BEFORE CROSSING THE VMS DEMARCATION LINE.
IF YOU ARE IN A SECTOR, CONTACT YOUR SECTOR MANAGER FOR ASSISTANCE. ANY VESSEL MAY CONTACT: NMFS SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES DIVISION (978-281-9315), NMFS VMS TEAM (978-281-9213 OR NMFS.OLE.NE@NOAA.GOV), OR SEE 50 CFR PART 648 FOR SPECIFIC REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

1. OPERATOR'S PERMIT #: _____
2. VTR SERIAL #: _____
   (REPORTED TO DEALER)
NOTE: YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO ENTER A 'ZERO' IN THOSE SPECIES FIELDS BELOW IN WHICH NO FISH WERE KEPT.
3. DATE FISH CAUGHT: __/__/__(MM/DD/YY)
4. REPORT (LBS) KEPT BY
STAT AREA:  _____
COD         _____
YELLOWTAIL  _____
POLLOCK     _____
WHITE HAKE  _____
WINTER FLDR _____
WITCH FLDR  _____
HADDOCK     _____
REDFISH     _____
PLAICE      _____
HALIBUT     _____
NON-GROUNDFISH _____

5. IF YOU DECLARED AN EXEMPTION THAT ALLOWS THE USE OF A SMALLER MESH CODEND ON THIS TRIP AND YOU INTEND TO UTILIZE THAT EXEMPTION IMMEDIATELY AFTER SENDING THIS REPORT, ENTER Y HERE: _
  
```

- Trip-Level Reporting.** Submit one report before crossing the VMS demarcation line if:
  - (1) You are declared into a single Broad Stock Area (BSA), and you have not declared into the Eastern US/Canada Area or a sector exemption(s). Complete Steps 1 and 2.
  - (2) You are declared into multiple BSAs outside of the Gulf of Maine (GOM) BSA, and you have not declared into the Eastern US/Canada Area or a sector exemption(s). Complete Steps 1, 2 & 4.
- Daily Reporting.** Submit a report for each day of your entire trip by completing Steps 1-4. Each daily report must include an estimate of all catch from 0000 to 2359 hours and must be submitted by 9 AM the following day. A report is required even if you do not catch fish, and regardless of the area actually fished. Daily catch reports are required if:
  - (1) You are declared into the GOM BSA and any other BSA.
  - (2) You are declared into any part of the Eastern US/Canada Area.
  - (3) You are declared into the Redfish Exemption Area.

## Macro #35 - Multispecies Catch Report (cont'd)

**Step 5. Redfish Exemption reporting.** Submit a report before switching codends by completing Steps 1-5. Provide an estimate of all catch that day between 0000 hours and the time of the report. The daily report the following day at 9 AM must include any catch from the time you switched codends, until 11:59 PM. You must submit a final report once you have stopped fishing and begin your return to port by completing Steps 1-4.

**Small-Mesh Exemption in Southern New England.** You must submit a report by completing Steps 1, 2, 4 & 5 with an estimate of all catch on board, upon completing the large-mesh portion of the trip. You must submit a final report by completing Steps 1, 2 & 4 with an estimate of all catch on board once you have stopped fishing and begin your return to port.

## Macro #36 - Multispecies Trip START Hail:

The trip start hail is required by NMFS only if a sector vessel intends to fish on a NMFS exemption granted to your sector or on a Sector Ops Plan provision.

Step 1. Enter your 8-digit operator permit number.

Step 2. Enter your 8-digit VTR or 14-digit e-VTR number.

Step 3. Enter 'Y' for 'yes' if you will be taking a NMFS observer or at-sea monitor onboard this trip. Otherwise, enter 'N' for 'no'.

Steps 4 & 5. Enter an 'X' by all appropriate exemptions and/or provisions to be fished under for this trip.

Steps 6 & 7. Enter the name of the city (characters A-Z only) and enter the 2-character state (postal abbreviation) where the catch will be landed.

### MULTISPECIES TRIP START HAIL V13

SUBMIT THIS REPORT BEFORE YOU LEAVE PORT ON YOUR GROUND FISH TRIP AS REQUIRED BY (A) OR (B) BELOW:  
 (A) WHEN FISHING UNDER AN EXEMPTION(S)  
 (B) WHEN REQUIRED BY YOUR SECTOR OPS PLAN.

1. OPERATOR'S PERMIT #: \_\_\_\_\_
2. VTR SERIAL #: \_\_\_\_\_  
(REPORTED TO DEALER)
3. OBSERVER OR ASM ON-BOARD (Y/N)?\_
4. SECTOR EXEMPTIONS TO BE FISHED UNDER THIS TRIP:  
(NOTE: CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)
  - \_ A. REDFISH TRIP
  - \_ B. CLOSED AREA TRIP
  - \_ C. OTHER EXEMPTION  
(WHEN DIRECTED BY NMFS)
5. SECTOR OPS PLAN PROVISIONS TO BE FISHED UNDER THIS TRIP:  
(NOTE: CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)
  - \_ A. INSHORE GULF OF MAINE
  - \_ B. OTHER PROVISIONS  
(WHEN DIRECTED BY NMFS)
    - \_ 1. PROVISION 1
    - \_ 2. PROVISION 2
6. LANDING PORT CITY: \_\_\_\_\_
7. LANDING STATE (ABBREVIATED):\_\_
8. ESTIMATED ARRIVAL: \_\_/\_\_/\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_  
(REPORT IN: MM/DD/YY HH:MI) (HH=00-23)
9. ESTIMATED OFFLOAD: \_\_/\_\_/\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_  
(NOTE: PROVIDE ONLY FOR TRIPS <6 HRS OR IF FISHING WITHIN 6 HRS OF OFFLOAD PORT)  
(REPORT IN: MM/DD/YY HH:MI) (HH=00-23)
10. COMMENTS:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Steps 8. Enter the 2-digit month, day, year, hour (24-hour clock) and minute of your estimated return to port. **Use the 'Enter' key to move the cursor to the next field to the right.**

Step 9. See the 'Note' to determine if you must enter the estimated offload date/time.

If so, enter the 2-digit month, day, year, hour (24-hour clock) and minute of your estimated offload

Step 10. Optional field. NMFS may provide instructions for use from time-to-time.

Macro #37 - Multispecies Trip END Hail:

The trip end hail is required on all groundfish trips by sector and common pool vessels.

Step 1. Enter your 8-digit operator permit number.

Step 2. Enter your 8-digit VTR or 14-digit e-VTR number.

Steps 3 & 4. Enter the name of the city (characters A-Z only) and enter the 2-character state (postal abbreviation) where the catch will be landed.

Step 5. Enter the dealer or offload location (up to 16 alphanumeric characters).

MULTISPECIES TRIP END HAIL V13

SUBMIT THIS REPORT FROM SEA FOR YOUR GROUND FISH TRIP AT LEAST 6 HOURS BEFORE LANDING AND PRIOR TO CROSSING THE VMS DEMARCATION LINE. IF YOUR FISHING ENDS LESS THAN 6 HOURS BEFORE ARRIVAL, SEND YOUR REPORT IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE LAST TOW OR HAULING OF GEAR.

1. OPERATOR'S PERMIT #: \_\_\_\_\_
2. VTR SERIAL #: \_\_\_\_\_  
(REPORTED TO DEALER)
3. LANDING PORT CITY: \_\_\_\_\_
4. LANDING STATE (ABBREVIATED): \_\_\_
5. DEALER/OFFLOAD LOCATION: \_\_\_\_\_
6. ESTIMATED ARRIVAL: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ (REPORT IN: MM/DD/YY HH:MI) (HH=00-23)
7. ESTIMATED OFFLOAD: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ (REPORT IN: MM/DD/YY HH:MI) (HH=00-23)
8. SECOND OFFLOAD PORT CITY: \_\_\_\_\_
9. SECOND OFFLOAD STATE (ABBREVIATED): \_\_\_
10. TOTAL GROUND FISH KEPT: \_\_\_\_\_ (LBS)
11. TOTAL NON-GROUND FISH KEPT: \_\_\_\_\_ (LBS)
12. COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

Steps 6 & 7. Enter the 2-digit month, day, year, hour (24-hour clock) and minute of your estimated return to port and offload. Do not enter all zeroes in the offload field. **Use the 'Enter' key to move the cursor to the next field to the**

Steps 8 & 9. Complete only if you will also offload at another port.

Steps 10 & 11. Enter the total amount of groundfish kept and non-groundfish kept in pounds.

Step 12. Optional field. NMFS may provide instructions for use from time-to-time.

Macro #40 - Monkfish Trip Limit Overage Days at Sea Adjustment:

Step 1. Enter your 8-digit operator permit number.

Step 2. Enter your 8-digit VTR or 14-digit e-VTR number.

Step 3. Enter the 2-digit month, day and year of your estimated return to port. **Use the 'Enter' key to move the cursor to the next field to the**

MONKFISH TRIP LIMIT OVERAGE DAS V13 ADJUSTMENT

SUBMIT THIS REPORT FROM SEA FOR YOUR MONKFISH DAY-AT-SEA (DAS) TRIP AND BEFORE CROSSING THE VMS DEMARCATION LINE ON THE RETURN TO PORT, AS REQUIRED BY (A) AND (B) BELOW:

- (A) WHEN YOUR MONKFISH DAILY TRIP LIMIT IS EXCEEDED BY NO MORE THAN ONE DAS TRIP LIMIT, AND
- (B) YOU ARE REQUESTING THAT YOUR MONKFISH DAS ALLOCATION BE CHARGED TO ACCOUNT FOR THE EXTRA ONE-DAY TRIP LIMIT.

NOTE: YOUR VESSEL'S MONKFISH DAS CHARGE WILL BE INCREASED UP TO THE NEXT 24 HOUR PERIOD PLUS ONE MINUTE.

1. OPERATOR'S PERMIT #: \_\_\_\_\_
2. VTR SERIAL #: \_\_\_\_\_  
(REPORTED TO DEALER)
3. ESTIMATED ARRIVAL: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ (MM/DD/YY)

## Macro #41 - Scallop Daily Catch Report:

Step 1. Enter your 8-digit operator permit number.

Step 2. Enter your 8-digit VTR or 14-digit e-VTR number.

Step 3. Enter the 2-digit month, day and year of the reported catch. **Use the 'Enter' key to move the cursor to the next field to the right.**

### SCALLOP DAILY CATCH REPORT V13

SUBMIT THIS DAILY REPORT FOR YOUR SCALLOP TRIP BY 9 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY.

1. OPERATOR'S PERMIT #: \_\_\_\_\_
2. VTR SERIAL #: \_\_\_\_\_  
(REPORTED TO DEALER)
3. DATE FISH CAUGHT: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ (MM/DD/YY)
4. SCALLOP MEATS KEPT: \_\_\_\_\_ (LBS)
5. ALL OTHER FISH KEPT: \_\_\_\_\_ (LBS)  
(NOTE: EXCLUDING SCALLOP)

Step 4. Enter scallops kept only. Enter up to 6 digits.

Step 5. Enter Other Fish Kept (excluding scallops). Enter up to 6 digits.

## Macro #42 - Scallop Pre-Landing Notification:

Step 1. Enter your 8-digit operator permit number.

Step 2. Enter 'Y' for 'yes' if you need to make a correction to a report that you had previously sent, and also enter the date of that report in 2-digit month, day and year. **Use the 'Enter' key to move the cursor to the next field to the right.**

Otherwise, enter 'N' for 'no' and leave the prior report date field blank.

Step 3. Enter your 8-digit VTR or 14-digit e-VTR number.

Step 4. Enter 'Y' for 'yes' if you intend to land any scallops, and then complete steps 5-9.

Otherwise, enter 'N' for 'no', and then send the form.

### SCALLOP PRE-LANDING NOTIFICATION V13

SUBMIT THIS REPORT FROM SEA AT LEAST 6 HOURS BEFORE ARRIVAL (OR IMMEDIATELY AFTER FISHING ENDS IF LESS THAN 6 HOURS BEFORE ARRIVAL) WHEN:

- (A) ON A DECLARED LAGC SCALLOP TRIP;
- (B) A VESSEL WITH AN LAGC IFQ OR NGOM SCALLOP PERMIT IS ON A DECLARED TRIP OUTSIDE THE SCALLOP FISHERY WHEN SCALLOPS ARE KEPT;
- (C) ON A DECLARED LIMITED ACCESS SCALLOP ACCESS AREA TRIP; OR
- (D) DECLARING OUT OF THE LIMITED ACCESS SCALLOP DAY-AT-SEA FISHERY TO TRANSIT TO A PORT SOUTH OF 39 N WITH SCALLOPS ONBOARD (SEND THIS REPORT IMMEDIATELY ONCE SHOREWARD OF THE VMS DEMARCATION LINE AT OR SOUTH OF 39 N).

1. OPERATOR'S PERMIT #: \_\_\_\_\_
2. CORRECTION OF A PRIOR REPORT (Y/N): \_  
IF YES, DATE OF PRIOR REPORT: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_  
(MM/DD/YY)

IF YES, ALL INFORMATION PROVIDED BELOW, INCLUDING BLANK FIELDS, WILL REPLACE DATA SUBMITTED IN THE PRIOR REPORT.

3. VTR SERIAL #: \_\_\_\_\_  
(REPORTED TO DEALER)
4. SCALLOPS RETAINED/LANDED? (Y/N): \_  
IF NO, SEND FORM.  
IF YES, COMPLETE REMAINING BLOCKS THEN SEND FORM.
5. ANY SCALLOPS CAUGHT IN NORTHERN GULF OF MAINE (NGOM) AREA? (Y/N): \_
6. SCALLOPS ONBOARD:  
(NOTE: ONLY ENTER LBS AND BUSHELS IF INTENDING TO LAND BOTH).  
MEATS (LBS): \_\_\_\_\_  
BUSHELS IN-SHELL: \_\_\_\_\_
7. ESTIMATED ARRIVAL: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_  
(REPORT IN: MM/DD/YY HH:MI) (HH=00-23)
8. LANDING PORT CITY: \_\_\_\_\_
9. LANDING STATE (ABBREVIATED): \_

Step 5. Enter 'Y' or 'N' to indicate whether any scallops to be landed were harvested from the Northern Gulf of Maine Scallop Management Area.

Step 6. If only landing meats, enter the estimated weight in that field only. If only landing bushels in-shell, enter the estimated weight in that field only. If landing both meats and bushels, enter the estimated weights in each field.

Step 7. Enter the 2-digit month, day, year, hour (24-hour clock) and minute of your estimated return to port.

Steps 8 & 9. Enter the name of the city (characters A-Z only) and enter the 2-character state (postal abbreviation) where the catch will be landed.

Macro #45 - Herring Daily Catch Report:

Step 1. Enter your 8-digit operator permit number.

Step 2. Enter your 8-digit VTR or 14-digit e-VTR number.

Step 3. Enter the 2-digit month, day and year of the reported catch. **Use the 'Enter' key to move the cursor to the next field to the right.**

Step 4. You must fill in both 'kept' and 'discarded' for at least one of the areas. Enter up to 7 digits in each field, as appropriate.

HERRING DAILY CATCH REPORT V13

SUBMIT THIS DAILY REPORT FOR YOUR HERRING TRIP BY 9 AM OF THE FOLLOWING DAY.

1. OPERATOR'S PERMIT #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. VTR SERIAL #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (REPORTED TO DEALER)  
 3. DATE FISH CAUGHT: \_\_/\_\_/\_\_(MM/DD/YY)  
 4. HERRING (LBS)  
     AREA 1A AREA 1B AREA 2 AREA 3  
 KEPT \_\_\_\_\_  
 DISCARD \_\_\_\_\_  
 5. DID SLIPPAGE OCCUR WITH AN OBSERVER  
 ONBOARD?\_(Y OR N)  
 IF YES, SELECT THE REASON:(ONE ONLY)  
     \_ SAFETY  
     \_ MECHANICAL FAILURE  
     \_ DOGFISH  
     \_ OTHER - REASON: \_\_\_\_\_  
 6. ARE YOU FISHING MID-WATER TRAWL  
 GEAR OR BOTTOM TRAWL GEAR?\_(Y OR N)  
 IF 'Y', COMPLETE STEP 7.  
 IF 'N', SEND THIS REPORT.  
 7. TOTAL FISH KEPT (LBS) (INCL HERRING)  
 STAT AREA \_\_\_\_\_  
 KEPT \_\_\_\_\_

Step 5. Enter 'Y' for 'yes' if you had a slippage event for this reported period and also select the reason. If you select 'Other', briefly provide the reason. Otherwise, select 'no'.

Step 6. If you are using mid-water or bottom trawl gear then enter a 'Y'. Otherwise, enter an 'N'.

Step 7. If you answered 'yes' to the previous question, enter the stat area(s) and associated amount of total fish kept. Enter up to 7 digits.

Macro #46 - Herring Pre-Landing Notification:

Step 1. Enter your 8-digit operator permit number.

Step 2. Enter your 8-digit VTR or 14-digit e-VTR number.

Step 3. Enter the 2-digit month, day, year, hour (24-hour clock) and minute of your estimated return to port. **Use the 'Enter' key to move the cursor to the next field to the right.**

Steps 4 & 5. Enter the name of the city (characters A-Z only) and enter the 2-character state (postal abbreviation) where the catch will be landed.

HERRING PRE-LANDING NOTIFICATION V13

SUBMIT THIS REPORT FROM SEA FOR YOUR HERRING TRIP AT LEAST 6 HOURS BEFORE ARRIVAL.

NOTE: IF FISHING ENDS LESS THAN 6 HOURS BEFORE ARRIVAL, SEND THE REPORT AS SOON AS THE VESSEL STOPS FISHING.

1. OPERATOR'S PERMIT #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. VTR SERIAL #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (REPORTED TO DEALER)  
 3. ESTIMATED ARRIVAL: \_\_/\_\_/\_\_ \_\_\_\_  
 (REPORT IN: MM/DD/YY HH:MI) (HH=00-23)  
 4. LANDING PORT CITY: \_\_\_\_\_  
 5. LANDING STATE (ABBREVIATED): \_\_

Macro #47 - Mackerel and Longfin Squid Daily Catch Report:

Step 1. Enter your 8-digit operator permit number.

Step 2. Enter your 8-digit VTR or 14-digit e-VTR number.

Step 3. Enter the 2-digit month, day and year of the reported catch. Use the 'Enter' key to move the cursor to the next field to the right.

MACKEREL AND LONGFIN SQUID V13  
CATCH REPORT

SUBMIT THIS DAILY REPORT FOR YOUR MACKEREL OR LONGFIN SQUID TRIP BY 9 AM OF THE FOLLOWING DAY.

1. OPERATOR'S PERMIT #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. VTR SERIAL #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (REPORTED TO DEALER)  
 3. DATE FISH CAUGHT: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ (MM/DD/YY)  
 4. SPECIES (LBS) KEPT: \_\_\_\_\_  
 MACKEREL \_\_\_\_\_  
 LONGFIN SQUID \_\_\_\_\_  
 5. TOTAL FISH KEPT (LBS) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (ALL SPECIES INCLUDING MACKEREL AND LONGFIN SQUID)  
 6. DID SLIPPAGE OCCUR WITH AN OBSERVER ONBOARD?\_(Y OR N)  
 IF YES, SELECT THE REASON: (ONE ONLY)  
 - SAFETY  
 - MECHANICAL FAILURE  
 - DOGFISH  
 - OTHER - REASON: \_\_\_\_\_

Step 4. Enter the estimated weight of mackerel and/or squid kept for that day. You must complete at least one of the 2 fields.

Step 5. Enter the estimated weight of all product kept for that day.

Macro #48 - Mackerel Pre-Landing Notification:

Step 1. Enter your 8-digit operator permit number.

Step 2. Enter your 8-digit VTR or 14-digit e-VTR number.

Step 3. Enter the 2-digit month, day, year, hour (24-hour clock) and minute of your estimated return to port. Use the 'Enter' key to move the cursor to the next field to the right.

MACKEREL PRE-LANDING NOTIFICATION V13

SUBMIT THIS REPORT FROM SEA FOR YOUR MACKEREL TRIP AT LEAST 6 HOURS BEFORE ARRIVAL AND ONLY WHEN THE LANDING WILL EXCEED 20,000 LBS.

NOTE: IF FISHING ENDS LESS THAN 6 HRS BEFORE ARRIVAL, SEND THE REPORT IMMEDIATELY UPON LEAVING THE FISHING GROUNDS.

1. OPERATOR'S PERMIT #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. VTR SERIAL #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (REPORTED TO DEALER)  
 3. ESTIMATED ARRIVAL: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_  
 (REPORT IN: MM/DD/YY HH:MI) (HH=00-23)  
 4. LANDING PORT CITY: \_\_\_\_\_  
 5. LANDING STATE (ABBREVIATED): \_\_\_\_\_

Steps 4 & 5. Enter the name of the city (characters A-Z only) and enter the 2-character state (postal abbreviation) where the catch will be landed.

Macro #49 - RSA and EFP Trip START Hail:

The specific reporting requirements will be stated in the NMFS permit that authorizes the compensation fishing or experimental fishing activity.

Step 1. Enter your 8-digit operator permit number.

Step 2. Enter the 5-digit project code from your permit.

Step 3. Enter your 8-digit VTR or 14-digit e-VTR number.

RSA AND EFP TRIP START HAIL V13

SUBMIT THIS REPORT PRIOR TO LEAVING PORT FOR YOUR RESEARCH SET-ASIDE (RSA) COMPENSATION FISHING TRIP OR EXEMPTED FISHING PERMIT (EFP) TRIP:

1. OPERATOR'S PERMIT #: \_\_\_\_\_
2. RSA/EFP PROJECT CODE: \_\_\_\_\_
3. VTR SERIAL #: \_\_\_\_\_  
(REPORTED TO DEALER)
4. LANDING PORT CODE: \_\_\_\_\_
5. LANDING STATE (ABBREVIATED): \_\_\_\_
6. ESTIMATED ARRIVAL: \_\_/\_\_/\_\_ \_\_\_\_  
(REPORT IN: MM/DD/YY HH:MI) (HH=00-23)
7. COMMENTS:

Steps 4 & 5. Enter the 3-digit port code and enter the 2-character state (postal abbreviation) where the catch will be landed.

Step 6. Enter the 2-digit month, day, year, hour (24-hour clock) and minute of your estimated return to port. **Use the 'Enter' key to move the cursor to the next field to the right.**

Step 7. Optional field. NMFS may provide instructions for use from time-to-time.

Macro #50 - RSA and EFP Trip END Hail:

The specific reporting requirements will be stated in the NMFS permit that authorizes the compensation fishing or experimental fishing activity.

Step 1. Enter your 8-digit operator permit number.

Step 2. Enter the 5-digit project code from your permit.

Step 3. Enter your 8-digit VTR or 14-digit e-VTR number.

Steps 4 & 5. Enter the 2-digit month, day, year, hour (24-hour clock) and minute of your estimated return to port and offload. Do not enter all zeroes in the offload field. **Use the 'Enter' key to move the cursor to the next field to the right.**

RSA AND EFP TRIP END HAIL V13

SUBMIT THIS REPORT FROM SEA FOR YOUR RESEARCH SET-ASIDE (RSA) COMPENSATION FISHING TRIP OR EXEMPTED FISHING PERMIT (EFP) TRIP AT LEAST 6 HOURS BEFORE ARRIVAL.

NOTE: IF FISHING ENDS LESS THAN 6 HOURS BEFORE ARRIVAL, SEND THE REPORT IMMEDIATELY UPON LEAVING THE FISHING GROUNDS.

1. OPERATOR'S PERMIT #: \_\_\_\_\_
2. RSA/EFP PROJECT CODE: \_\_\_\_\_
3. VTR SERIAL #: \_\_\_\_\_  
(REPORTED TO DEALER)
4. ESTIMATED ARRIVAL: \_\_/\_\_/\_\_ \_\_\_\_  
(REPORT IN: MM/DD/YY HH:MI) (HH=00-23)
5. ESTIMATED OFFLOAD: \_\_/\_\_/\_\_ \_\_\_\_  
(REPORT IN: MM/DD/YY HH:MI) (HH=00-23)
6. LANDING PORT CODE: \_\_\_\_\_
7. LANDING STATE (ABBREVIATED): \_\_\_\_
8. RSA/EFP PRODUCT KEPT/DISCARDED:

IVR SPECIES CODE	KEPT (LBS)	DISCARDED (LBS)	HERRING AREA
—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—

9. COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

Steps 6 & 7. Enter the 3-digit port code and enter the 2-character state (postal abbreviation) where the catch will be landed.

Step 8. Enter the 2-digit IVR species code. To the right of each code, enter the estimated weight of the species kept and discarded, and, if applicable, the associated herring area (1A, 1B, 2 or 3).

Step 9. Optional field. NMFS may provide instructions for use from time-to-time.

## **ATTACHMENT 2**

### **How to ‘Confirm the Use of a Previous VMS Code’**

Note: The information provided in this attachment is also available on the VMS web page.

Under U.S. Fisheries Law, vessel owner/operators are required to declare their activity for every trip prior to leaving port. In response to a New England Fishery Management Council request to ease the financial strain, time and technical burdens associated with declaring an activity through the VMS unit on each trip, NMFS has developed an alternative declaration method through the IVR system.

#### **Who can use this method?**

Vessel owner/operators who intend to fish a trip under the same VMS activity code that was last sent from the vessel's VMS unit and received by NMFS, have the option of notifying NMFS that they are confirming their previous VMS declaration by calling the IVR system.

Have the following information ready before calling:

- Your vessel's 6-digit federal permit number
- Your IVR PIN (same as your Fish On-Line PIN)(available from the GARFO Analysis & Program Support Division at 1-888-487-9994)
- Your 8-digit operator permit number
- Your most recent VMS activity code (format xxx-xxx-xxxxxx)

#### **Instructions:**

- Call the IVR system at 1-888-284-4904.
- At ‘Main Menu’, press 1 to “Report the start or end of a trip, declare a block, or confirm the use of a previous VMS code.”
- At ‘Fishing Activity Reporting’, enter your vessel's 6-digit permit number and your IVR PIN.
- When prompted, record your name and operator permit number, then press the # key.
- When prompted, press 1 to confirm your name and operator number, or press 2 to re-record the information.
- When prompted, press 4 to “Confirm the use of a previous VMS code.”
- The IVR will respond with either:

(1) “Your most recent VMS activity code is ( ).” When prompted, press 1 to confirm the use of this code. The system will then provide you with a confirmation number which you should record and keep with you on your trip. However, if this is not the code you will use, when prompted, hang up and declare your trip through your VMS unit; or

(2) “Your most recent VMS activity code cannot be confirmed.” When prompted, hang up and declare your trip through your VMS unit.

## **ATTACHMENT 2 (Cont'd)**

### **How to 'Confirm the Use of a Previous VMS Code'**

#### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

- All other VMS reporting requirements for your trip still apply.
- This alternative method of declaring a trip prior to leaving port is not to be used in lieu of an inoperative VMS unit. Your VMS unit must be fully functional.
- The IVR back-up message line should not be used if you are unable to use the main IVR system.
- The code reported to you by the IVR system is the most recent code sent from your vessel's VMS unit and received by NMFS. Therefore, your most recent code sent may be from your last trip or when in port after your last trip.
- If the IVR system is unable to confirm your VMS activity code, it is likely for one of the following reasons:
  - (1) No code for your vessel could be retrieved;
  - (2) Your last code was the power down code (PWD-PWD-XXXXXX);
  - (3) Your last code was a Southeast Region code (for dual-reporting vessels); or
  - (4) Your last code was a code that could only be declared when inside the NE Fishery.
- You will still receive an automated trip start and trip end message from NMFS through your VMS unit. Your trip will be recorded in NMFS' monitoring system with the code that you confirmed through the IVR system.