



Federally Permitted Seafood Dealer Reporting Requirements

Any person or company that purchases or receives for a commercial purpose other than solely for transport on land one of the species or species groups listed in Table 1 from the owner or operator of a vessel permitted by the Northeast Regional Office (NERO) must be issued a seafood dealer permit from NERO and must submit trip-level reports for all species purchased (see Sections 5 and 6 for exceptions) on a weekly basis to NOAA Fisheries Service, using one of the approved electronic means described further below (50 C.F.R. §648.7 & 50 C.F.R. §697.6).

1. Submitting Dealer Reports and Corrections

Dealers must submit all reports for a reporting week (Sunday to Saturday) by midnight the following Tuesday. Corrections can be made to reports up to 90 business days following the submission deadline of the initial report. Corrections can be made after that point by contacting the Dealer Reporting Help Desk (978) 281-9212.

2. Submitting Negative Reports

If no purchases are made or landings are received during a reporting week (Sunday-Saturday), a negative report must be submitted, by midnight of the following Tuesday. Negative reports may be submitted up to 3 months in advance if you believe that you will not be making any purchases or receiving fish or shellfish during that time period. These reports will subsequently be overwritten with positive reports if you do report purchases.

3. Compliance

NOAA Fisheries Service staff will work with dealers to resolve technical and reporting issues; however, it is a dealer's responsibility to report completely, accurately and on time. Dealers not submitting complete and accurate electronic reports within the required timeframe will be considered out of compliance and may be referred to the NOAA Fisheries Office of Law Enforcement for further action.

4. Reporting Methods

The acceptable methods for submitting reports electronically are:

- Web-based SAFIS system
- File upload from an existing software application (such as accounting software) used by your business
- File upload using the Bluefin Tuna Data Inc. Trip Ticket software system

For more information about installing and utilizing any of these methods, contact the Dealer Reporting Help Desk at 978-281-9212.

Table 1: Species Requiring a NERO Permit

American Lobster	Monkfish
Atlantic Bluefish	Northeast Multispecies
Atlantic Deep-Sea Red Crab	Ocean Quahog
Atlantic Hagfish	Scup
Atlantic Herring	Skate
Atlantic Mackerel	Spiny Dogfish
Atlantic Sea Scallop	Squid (Illex or Loligo)
Black Sea Bass	Summer Flounder
Butterfish	Surf Clam
Golden Tilefish	

5. Required Information

The following information is required to be reported for each purchase or receipt of fish or shellfish from a vessel (exceptions discussed below) regardless of where or how it was harvested (inshore or federal waters), or who harvested it (federally permitted or state-only permitted). This is a requirement for all vessels purchased from, regardless of whether the vessel has a federal permit.

For each trip the dealer must report the following information:

- Your dealer name and permit number
- Vessel name and permit number or hull number (state registration or USCG documentation number) of the vessel from which fish are purchased or received
- Date of purchase or receipt
- Unique trip identifier supplied to the dealer by the vessel operator
 - This is the serial number from the first vessel trip report (VTR) page used by the harvesting vessel for each trip
 - Required for all trips made by those vessels permitted under 50 C.F.R. §648
 - Vessels are not required to provide the trip identifier if they only hold state permits or if they are federally permitted only under other parts of this regulation such as American lobster (50 C.F.R. §697)
 - The trip identifier (VTR serial number) must be submitted with the initial purchase report
- Amount of each species by market category and unit of measure being reported (e.g., pounds, bushels, or count)
- Disposition (e.g., human food, bait, pet food or reduction)
- Price per unit of each species or total value by species per unit by market category
 - Price and disposition may be submitted up to 16 days after purchase or receipt
- Port and state where the fish were landed
- Cage tag numbers for surf clams and ocean quahogs harvested under a NOAA Fisheries Service ITQ allocation

6. Out-of-Region Purchases

Dealers purchasing or receiving fish from a vessel landing outside the Northeast Region (Maine to North Carolina) are required to report only those species managed by the Northeast Region (Table 1).

7. Additional Requirements

All federally permitted processors (including surf clam and ocean quahog processors) are required to complete and submit all sections of the Annual Processed Products Report, which is mailed out during the first quarter of each year.

This document does not contain all the regulatory provisions that pertain to dealers and consequently has no legal force or effect. A copy of the complete reporting regulations can be obtained through the Office of the Federal Register or electronically through links on the NERO website: www.nero.noaa.gov/nero/regs

Domestic Atlantic bluefin tuna and international trade permit reporting: 978-281-9140
HMS reporting without electronic reporting: 508-984-0063

Information on dealer electronic reporting
http://www.nero.noaa.gov/dealer_er/
NERO/Fisheries Data Services Division field offices
<http://www.nero.noaa.gov/fso/portoff.pdf>



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