

Regional Office

Effective May 1, 2004, NOAA Fisheries is implementing several changes to dealer reporting requirements.

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Field Offices

Among the changes is a requirement for federally-permitted dealers to report a trip identifier for each trip purchased from a vessel required to submit a Fishing Vessel Trip Report (VTR).

Dealers and vessel owners will need to work together to ensure the trip identifier is transferred.

Please read on to learn more about the trip identifier and how it may affect you...

Portland, ME
Marine Trade Ctr Suite 212
2 Portland Fish Pier
207.780.3322
978.609.7747 cell

New Bedford, MA
37 N. Second Street
508.999.2452
978.609.4144 cell

Point Judith, RI
State Street 2nd Floor
P.O. Box 547
401.783.7797
978.609.4145 cell

East Hampton, NY
62 Newtown Lane #203
631.324.3569
978.609.4149 cell

Cape May, NJ
1382 Lafayette Street
P.O. Box 624
609.884.2113
978.609.4148 cell

Gloucester, MA
11 - 15 Parker Street
978.281.9286
978.609.7944 cell

Chatham, MA
29C Stage Harbor Road
508.945.5961
978.609.4142 cell

Patchogue, NY
50 Maple Avenue
P.O. Box 606
631.475.6988
978.609.4151 cell

Toms River, NJ
26 Main Street
P.O. Box 143
732.349.3533
978.609.4152 cell

Hampton, VA
1006N Settlers Landing Rd
P.O. Box 69043
757.723.3369
978.609.7643 cell

Vessel Reporting and the Trip Identifier



*Dealers and vessel owners/operators
working together to improve the status
of the fisheries*

What is a trip identifier (trip id)?

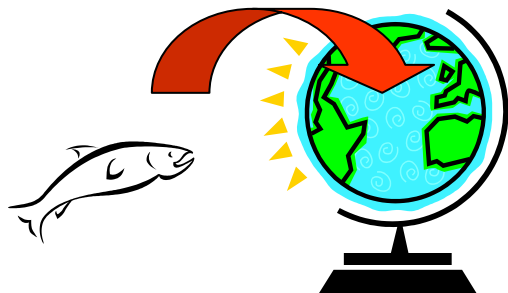
- A unique number assigned to each fishing trip by federally permitted vessels
- Used to link trip-specific information, such as:
 - Fishing Vessel Trip Reports (VTR)
 - Dealer purchase reports
 - Observer reports
 - Days at Sea reports
 - Biological sampling data
- Critical to successful fisheries management.

Why is reporting a trip id necessary?

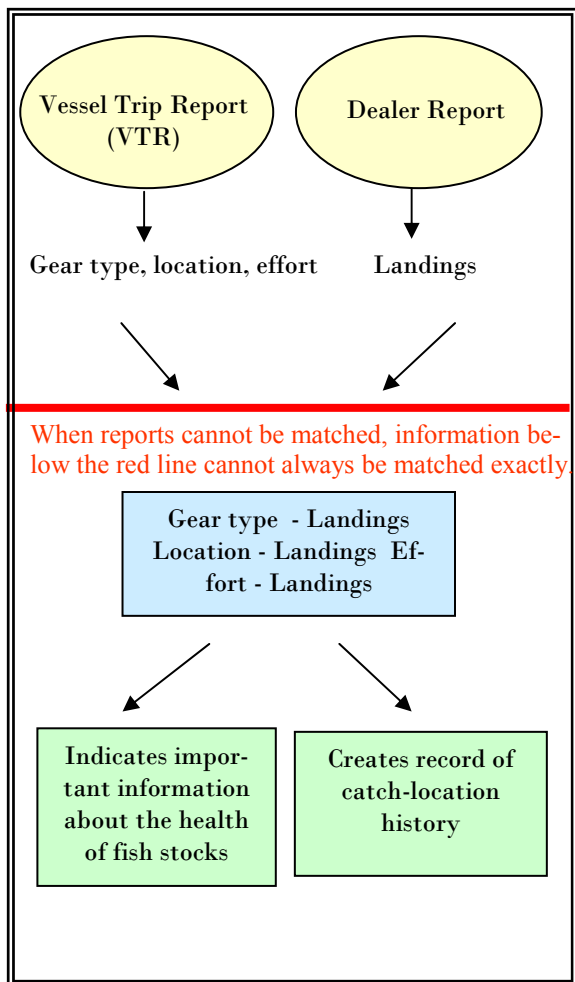
- Promotes a fully integrated databases
- Provides a more accurate and complete picture of the fisheries
- Links fishing effort and location data to the definitive landings reports
- Enables fisheries scientists and managers to better assess harvest rates and the health of fish stocks in particular areas.

How will the reporting of the trip id benefit me?

- Provides a means for improving management strategies, and help improve the status of the fisheries
- Provides a way to keep track of landings from important stock areas



Overview of current situation:



What number will be used as the trip id?

- Serial Number from the upper right-hand corner of the VTR
- If more than one VTR is completed for a trip, use the serial number of the first VTR for that trip
- VTRs are distributed to a particular vessel and should only be used to report fishing activity for that vessel

How will dealer get the trip id?

- Each VTR contains two “Dealer Copy” pages that may be given to the dealer for this purpose
- Alternative methods that better accommodate your individual business practices may be used
- NOAA Fisheries may be available to work with industry to develop alternative methods

When will this take place?

- May 1, 2004

Where can I get more information?

Phone: Local Field Office listed on this brochure

E-mail: reporting.ne@noaa.gov

Final Rule implementing these changes:

www.nero.noaa.gov/ro/doc/frdoc/04edrfr.pdf

Supporting documents for this regulatory action:

www.nero.noaa.gov/ro/doc/frdoc/04edrRIRIRFA.pdf

Copies are available from Patricia A. Kurkul, Regional Administrator, Northeast Region, NMFS, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930.

What else is new in vessel reporting?

No immediate changes to vessel reporting requirements are anticipated. However, NOAA Fisheries is exploring systems to enable vessel owners and operators to report their fish catch information electronically.

