

NORTHEAST VMS PROGRAM - QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

revised October 21, 2010

<u>Office</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Fax</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Website</u>
NMFS NE VMS Team (OLE)	(978) 281-9213	(978) 281-9317	Team member or nmfs.ole.ne@noaa.gov	http://www.nero.noaa.gov/nero/
NMFS HQ VMS Help Desk	(888) 219-9228	(301) 427-0049		
District 1 (Chelsea, MA)	(617) 884-5754	(617) 884-6825		
District 2 (New Bedford, MA)	(508) 992-7711	(508) 992-7969		
District 3 (Wall, NJ)	(732) 280-6490	(732) 280-6499		
District 4 (Newport News, VA)	(757) 595-2692	(757) 595-3765		
NMFS Enforcement Hotline	(800) 853-1964	N/A		
SkyMate, Inc.	(866) 759-6283	(703) 814-8585	support@skymate.com	www.skymate.com
Boatracs, Inc.	(800) 262-8722	(858) 458-8116	operations@boatrac.com	www.boatrac.com
GMPCS, Inc. (Thrane VMS)	(888) 664-6727	(954) 973-4800	contact@gmpcs-us.com	www.GMPCS-us.com
<u>Other Useful Contacts:</u>				
NMFS Sustainable Fisheries (SFD)	(978) 281-9315	(978) 281-9135		
Fish-On-Line	(978) 281-9246	N/A	My Password: _____	https://www.nero.noaa.gov/NMFSlogin/
IVR Call-In Telephone Line	(888) 284-4904	N/A	My IVR PIN: _____	
IVR Call-In Back-up Line (OLE)	(888) 487-9994	N/A	NE VMS Team (978-281-9126)	
Observer Program (Scallops)	(508) 495-2100	N/A	Call.Scallop@noaa.gov	
Observer Program (Groundfish)	(508) 495-2309	N/A	nefsc.ptns@noaa.gov	https://fish.nefsc.noaa.gov/PTNS
Observer Program (Back-up PTNS)	(508) 681-9104	N/A	My PTNS User Name/Password: _____	

NORTHEAST VMS PROGRAM - OPERATING REQUIREMENTS

Your VMS unit must be powered up and sending position reports at all times. A VMS unit may only be turned off under very specific circumstances, and each circumstance is unique to the permits issued to the vessel. The most restrictive regulations apply when there are multiple VMS permits on a vessel.

PERMIT	UNIT MAY BE TURNED OFF ...	UNLESS...
Multispecies	With an LOE ¹ for at least 72 hours (out of the water)	<i>No exceptions</i>
	With an LOE ¹ for a minimum of 30 days (vessel may not be moved from the dock/mooring)	<i>No exceptions</i>
Monkfish	With an LOE ¹ for at least 72 hours (out of the water)	<i>No exceptions</i>
	With a monkfish Category F Offshore Fishery Program permit, outside of the Offshore Fishery Season	The vessel has another VMS permit that requires reporting via VMS 24 hours, 7 days a week
Herring	Any time the vessel is in port	The vessel has another VMS permit that requires reporting via VMS 24 hours, 7 days a week
Limited Access Scallop	With an LOE ¹ for at least 72 hours (out of the water)	<i>No exceptions</i>
	With an LOE ¹ for a minimum of 30 days (vessel may not be moved from the dock/mooring)	<i>No exceptions</i>
Surfclam/Ocean Quahog	With an LOE ¹ for at least 72 hours (out of the water)	<i>No exceptions</i>
	With an LOE ¹ for a minimum of 30 days (vessel may not be moved from dock/mooring)	<i>No exceptions</i>
General Category Scallop (LAGC)	When at the dock/mooring or out of the water, and the “Power Down” VMS declaration is sent	The vessel has another VMS permit that requires reporting via VMS 24 hours, 7 days a week

¹ A Letter of Exemption (LOE) to turn off your VMS unit must be obtained from the NE VMS Team.

NORTHEAST VMS PROGRAM - FORMS REQUIREMENTS

REPORT	REQUIREMENT
Multispecies Catch Report	<p>Required for all groundfish trips as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple Broad Stock Area trips: Send one trip-level report before crossing the VMS demarcation line. • Single Broad Stock Area trips: Send one trip-level report with only the VTR Serial Number before crossing the VMS demarcation line. • US/CA, B-DAS or SAP trips: Common Pool vessels must send a daily report by 9am for the previous day's catch. Sector vessels are exempt from daily catch reports.
Sector Trip Start and End Hail	May be used by Sector vessels in lieu of other authorized reporting methods on all groundfish trips. Send the trip start hail before leaving port. Send the trip end hail 6 hours before arrival (if fishing ends less than 6 hours before landing, send immediately upon leaving the fishing ground).
Restricted Gear Area	Required prior to leaving port by Common Pool vessels declaring a groundfish DAS and intending to fish all or part of the trip in an RGA.
GOM Cod Trip Limit Exemption	Required prior to leaving port if you intend to fish south of the GOM Regulated Mesh Area to retain the Georges Bank cod trip limit. This form is not required for trips declared into the US/CA area exclusively.
Scallop Catch Report	Required for all trips into a scallop access area. Send daily before 9 am for the previous day's catch.
Scallop Broken Trip	Required prior to leaving the access area by Limited Access vessels when (1) terminating an access area trip early before harvesting the full possession limit, and (2) requesting authorization from NMFS to return to the access area to harvest the balance of their possession limit.
Scallop Compensation Trip	Required prior to leaving port by Limited Access vessels on a NMFS-authorized access area compensation trip.
LAGC Scallop Pre-Landing	<p>Required by IFQ and NGOM vessels on (1) all declared LAGC scallop trips, and (2) all other trips when scallops are kept. Send 6 hours prior to landing, and before crossing the VMS demarcation line (or immediately upon leaving the fishing ground if the harvest ends less than 6 hours prior to landing).</p> <p>Limited Access vessels holding LAGC IFQ/NGOM permits must also send this form when fishing on a declared LAGC trip.</p>
Herring Pre-Landing	Required for all herring trips by Category A and B vessels at least 6 hours prior to crossing the VMS demarcation line (or 6 hours prior to landing if no fishing occurred seaward of the demarcation line).