

Northeast Region Bulletin

National Marine Fisheries Service, Northeast Regional Office, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930

For Information Contact: Fisheries Data Services Division (978) 281 – 9264 http://www.nero.noaa.gov/ Date Issued: 10/22/2013

<u>Northeast Permitted Vessels</u> Change to Electronic Vessel Trip Reporting (eVTR) *Effective Immediately*

The NOAA Fisheries is pleased to announce that all Northeast Region permitted fishing vessels are now authorized to participate in electronic vessel trip reporting (eVTR). The eVTR program enables vessel operators to submit vessel trip report information (i.e., catch, gear used, area fished, etc.) to NOAA Fisheries electronically and eliminates the requirement to submit paper logbook forms. Participation in this program is voluntary. Electronic vessel reporting was approved for use in July 2011 for a segment of the groundfish fleet, but we are now authorizing it to be used by all vessels issued a Federal Northeast fishing permit.

For questions about the eVTR program, please contact Barry Clifford at <u>978-281-9148</u> or <u>barry.clifford@noaa.gov</u>

To obtain an eVTR password, please contact Alison Ferguson at 978-281-9209 or Alison.Ferguson@noaa.gov

eVTR Software

To participate in the eVTR program, you must use an approved software application. The software applications FLDRS and FACTS are the only ones that NOAA Fisheries has confirmed to meet the technical requirements of eVTR submissions. Please contact the following individuals for more information about these software applications.

FLDRS software:

Joan Palmer, Northeast Fisheries Science Center: 508-495-2247 or <u>Joan.Palmer@noaa.gov</u> Jon O'Neil, Northeast Fisheries Science Center: 508-495-2207 or <u>Jon.ONeil@noaa.gov</u>

<u>FACTS software:</u> Bryan Stevenson, Electric Edge Systems Group: 250-480-0642 or bryan@electricedgesystems.com

Additional software alternatives may become available in the future.

For small entity compliance guides, this bulletin complies with section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement and Fairness Act of 1996. This notice is authorized by the Regional Administrator of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Northeast Region.