



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
NORTHEAST REGION
55 Great Republic Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930-2276

OCT 13 2010

Small Entity Compliance Guide Clarification of the Limited Access General Category Sea Scallop VMS Reporting Requirements

Dear General Category Scallop Permit Holder:

This letter clarifies Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) reporting requirements for owners and operators of vessels issued Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) and Northern Gulf of Maine (NGOM) Limited Access General Category scallop permits. We have received inquiries indicating that some vessel operators are confused about these requirements.

Below is a description of the two VMS reports that may be required, depending on your permit and type of fishing activity:

1) The General Category Scallop Pre-Landing Notification Form

This VMS report is required of all General Category IFQ and NGOM permit holders and must be submitted for:

- Every trip made under a VMS general category scallop trip declaration, whether or not scallops are landed; and
- For all other trips, if scallops are caught incidentally and landed.
(This includes limited access vessels that are also issued IFQ or NGOM permits when these vessels are landing scallops when not on a declared scallop day-at-sea or on an access area trip allocated through their full-time, part-time, or occasional permits.)

The pre-landing notification form must be submitted at least 6 hours before landing scallops, and before crossing the VMS demarcation line. If your scallop harvesting ends less than 6 hours before landing, then the report is to be sent immediately upon leaving the fishing grounds.

This form serves two important purposes: (1) To support timely IFQ and NGOM monitoring and attribution of scallop IFQ landings to vessel permits; and (2) to notify NOAA's Office of Law Enforcement (OLE) of where vessel operators plan to land scallops. This report is not a substitute for the scallop catch report which is addressed on page 2 of this letter.

Please see the pre-landing VMS report in Example A of the attachment for your respective VMS vendor.



2) The Scallop Catch Report

This VMS report is required for IFQ permit holders. It is used to monitor scallop and yellowtail flounder catch from the scallop Access Areas, and is only required for Access Area trips. This report is not required for NGOM scallop vessels because NGOM vessels may not fish within the scallop access areas.

These reports must be submitted in 24-hour intervals for each day of fishing that begins at 0000 hours and ends at 2400 hours. The reports must be submitted before 9:00 a.m. local time each day for the previous day's catch. The reports include:

- Fishing Vessel Trip Report logbook page number;
- Total pounds of scallop meats kept;
- Total pounds of yellowtail flounder kept; and
- Total pounds of yellowtail flounder discarded.

IFQ scallop vessel operators must submit this report daily for each Access Area trip, in addition to the general category scallop pre-landing notification form.

Please see the VMS scallop catch report in Example B of the attachment for your respective VMS vendor.

Please call the Sustainable Fisheries Division at (978) 281-9315 if you have any questions regarding VMS scallop pre-landing or catch report regulations and requirements. For VMS-usage questions, please contact the OLE VMS Team at (978) 281-9213 or NMFS.OLE.NE@noaa.gov.

Sincerely,



Patricia A. Kurkul
Regional Administrator

Attachment – VMS Screens and Instructions

There are currently three companies that provide VMS services to federally-permitted vessels in the Northeast US: GMPCS (Thrane & Thrane), Boatracs, and Skymate. The examples below are organized by VMS vendor.

Boatracs Users

Example A: Scallop Catch Report Screen (Macro 36)

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SCALLOP CATCH REPORT V6

VTR SERIAL NUMBER: _____
SCALLOP MEATS KEPT _____ (LBS)
YELLOWTAIL KEPT _____ (LBS)
YELLOWTAIL DISCARDED _____ (LBS)
RETURN CONFIRMATION REQUESTED -> _

THIS REPORT IS TO BE USED FOR TRIPS
INTO A SCALLOP ACCESS AREA. THIS
REPORT MUST BE SUBMITTED DAILY BY 9AM
THE DAY AFTER THE FISH WERE CAUGHT.

NOTE: THE VTR SERIAL NUMBER MUST BE
THE SAME NUMBER REPORTED TO THE
SEAFOOD DEALER RECEIVING THE LANDINGS
AT THE END OF THE TRIP. IF YOU USE
MULTIPLE PAGES OF THE VTR ON THE TRIP,
RECORD THE SERIAL NUMBER FROM THE
FIRST VTR PAGE USED.
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Example B: General Category Scallop Pre-landing Notification (Macro 43)

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GENERAL CATEGORY SCALLOP V6
PRE-LANDING NOTIFICATON

VESSEL CAPTAIN/OPERATOR'S NAME: _____

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 THE DATA SUBMITTED IN THE
PRIOR REPORT.

VTR SERIAL NUMBER: _____
SCALLOPS RETAINED/LANDED? _ (Y/N)
IF NO, SUBMIT FORM.
IF YES, COMPLETE REMAINING BLOCKS
THEN SUBMIT FORM.

ANY SCALLOPS CAUGHT IN NORTHERN GULF
OF MAINE (NGOM) AREA? _ (Y/N)
ESTIMATED SCALLOPS ONBOARD
(CHOOSE ONE) MEATS (LBS): _____
OR, BUSHELS IN-SHELL: _____
ESTIMATED LANDING:
DATE: ____/____/____ (MM/DD/YY)
HOUR(00-23): ____ MINUTE(00-59): ____
LANDING PORT STATE: ____ (ABBREVIATED)
LANDING PORT CITY: _____
RETURN CONFIRMATION REQUESTED -> _

INSTRUCTIONS: ALL LAGC IFQ AND
NGOM-PERMITTED VESSELS MUST SEND A
COMPLETED FORM ON (1)ALL DECLARED LAGC
SCALLOP TRIPS AND (2)ALL OTHER TRIPS
WHEN SCALLOPS ARE KEPT. SEND FORM AT
LEAST 6 HOURS PRIOR TO LANDING, AND
BEFORE CROSSING THE VMS DEMARCATION
LINE. HOWEVER, IF THE SCALLOP HARVEST
ENDS LESS THAN 6 HOURS BEFORE LANDING,
THEN THE REPORT IS TO BE SENT
IMMEDIATELY UPON LEAVING THE FISHING
GROUNDS.

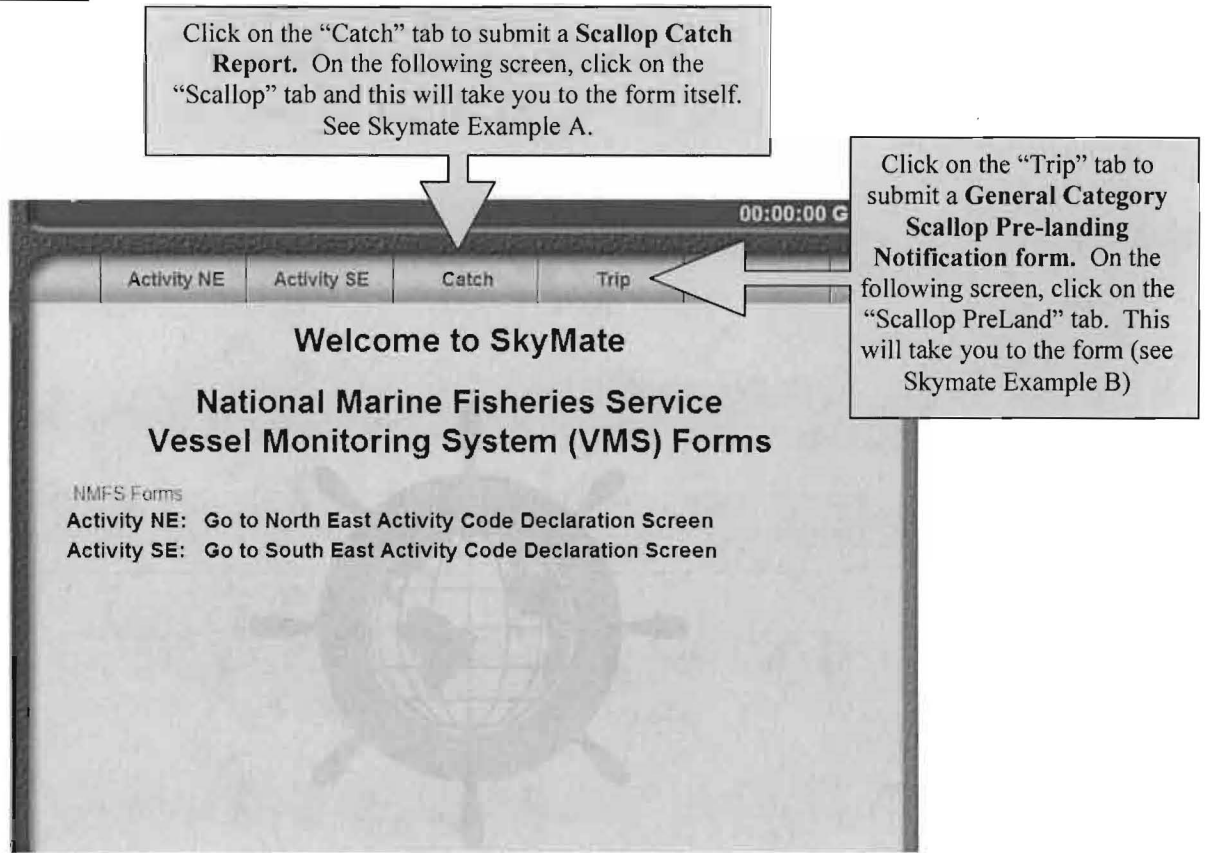
NOTE: LIMITED ACCESS SCALLOP VESSELS
HOLDING LAGC IFQ OR NGOM PERMITS MUST
SEND THIS FORM ONLY WHEN FISHING ON A
DECLARED LAGC SCALLOP TRIP.
```

If a vessel is landing only meats, only enter the amount of scallops to be landed in the "Meats" field on the form and leave the "Bushels" field blank. Conversely, if the vessel is landing only bushels, enter only the amount of bushels in the "Bushels" field and leave the "Meats" field blank.

Skymate Users

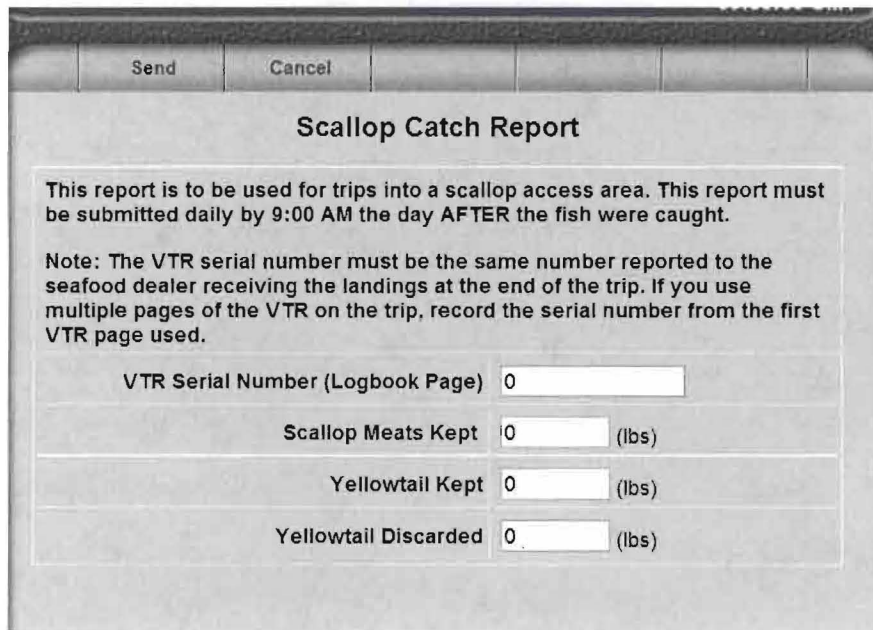
Click on the "Catch" tab to submit a **Scallop Catch Report**. On the following screen, click on the "Scallop" tab and this will take you to the form itself. See Skymate Example A.

Click on the "Trip" tab to submit a **General Category Scallop Pre-landing Notification form**. On the following screen, click on the "Scallop PreLand" tab. This will take you to the form (see Skymate Example B)



The screenshot shows the main menu of the Skymate VMS Forms. At the top, there is a navigation bar with four tabs: "Activity NE", "Activity SE", "Catch", and "Trip". A digital clock in the top right corner displays "00:00:00 G". Below the navigation bar, the text reads "Welcome to SkyMate" followed by "National Marine Fisheries Service Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) Forms". Underneath, it says "NMFS Forms" and provides instructions for "Activity NE" and "Activity SE". A large, faint background image of a scallop is visible. Two callout boxes with arrows point to the "Catch" and "Trip" tabs, providing instructions on how to use them.

Skymate Example A: Scallop Catch Report Screen



The screenshot shows the "Scallop Catch Report" form. At the top, there are "Send" and "Cancel" buttons. The title "Scallop Catch Report" is centered. Below the title, there is a paragraph of instructions: "This report is to be used for trips into a scallop access area. This report must be submitted daily by 9:00 AM the day AFTER the fish were caught." followed by a "Note" about VTR serial numbers. The form contains four input fields, each with a label and a value of "0": "VTR Serial Number (Logbook Page)", "Scallop Meats Kept (lbs)", "Yellowtail Kept (lbs)", and "Yellowtail Discarded (lbs)".

Send Cancel

Scallop Catch Report

This report is to be used for trips into a scallop access area. This report must be submitted daily by 9:00 AM the day AFTER the fish were caught.

Note: The VTR serial number must be the same number reported to the seafood dealer receiving the landings at the end of the trip. If you use multiple pages of the VTR on the trip, record the serial number from the first VTR page used.

VTR Serial Number (Logbook Page)	0
Scallop Meats Kept	0 (lbs)
Yellowtail Kept	0 (lbs)
Yellowtail Discarded	0 (lbs)

Skymate Example B: General Category Scallop Pre-landing Notification Screen

Cancel

General Category Scallop Pre-Landing Notification

Instructions: All LAGC IFQ and NGOM-permitted vessels must send a completed form on (1) all declared LAGC scallop trips and (2) all other trips when scallops are kept. Send form at least 6 hours prior to landing, and before crossing the VMS demarcation line. However, if the scallop harvest ends less than 6 hours before landing, then the report is to be sent immediately upon leaving the fishing grounds.

Note: Limited Access scallop vessels holding LAGC IFQ or NGOM permits must send this form only when fishing on a declared LAGC scallop trip.

Vessel Captain/Operator's Name:

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 the data submitted in the prior report.

VTR Serial Number (Logbook Page):

Scallops Retained/Landed? (Y/N):

If NO, send form. If YES, complete remaining blocks then send form.

Any scallops caught in Northern Gulf of Maine (NGOM) Area? (Y/N):

Estimated Scallops onboard (choose one):

Meats (lbs):

or, Bushels in-shell:

Estimated Landing Date (MM/DD/YY):

Estimated Landing Hour (00 - 23):

Estimated Landing Minute (00 - 59):

Estimated Landing Minute (00 - 59):

Landing Port State (Abbreviated):

Landing Port City:

If a vessel is landing only meats, only enter the amount of scallops to be landed in the "Meats" field on the form and leave the "Bushels" field blank. Conversely, if the vessel is landing only bushels, enter only the amount of bushels in the "Bushels" field and leave the "Meats" field blank.

GMPCS (Thrane & Thrane) Users

Example A: Scallop Catch Report Screen

Trip Declaration and Catch Reporting System

Trip Declaration [8.0] Reports [6.0]

Type

Multispecies : Catch	Scallop : Catch	Scallop : Pre-Landing	Scallop : Broken Trip
Scallop : Comp. Trip	Herring : Pre-Landing	Cod: GOM Exemption	Sector : Start Hail
Sector : End Hail	Rstrt. Gear Area Notify		

This report is to be used for trips into a Scallop Access Area
 This report must be submitted daily by 9:00 AM the day after the fish were caught.
Note: The VTR serial number must be the same number reported to the seafood dealer receiving the landings at the end of the trip. If you use multiple pages of the VTR on the trip, record the serial number from the first VTR page used.

VTR Serial Number (Logbook Page):

Species	Catch in lbs.
Scallop Meats Kept	<input type="text"/>
Yellowtail Kept	<input type="text"/>
Yellowtail Discarded	<input type="text"/>

Example B: General Category Scallop Pre-landing Notification Screen

Trip Declaration and Catch Reporting System

Trip Declaration [8.0] Reports [6.0]

Type

Multispecies : Catch	Scallop : Catch	Scallop : Pre-Landing	Scallop : Broken Trip
Scallop : Comp. Trip	Herring : Pre-Landing	Cod: GOM Exemption	Sector : Start Hail
Sector : End Hail	Rstrt. Gear Area Notify		

General Category Scallop Pre-Landing Notification
 All LAGC IFQ and NGOM-permitted vessels must send a completed form on
 (1) all declared LAGC scallop trips; (2) all other trips when scallops are kept.
[Click for full instructions...](#)

Vessel Captain/Operator's Name: Correction of a Prior Report?

VTR Serial Num. (Logbook Page): Scallops Retained/Landed?

Estimated Scallops Onboard: Meats (lbs) Any Scallops Caught in Northern Gulf of Maine (NGOM) Area?

Estimated Landing Date & Time: Month / Day / 2010 HH : MM

Landing Port City: State: