



Northeast Region Bulletin

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

For Information Contact:
Sustainable Fisheries Division
(978) 281 – 9315

<http://www.nero.noaa.gov/>
Date Issued: 5/7/2012

Atlantic Sea Scallop, Monkfish, and Northeast Multispecies Fisheries

Canceled Trip Days-at-Sea (DAS) Credit

Effective Date: May 7, 2012

If you are the owner or operator of vessel that uses DAS and you canceled a trip before fishing, you may request a DAS credit for the canceled trip. You may request a canceled trip DAS credit for any reason, provided you have no fish onboard and no fishing activity was conducted on that trip.

If your request is approved, your DAS will be credited for the entire trip. Although this measure is effective May 7, 2012, we will honor DAS credit requests for canceled trips that occurred any time during the 2011 fishing year. Any DAS that are credited for fishing year 2011 will be applied to your 2012 carryover DAS.

Your credit will apply to the fishing year in which the trip occurred. You may carry over the credited DAS to the next fishing year, but you cannot exceed the maximum amount of carryover DAS specified for that fishery. The maximum DAS permitted for carryover per fishery are as follow: Monkfish – 4 DAS; NE multispecies – 10 DAS; and Atlantic sea scallop – 10 DAS.

DAS Credit Criteria

1. Your vessel must be either a Northeast (NE) multispecies, monkfish, or Atlantic sea scallop DAS permitted vessel and have canceled a fishing trip in one of those fisheries.
2. **No fishing activity (no gear was set or hauled)** was conducted and **no fish were caught or possessed** on the canceled trip.
3. If you have a vessel monitoring system (VMS) onboard the vessel, you must send a VMS email from sea at the time the trip is canceled, or at the earliest opportunity prior to crossing the VMS demarcation line, to NMFS.OLE.NE@NOAA.GOV with “DAS CREDIT REQUEST – CANCELED TRIP” in the subject of the email, and the body of the email must include at least the information listed below:
 - Operator name
 - Vessel name
 - Vessel permit number
 - Port where vessel will return
 - Date trip started
 - Estimated date/time of return to port
 - Must make a statement that no fish were onboard and no fishing activity occurred
4. If you do not have a VMS onboard the vessel, you must call the interactive voice response (IVR) backup line at (888) 487-9994 at sea at the time the trip is canceled, or at the earliest opportunity prior to landing and include at least the information listed above in item 3.
5. In addition to the initial notification requirements above, you must also submit a written DAS credit form within 30 days of returning to port from the canceled trip. The form can be found at www.nero.noaa.gov/permits/forms.html.
6. You must submit your completed vessel trip report for the canceled trip with the DAS credit form.

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.