



# NOAA FISHERIES

# For-hire Vessel Permitting and Reporting



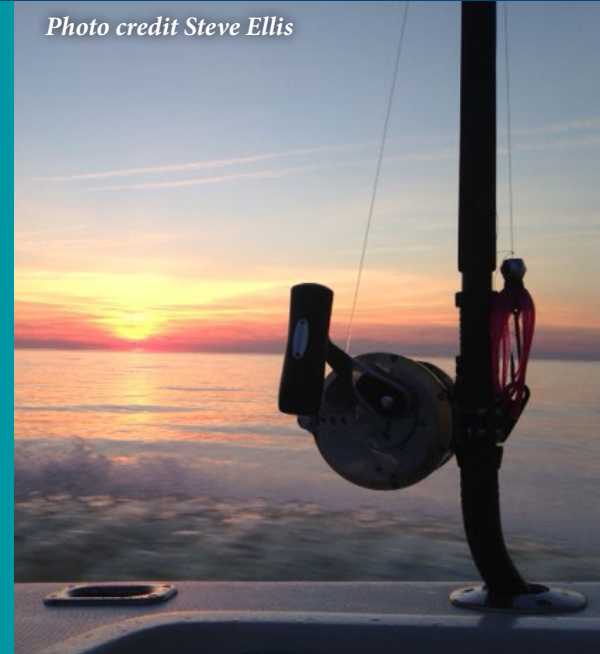
## For-hire Vessel Permitting

If you are a for-hire captain fishing in federal waters (3-200 miles offshore) for one of the species listed below, you must have a valid Greater Atlantic Region Vessel Charter/Party Permit. Vessel operators are also required to have a Federal Vessel Operator Permit.

- Summer Flounder
- Black Sea Bass
- Scup
- Atlantic Mackerel
- Squid
- Butterfish
- Golden Tilefish (North of the NC/VA border)
- Blueline Tilefish (North of the NC/VA border)
- Bluefish
- Chub Mackerel (North of the SC/NC border will be required as of Jan. 2020)
- Lobster
- New England Groundfish, including cod, haddock, pollock, hakes, and flounders (i.e., “Northeast multispecies”)

However, if you have a Northeast Multispecies Limited Access Permit, you do not need the Northeast Multispecies Charter/Party Permit to carry passengers for hire on groundfish trips.

*Photo credit Steve Ellis*



*If you need to obtain these permits, contact our Permits Office at (978) 282-8438 or email [NMFS.GAR.Permits@noaa.gov](mailto:NMFS.GAR.Permits@noaa.gov). All permits are free and will be issued within 30 days of receipt of your complete application.*

# For-hire Vessel Trip Reporting

Once you have a federal permit to carry passengers for hire, you must report your catch.

- If you only have a groundfish permit, you must submit vessel trip reports weekly, either electronically or by paper.
- If you have a permit for any other species listed on page 1, you must submit vessel trip reports electronically within 48 hours of the end of your trip.

# Lobster Only Vessels

- If you only have a lobster permit and no other federal permits (commercial or for-hire), no federal reporting is required at this time. Please check with your state.

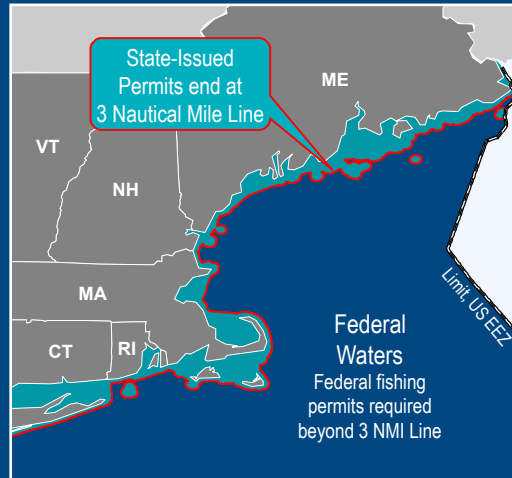
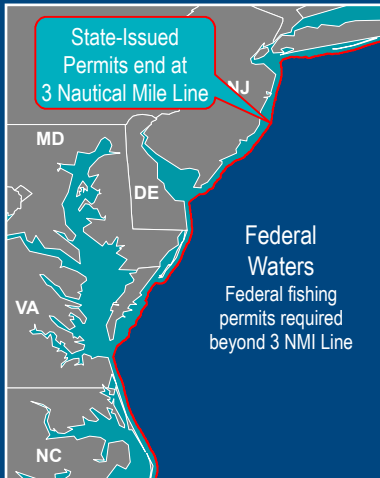


Photo credit Steve Ellis

**If you are fishing for highly migratory species or any species managed by the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, there may be additional requirements so be sure to check with those offices for more information.**

*If you need assistance with reporting your catch, contact our VTR Support Team at (978) 281-9246, or your local Greater Atlantic Region Port Agent.*



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