



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Science Center
166 Water Street
Woods Hole, MA 02543-1026

January 7, 2010

MEMORANDUM FOR: Northeast Fisheries Observer Program Observers

FROM: Amy Van Atten 
Branch Chief, FSB

SUBJECT: Blueback Herring Sample Collection Request

Scientists with the Gulf of Maine Research Institute have requested Blueback Herring samples in order to perform stock structure analysis in the waters between New Jersey and Maine. Whole fish are to be collected and frozen as soon as possible. It is acceptable to bag multiple Blueback Herring from the same haul together, just do not exceed 30 fish per bag. Please use standard biological sample tag protocols when labeling the samples and write "Blueback Herring Study" somewhere on the front of the tag. Remember, when recording the fish information on your haul log use disposition code 007 (no market, but retained by observer for science purposes).

You will be notified by email and/or memo at the conclusion of this project, which at this time is scheduled to end June 30, 2010. If you have any questions regarding this request please contact John McConnaughey at John.McConnaughey@noaa.gov or phone 508-495-2131.

Thank you.

