



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

December 16, 2015

MEMORANDUM FOR: A.I.S., Inc.,
East West Technical Services,
Fathoms Research LLC, and
MRAG Americas
At-Sea Monitors, Industry Funded Scallop Observers, and
Northeast Fisheries Observer Program Observers

FROM: Amy S. Martins 
Branch Chief, Fisheries Sampling Branch (FSB)

SUBJECT: Trip Definition Change

Following guidelines from GARFO and the Fisheries Dependent Data Committee, FSB is updating the definition of a trip to be consistent with other trip-tracking systems such as VMS and VTR. As of January 1, 2016, the following definitions will apply:

Trip Begin: When a vessel leaves port with the intention of fishing and/or transiting to another port.

Trip End: When a vessel lands in a port after fishing and/or transiting; not necessarily the same port as trip begin.

Deployment: Period of time during which an observer is assigned to a single vessel with the intention of fishing. A single deployment may be comprised of one or more trips. A deployment begins when the observer boards a vessel with the intent to observe fishing activity and ends when the observer disembarks from the vessel.

Date/Time Boarded: When the observer arrives at the dock to begin a deployment. Only fill out for the first trip in a deployment.

Date/Time Disembark: When the observer departs the vessel at the end of a deployment. Only fill out for the last trip in a deployment.

Along with the new definition, we have created two new trip extensions to be used on transit trips (i.e., when the vessel is moving between ports, with no intention to engage in fishing activities):

T = Transit with no product onboard (no intent to fish)

U = Transit with product onboard (no intent to fish)

A new Transit Trip Log has been created for use with these trip extensions only. This new log is simply a copy of the standard Vessel and Trip Log, with the non-required fields greyed out and appropriate “unknown” values pre-filled¹. In this mailing you will find 10 copies of this new Transit Trip Log, and additional logs can be requested as per usual. See the included examples.

Because this is a significant change, the following pages have examples and common scenarios that we expect observers will encounter. If you have any questions on defining a trip, please contact Debra Duarte at (508) 495-2304 or Debra.Duarte@noaa.gov.

Thank you.

Attachment: Trip Definition – Questions and Answers

Attachment: Trip Definition – Example Logs

Attachment: Transit Trip Logs (10 NEFOP/IFS and/or ASM)

¹ A standard Vessel and Trip Log may be used in place of a Transit Trip Log, but not the reverse.