



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

April 22, 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR: Northeast Fisheries Observer Program Observers

FROM: Amy S. Van Atten
Branch Chief, FSB

SUBJECT: Changes to Special Access Program (SAP) Reporting
Under the Interim Management Measures for Groundfish
Effective May 1, 2009

The intent of this memo is to briefly inform observers of changes to the NEFOP Special Access Program (SAP) reporting requirements, under NOAA Fisheries Service groundfish interim management measures scheduled to go into effect on May 1, 2009. Due to the Groundfish Assessment Review Meeting (GARM) analyses and the subsequent determination of the overfished status of the pollock stock we will now be required to include this species in our Special Access Program reporting. Pollock will be added to your reporting requirements for US/CAN management area trips, Regular B DAS program trips and CA1 Hook Gear Haddock SAP trips. In addition, reporting of American plaice is no longer required in the Regular B DAS program as the stock is no longer a stock of concern.

Additional Changes

In addition, under the interim management measures, the geographic area of the CA1 Hook Gear Haddock SAP has increased in size, in order to provide more fishing opportunities to fishermen that access the area. Sector and non-sector fishing will no longer be separated into two time periods, similarly the haddock TAC will not be separated. Both sector and non-sector vessels are allowed to fish in the CA1 Hook Gear Haddock SAP May 1, 2009 – January, 31 2010. Please be reminded that the program code for sector vessels fishing in the CA1 Hook Gear Haddock SAP is 140; the program code for non-sector vessels fishing in the CA1 Hook Gear Haddock SAP is 141. Please contact your data editor if you have questions. The Eastern US/CAN management area will open to longline fishing on May 1, 2009 and will open to trawl fishing on August 1, 2009. The Eastern Area Haddock SAP, which was set to expire on April 30, 2009, was extended and will also open on August 1, 2009. The Ruhle Trawl was authorized for use in the Eastern US/CAN management area (in addition to the Haddock Separator trawl and the Flounder net), under this interim management measure.

What are you required to do?

In order to record pollock data on your iPAQ you are required to visit a secure website to update your iPAQ support tables – **as soon as possible**. Information on updating your iPAQ can be found in the following pages of this memo. In addition, please find updated pages for your iPAQ manual. Please remove the outdated pages and replace them with these newly revised pages (pgs 13-14 of your current iPAQ manual).

Interested in learning more?

If you are interested in becoming more familiar with all of the interim management measures for groundfish, please visit this website for more information:

<http://www.nero.noaa.gov/nero/hotnews/multifir/>.

Questions?

For questions related to program changes please contact Sara Wetmore at Sara.Wetmore@noaa.gov or 508-495-2227. For iPAQ related questions, or issues updating your support tables please contact Erin Kupcha at Erin.Kupcha@noaa.gov or 508-495-2031, or as a back-up contact Tiffany Vidal at Tiffany.Vidal@noaa.gov or 508-495-2027.

Thank you!

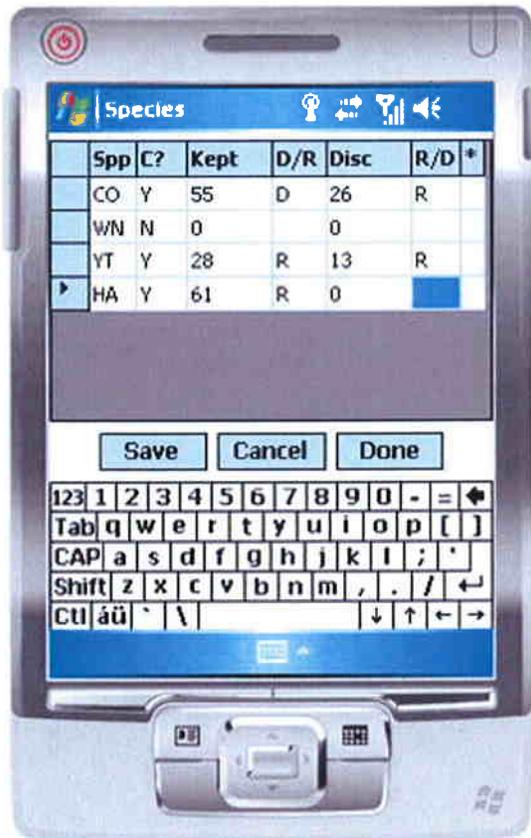
Attachments (3 pages)

NEFOP Memo 09-008

Updating the iPAQ ObsCon Support Tables using the Upload Website

1. Start up Internet Explorer Browser on the PC.
2. Go to upload website
https://fish.nefsc.noaa.gov/observer_upload/
3. Right click on the 3rd option – Download Support Tables and chose the option “Save Target As”.
4. In the browse box keep the file name SupTables
At the bottom of the browse box, in the “Save as type” make sure it says either “.sdf Document” or choose “All Files” from the pulldown. Do not have “Text Document” or it will not save correctly.
5. On the left side of the browse box choose “Desktop”.
6. Choose “Save” – this will save the SupTables.sdf to the PC Desktop.
7. Hook the iPAQ up to the PC and sync with Active Sync.
8. In the Active Sync window (if this window is not up and visable and your iPAQ is connected, double click on the ActiveSync icon, the small green circle, at the bottom right corner of the computer screen) double click “Explore” from the icon menu at the top.
9. From the Explore menu double click the “My Windows Mobile-Based Device”.
10. Double click the “Program Files” folder.
11. Double click the “OBsCon” folder.
12. From the PC Desktop click once on the SupTables.sdf file that was downloaded from the website. Drag it to the OBsCon Folder that contains the files – ObsCon, ObsCon.sdf, SupTables.sdf.
It will ask you if you want to overwrite the existing file, answer yes.
It might also ask you if you want to convert the file, again answer yes.

SPECIES DATA



IF THE ENTIRE TRIP IS FISHED OUTSIDE OF THE U.S./CANADA MANAGEMENT AREA, NO SPECIES DATA ARE REQUIRED. PLEASE COMMENT ON THE COMPLETE TAB. See page 6 for additional information.

9. SPP:

For Program Code 130, record the kept and discard weights for the following species of concern:

CO = Atlantic Cod
 WN = Winter Flounder
 YT = Yellowtail Flounder
 HA = Haddock
 PO = Pollock

For Program Code 140 and 141, record the kept and discard weights for the following species of concern:

CO = Atlantic Cod
 HA = Haddock
 PO = Pollock

For Program Code 150, record the kept and discard weights for the following species of concern:

CO = Atlantic Cod
 WN = Winter Flounder
 WT = Witch Flounder
 YT = Yellowtail Flounder
 HA = Haddock
 WH = White Hake
 PO = Pollock

For Program Code 201, 202 and 203, record the kept and discard weights for the following species of concern:

YT = Yellowtail Flounder

Record only the kept weight for the following species of concern:

SC = Scallop Meats

NOTE: Always record a zero for the discard weight.

10. C? (CATCH?): Record whether the gear from this haul holds any catch of the species listed in SPP (#9), whether it is kept or discarded, by recording the appropriate letter code using the drop down menu:

Y = Yes
 N = No

NOTE: To change all weights for the selected species to ZERO (no kept or discard weight), change "C?" to "N".

11. Kept: Record the actual or estimated kept haul weight for the species listed in SPP (#9). Record this weight in the most accurate form possible, *i.e.* if a species is gutted at sea, record a dressed weight for this species. The observer's actual weight should be recorded whenever possible.

NOTE: Actual weights **may** be recorded to the nearest **tenth** of a pound. Estimated weights greater than one pound should be recorded to the nearest whole pound.

NOTE: Kept is defined as brought on board the vessel and retained for market or consumptive purposes.

12. D/R (DRESSED/ROUND): Indicate whether the weight recorded in KEPT (#11) is a dressed or round weight by recording the appropriate letter code using the drop down menu:

D = Dressed

R = Round

NOTE: If you have recorded zero pounds in KEPT (#11), the D/R field will automatically be blank.

NOTE: If part of the weight for a particular species and haul is dressed and part of the weight is round, **manually convert the dressed portion of the weight to a round weight and enter the total weight for that species and haul as a round weight.**

**DRESSED TO ROUND CONVERSION
SPECIES MULTIPLIERS**

Atlantic Cod - 1.17

Haddock - 1.14

White Hake - 1.34

Pollock - 1.13

13. Disc: Record the actual or estimated discard haul weight for the species listed in SPP (#9). Record this weight in the most accurate form possible, *i.e.* if a species is gutted at sea, record a dressed weight for this species. The observer's actual weight should be recorded whenever possible.

NOTE: Actual weights **may** be recorded to the nearest **tenth** of a pound. Estimated weights greater than one pound should be recorded to the nearest whole pound.

14. D/R (DRESSED/ROUND): Indicate whether the weight recorded in DISC (#13) is a dressed or round weight by recording the appropriate letter code using the drop down menu:

D = Dressed

R = Round

NOTE: If you have recorded zero pounds in DISC (#13), the D/R field will automatically be blank.

NOTE: If part of the weight for a particular species and haul is dressed and part of the weight is round, **manually convert the dressed portion of the weight to a round weight and enter the total weight for that species and haul as a round weight.**

**DRESSED TO ROUND CONVERSION
SPECIES MULTIPLIERS**

Atlantic Cod - 1.17

Haddock - 1.14

White Hake - 1.34

Pollock - 1.13

15. * : Record any COMMENTS for the species listed in SPP (#9) in this field.

NOTE: After you are done with your COMMENTS, click on "ok" and you will be brought back to the Species Data screen.

Once you have entered all of the information for your species of concern, please click on the "Save" button and then click on the "Done" button and you will be brought back to the SAP TAB haul information.

If you realize that there is a mistake with the data that has been entered, click on the "Cancel" button and then click on the "Done" button. This will bring you back to the SAP TAB haul information. Click on "Species Data" and enter the correct information. Clicking on "Cancel" will only remove information for the current haul.