



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/>
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NORTHEAST MULTISPECIES

Announcement of approved dockside and at-sea monitoring providers for 2013.

Effective Date: May 1, 2013

We have approved four companies to provide at-sea monitoring services and three companies to provide dockside monitoring services. Sectors are responsible for the costs of all monitoring in fishing year (FY) 2013, to the extent not funded by NOAA Fisheries.

Approved Monitoring Providers

Provider Name	At-Sea Monitoring	Dockside Monitoring	Address	Phone	Fax	Website
A.I.S., Inc.	X	X	89 North Water Street, New Bedford, MA 02747	(508) 990-9054	(508) 990-9055	www.aisobservers.com
MRAG Americas	X	X	65 Eastern Ave., Unit B2C, Essex, MA 01929	(978) 768-3880	(978) 768-3878	www.mragamericas.com
Atlantic Catch Data, Ltd.	X	X	99 Wyse Road, Suite 815, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, CANADA B3A 4S5	(902) 422-4745	(902) 422-9780	www.atlanticcatchdata.ca
East West Technical Services, LLC	X		34 Batterson Drive, New Britain, CT 06053	(860) 223-5165	(860) 223-6005	www.ewts.com

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.

Frequently Asked Questions

Why is at-sea monitoring required?	The goal of the at-sea monitoring program for sectors is to verify the area fished and catch (landings and discards), by species and gear type, to monitor use of sector quotas (ACE).
Who is required to have at-sea monitoring?	Each sector is subject to at-sea monitoring in FY 2013.
Are any sector vessels exempt from at-sea monitoring?	The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) has approved a measure in Framework 48 to lower the at-sea monitoring coverage rate for sector trips fishing on a monkfish day-at-sea in Southern New England, when using extra-large gillnet gear. We will approve or disapprove Framework 48 measures in the spring of 2013.
How can we expect industry to pay for this?	The requirement for industry funding has been phased in with us paying 100% of at-sea monitoring since 2010. The Council has approved changes to at-sea monitoring requirements, which could affect the amount of monitoring needed, and could revise which trips are subject to monitoring. We hope to pay a portion of industry's at-sea monitoring costs for FY 2013, but this is dependent on funding.
How will at-sea monitoring funding work?	Additional information on funding and implementation of at-sea monitoring for FY 2013 will be provided at a future date. We are working on a solution that will be flexible to accommodate any amount of money available to help defray industry's costs.
How do I know when I have an at-sea monitor assigned to my trip?	Similar to previous years, you are required to provide notification through the Pre-Trip Notification System (PTNS) 48 hours in advance of a trip. If selected for at-sea monitoring, you will receive notification through the PTNS, and the at-sea monitoring service provider will contact you to confirm trip details.
What is dockside and roving monitoring for?	The goal of dockside monitoring is to provide independent confirmation of landings to monitor sector quotas (ACE) and common pool quotas (Trimester TACs).
Who is required to have dockside and roving monitoring?	The Council has approved a measure to eliminate dockside monitoring requirements for both sector and common pool vessels for FY 2013. NMFS will approve or disapprove this measure in the spring of 2013.