



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

September 24, 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR: NEFOP Observers

FROM: Amy Van Atten  
Acting Branch Chief, FSB

SUBJECT: Dropping of Six-Month Questions Log

This memo is to inform you that starting immediately the Six-Month Questions Log is no longer a required log of the Northeast Fisheries Observer Program. Recently, the Social Sciences Branch started collecting economic data through a voluntary survey that was coordinated with the permit renewal process. Due to a high return rate, NEFOP Observers no longer need to ask the Six-Month Questions. **The economic questions on the Vessel & Trip Log (fuel price, ice price, supplies, damage, etc...) do however still need to be asked.**

For the time being, the Vessel & Trip Log will remain the same with the *Six-Month Questions Asked? (Yes/No)* field present; this field box should be checked as *No*. NEFOP will modify the Vessel & Trip Log and remove the Six-Month Questions Log from the Northeast Fisheries Observer Program Manual during our next round of manual changes.

If you have already asked the Six-Month Questions on a recently observed trip, please send in (the log) as usual as we will continue to enter completed logs. **But again, from this point forward you no longer need to ask the Six-Month Questions.**

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact KB McArdle at (508) 495-2377 or [Katherine.McArdle@noaa.gov](mailto:Katherine.McArdle@noaa.gov).

Thank you.