



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
Northeast Fisheries Science Center  
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MEMORANDUM FOR: Northeast Fisheries Observer Program Observers

FROM: Amy Van Atten  
Branch Chief, FSB 

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Updates/Changes

This memo is to inform you of some updates/changes to our program. Attached are some documents that you are required to read, understand, and implement immediately. They include the:

- Shrimp memo with accompanying Cheat Sheet
- Enforcement Update (NEFOP Observer Incident Report, on NEFOP website)
- Blueback Herring Sample Collection Request (NEFOP Memo 10-001)
- Pre-Trip Vessel Safety Checklist (PTVSC) (NEFOP Memo 10-002)
- News From NOAA: Cooperative Research on Monkfish Migration

The shrimp cheat sheet is intended to clear up recent misidentification issues observers have been having. Please read the cover letter carefully and start using the included cheat sheet immediately. The Enforcement Update attachment is included to inform observers of the interactive form (NEFOP Observer Incident Report) that can be emailed to Tom Gaffney, as opposed to filling it out and sending it in. Also attached is a memo requesting observers to send in whole blueback herring samples. These samples will be used by colleagues at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute who are interested in stock structure analysis. Refer to the memo for details. The PTVSC attachment is to inform observers of modifications made to the checklist for scanning purposes. Finally, the News from NOAA is an informative article that not only describes the cooperation between fishermen and scientists, but also reminds observers to keep an eye out for tagged monkfish, and to remind fishermen to keep a look-out for them as well, as a healthy reward is offered for returned whole specimens. Observers are asked to read this material, and start implementing any new rules, regulations, and requests immediately.

If you have any questions regarding any of the attachments, please contact Katherine McArdle at [Katherine.McArdle@noaa.gov](mailto:Katherine.McArdle@noaa.gov) or 508-495-2377.

Thank you.

NEFOP Memo 10-003 (Page 1 of 1)

