

Industry-Funded Scallop Observer Program Call-In Guide

Limited Access (LA) Vessels MUST provide 72 hours' notice before the intended sail date. Notice should be no more than 10 days prior to sail date. Date requests within the 72 hours' notice window will not be granted.

LA General Category Vessels (LAGC) MUST notify by Thursday for the upcoming calendar week (Sunday through Saturday). Only one call per calendar week is required. Calls will not be back-dated if received after the calendar week has begun.

STEP I – Call the Automated IVR System at (508) 495-2100

1. Press 1 to report a trip and follow the message prompts

2. Gear type: Press 1 for Scallop Dredge
Press 2 for Scallop Trawl

3. Permit type: Press 1 for a Limited Access trip
Press 2 for a General Category IFQ trip

4. Area: For Mid Atlantic Open Area, press 4, then press # key
For Georges Bank Open Area, press 5, then press # key
For Closed Area I Access Area, press 7, then press # key
For Mid Atlantic Access Area, press 9, then press # key
For Nantucket Lightship West Access Area, press 10, then press # key
For Nantucket Lightship South Access Area, press 11, then press # key

5. Phone #: Enter your 10 digit phone number (**DO NOT** use '1' before the area code)

6. Permit #: Enter your 6 digit permit number

7. Name: Please speak clearly, first, last name then press # key

8. Port: Please say the city and state you intend to sail from, then press # key

9. Sail Date: Please say the month, day, and year, then press # key

You will receive a confirmation number which **MUST** be retained.

A waiver or observer selection email from NMFS will be sent to your VMS unit within 24 hours.

If you do not receive a notification within 24 hours, contact the NMFS at (508) 495-2188

If you are issued a waiver, you may begin your trip.

If you receive an observer notice, please follow the instructions in Step II.

STEP II – When selected to carry an observer

If selected for observer coverage you **MUST** provide at least 48 hours' notice to the observer providers.

You are required to call **all four** of the observer providers in an attempt to obtain coverage, but you may choose to hire any provider that is available.

Current Industry Funded Scallop Observer Providers

A.I.S. Inc. (774) 200-1688

East West Technical Services Inc. (860) 910-4957

Fathom Research LLC. (508) 990 – 0997

MRAG Americas, Inc. (877) 768-7121

Please call the Vessel Call-in Coordinator at (508) 495-2188 or (508) 560-3550 (after-hours cell) if there are no observers available from any of the providers and you would like to request a waiver, or if you are cancelling or delaying your trip more than 48 hours beyond the intended sail date.

This summary is not a substitute for the actual regulations. The full text of the regulations is available at <https://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/regs/fr.html> or call the Greater Atlantic Regional Office at (978) 281-9315.

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