

Observer Pre-Briefing Requirements for Scallop Trips

Fleet ID (Describes Permit Type/Length of Trip):

Limited Access (Multiday)	046
General Category (Day Trip)	047

Program Code (Describes Area Fished):

Training Trip (Open Areas)	010
Georges Bank or Mid Atlantic (Open Areas)	000
Nantucket Lightship West Access Area	210
Nantucket Lightship South Access Area	211
Closed Area I Access Area	202
Closed Area II Access Area	203
Mid-Atlantic Access Area	208

Vendor ID:

AIS Inc	02
EWTS	04
Fathom	16
MRAG	19

Required Photos for ALL Trips:

One Yellowtail Flounder (if encountered)
All dredges and frames fished (port & starboard)
Species ID photos for SVP Program
Any unidentifiable "FISH, NK"
Scallops with grey meat/nematodes

Gear Info:

Capt. MUST confirm chain mat type – comment or check box on gear log
If TCM is used, comment/check box on how rock & tickler chains are connected, <14" openings
Record any info welded onto dredge frame
Spider chains require comment/drawing of number of rock chains between each tickler chain
Trawl nets do not require photos

Watch Schedule:

Watch periods should represent entire trip
Use 8hr shifts, or 12hr shifts & switch halfway through the trip
At least 50% of the hauls must be observed

Misc. Requirements:

Review subsampling & deckloading in manuals
Review incidental take protocols
Review grey meat/nematode protocols

Sampling Requirements:

Dressed weights for kept scallops are required unless scallops are <i>landed</i> whole/round (This is a probation issue if done incorrectly)
NON-ACTUAL weights must be rounded to the nearest whole pound (unless it is < 1lb)
Discarded scallops are a PRIORITY species and actual weights should be obtained whenever possible – DO NOT visually estimate discarded scallops when it's possible to utilize another estimation method

Length Frequency Requirements:

Lengths of kept & discarded scallops from both dredges should be obtained every other haul
Obtain meat weight and volumetric of one basket kept scallops once per watch
Record these measurements on the LF log in their appropriate spots with disposition code
Obtain fin fish lengths once per watch
Appropriate age samples of fin fish every trip

OBPrelim Upload Requirements:

Upload and photos due within 48hrs of landing
All kept species - scallops, fin fish, etc.
All yellowtail flounders observed
Any "171- personally consumed" species
Any "007" or "006" species
Any Incidental Take information (if applicable)

Log Requirements:

Logs due within 4 business days of landing
Include all logs & age samples in envelopes
Freezer samples due within 7 days and mailed in a cooler according to protocols

Contact Info

Lacey Bluemel 508-495-2188
Tyler Staples 508-495-2129
Chad Keith 508-495-2067
Scallop VCIC Cell Phone 508-560-3550
*DO NOT call the VCIC phone after 9pm