



David E. Pierce
Director

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

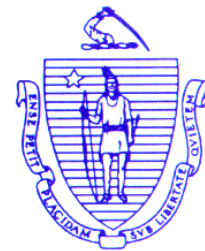
Division of Marine Fisheries

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Governor

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George N. Peterson, Jr.
Commissioner

Mary-Lee King
Deputy Commissioner

October 9, 2015

NAME
ADDRESS
ADDRESS

RE: Pre-qualification Status for Phase 3 Federal Groundfish Disaster Aid Program

Dear NAME ON PERMIT:

The Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) notified you in a concurrent October 9, 2015 mailing of the Commonwealth's spending plan for Phase 3 of the Groundfish Disaster Economic Assistance Program. **Given your federal landings history and observed trip information for F/V <vessel name> (NMFS Permit #<insert #>), DMF has made a preliminary determination that you are pre-qualified for a Phase 3 direct assistance payment.**

DMF audited federal catch and observed trip data for all federal limited access multispecies permits homeported in Massachusetts as of April 30, 2015 and pre-qualified them for a flat rate payment based on the following criteria:

- landed at least 10,000-lbs. of groundfish¹ in any one fishing year (FY) from FY2012 to FY2014; or
- were observed on at least one groundfish sector trip in FY2014.

In the table below you will find further information on DMF's decision to pre-qualify you. If you believe there was a technical error in the data to pre-qualify your vessel, you may appeal to MA DMF in writing (c/o Samantha Andrews, 251 Causeway St., Suite 400, Boston, MA 02114; or by email at Samantha.n.andrews@state.ma.us). Appeals must be postmarked no later than October 23, 2015.

¹ Groundfish for qualification purposes means the following thirteen species: cod, haddock, yellowtail flounder, pollock, plaice, witch flounder, white hake, windowpane flounder, Atlantic halibut, winter flounder, redfish, Atlantic wolffish, and ocean pout.

Max Landings Qualification Year	<YEAR>
Max Landings	<#> lbs.
Number of Observed Groundfish Sector Trips in FY2014	<#>
Met criteria for at least 10,000-lbs in groundfish landings in any one year FY2012-FY2014?	YES/NO
Met criteria for at least one observed trip in FY2014?	YES/NO
Pre-qualified?	YES/NO

Following conclusion of all appeals, DMF will notify you in writing of your final qualified payment amount. In order to receive payment, you must be a current state vendor. DMF will provide necessary documents to become a state vendor or update your existing information upon notification of final payment amounts.

Should you have any questions regarding your pre-qualification status please contact Samantha Andrews, DMF Program Coordinator, by phone at (617) 626-1564 or by email at Samantha.n.andrews@state.ma.us.

Sincerely,



Melanie Griffin
Fishery Policy Analyst