For-Hire Permitting and Reporting Process*

START HERE: ALL Massachusetts For-Hire captains need a DMF For-Hire saltwater fishing permit

WHERE ARE YOU FISHING?

STATE WATERS ONLY**

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS
DMF collects recreational catch data through the MRIP. Please encourage customers to complete interviews dockside at the end of trips.

Captains should also participate in the MRIP for-hire phone survey when called upon.

STATE & FEDERAL WATERS

WHAT ARE YOU FISHING FOR?

Non HMS Species

Atlantic Highly Migratory Species - tunas, billfishes, swordfish, and sharks

YOU NEED:
- Federal CH/HB permit
- Federal Operator permit
And must submit:
- Federal Vessel Trip Report (VTR)

YOU NEED:
- Atlantic HMS Charter/Headboat permit
And must submit:
- Catch and Landings to NOAA Fisheries within 24 hours of the vessel landing

For all species, reports must be submitted electronically within 48 hours of the trip (regardless of species targeted or location fished)

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*Commercial requirements for permits and reporting may vary from these guidelines

**Federally permitted vessels fishing in state waters must still file a VTR for each trip regardless of species targeted or location fished