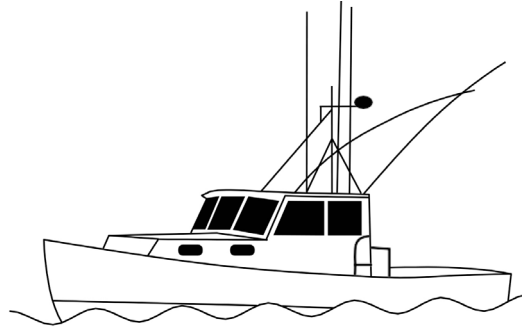


# For-Hire Permitting and Reporting Guide\*



**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).

\*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



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