



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

(617) 626-1520 | www.mass.gov/marinefisheries



MAURA T. HEALEY
Governor

KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL
Lt. Governor

REBECCA L. TEPPER
Secretary

THOMAS K. O'SHEA
Commissioner

DANIEL J. MCKIERNAN
Director

FY25 Vessel Tracking Requirement

As a federal lobster trap permit holder, you are required to install an Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) approved vessel tracking device onboard the above vessel in accordance with Addendum XXIX to Amendment 3 to the American Lobster Fishery Management Plan. This Addendum delegated program administration to the state listed as the principal landing state on your federal permit, thus the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries (MADMF) is tasked with administering your vessel's tracker. MADMF requires that vessels under its administration install and activate an approved tracking device prior to any fishing trip using trap gear occurring on or after May 1, 2023 (322 CMR 7.11). Once installed, the device must remain powered and transmitting data regardless of location, trip type, gear type, activity, or target species.

Additionally, each active federal trap permit holder with a Massachusetts principal port is eligible to receive a one-time payment of \$1,500 to offset the costs of this device and the associated service plan. Federal trap permit holders in LMA 6 are exempt from this requirement and ineligible for reimbursement. ASMFC and MADMF approved four tracking devices to date. Permit holders who will fish trap gear in federal fishing year 2025 (FY25) must contact an approved device vendor (see table below) and purchase an approved tracking device and service plan. Vessels with federal Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS) must use an ASMFC approved tracker in addition to their federal VMS unit. Upon installation of the approved unit, you must complete an affidavit that certifies you are fulfilling your tracker requirements. If you will not fish traps in FY25, you are exempt from installing a tracker, and are ineligible for reimbursement but must still return the affidavit.

Approved Vessel Tracking Device Information

Vendor	Device	Webpage	Support Phone	Support Email Address
Viatrix	Boat			
	Command	https://boatcommand.com/	(918) 824-1400	support@viatrix.com
Succorfish	SC2	https://succorfish.com/contact/	(888) 205-5755	enquiries@succorfish.com
Archipelago	FishVue			
	Lime	https://www.archipelago.ca/fishvuelime-asfmc	(250) 383-4535	TechSupport@archipelago.ca

Included with this packet are two documents:

- **An Affidavit that must be returned regardless of whether or not you intend to fish trap gear during FY25.**
 - If you intend to fish trap gear in FY25: install a device and return the completed affidavit.
 - If you do not intend to fish trap gear in FY25: return the affidavit within 30 days, opting out the program.
- An application for reimbursement.
 - You may submit an application for reimbursement (\$1500) **after** installing an approved device.

Please complete and return both documents to: ATTN: Vessel Tracking Project, MA Division of Marine Fisheries, 836 S Rodney French Blvd, New Bedford, MA 02744 or use the enclosed envelopes. If you have questions regarding vessel tracking requirements or the reimbursement program, need to report malfunctioning vessel tracking devices, or need to alert MADMF that your tracking device must be powered down for vessel repairs please call MADMF's dedicated vessel tracking phone number, 978-491-6265, or email dmf.tracking@mass.gov. For more information about this program and vessel tracking requirements, please visit: www.mass.gov/vesseltracking.

Application for Vessel Tracking Device Reimbursement

Please review and complete Sections 1 and 2 of this form requesting financial assistance for a vessel tracking device. Payments will be issued by ASMFC, so be sure to correct any contact information listed below, as necessary. Please visit www.mass.gov/info-details/assistance-for-electronic-tracking-devices-federal-lobster-vessels for updates to subsidy payments for this program.

Section 1: Permit Holder Contact Information

Please review the contact information below and make corrections where needed. **It is extremely important that this information is correct, especially the address, because this is where stipend checks will be mailed.**

Line Item	Information on File	Make Corrections Here
Owner Name		
Mailing Address		
City, State, and Zip Code		
Phone Number		
E-Mail		
Federal Permit Number		
Vessel Name		
Vessel Number		

Section 2: Tax Liability, Payment Disclosure, and Signature

Please be advised that recipients are responsible for the tax consequences of all income received. Therefore, please consult with your tax preparer if you have any further questions regarding the tax implications of these payments. Completing this form is a request for financial assistance for a vessel tracking device for your federally permitted vessel. Requesting funds is a binding agreement to adhere to all the requirements in the enclosed affidavit. **A signed affidavit must be returned prior to receiving funding or your permit will be subject to suspension.**

EIN or SSN: _____ If you do not want to submit this information through the U.S. Mail, contact the Division of Marine Fisheries at 978-559-1387 between the hours of 9am - 4pm, Mo-Fr.

If EIN is provided above, the Corporation name is: _____

Name: _____

Please type or print the name of authorized individual.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

This application must be signed by a person legally authorized to represent the entity submitting this application.

You may choose not to accept financial assistance from this program, however, if your vessel is federally permitted for trap-caught American lobster and/or Jonah crab and you land in Massachusetts, you are still subject to this vessel tracking requirement as of May 1, 2023, and MUST return the enclosed affidavit.



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FEDERAL AMERICAN LOBSTER COMMERCIAL TRAP GEAR AREA PERMIT HOLDERS VESSEL TRACKING AFFIDAVIT

Under the authority of the Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Cooperative Management Act, Addendum XXIX to Amendment 3 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for American Lobster and Addendum IV to the Fishery Management Plan for Jonah crab requires all vessels with a federal American Lobster Trap Gear Area permit to have an approved vessel tracker installed. Tracking devices must be installed prior to the permit holder's first fishing trip. This vessel tracker must remain powered and transmitting when the vessel is in the water regardless of landing state, trip type, location fished, or target species. All devices must follow the specifications outlined in Section 3.1 of Addendum XXIX.

The principal port on your Federal Fishery Permit lies within Massachusetts, thus the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries (MADMF) will be tasked with certifying the installation of your vessel tracking device. ***This requirement began in Massachusetts on May 1st, 2023 per 322 CMR 7.11.*** In the event you believe your tracker is not functioning correctly and must be serviced or if the tracker must be powered down for vessel repairs, please contact MADMF at 978-491-6265 or email DMF.TRACKING@Mass.gov, and inform them of your situation.

Please complete, sign, and return this form.

Federal Fishery Permit Number: _____

Documentation or Vessel Registration Number: _____

Vessel Name: _____

- ☐ I intend to fish trap gear in federal fishing year 2025 (May 1, 2025 - April 30, 2026). I certify the below vessel tracking device is installed and properly functioning to the best of my knowledge.

Vessel Tracking Device Vendor: _____

Vessel Tracking Device Key Code: _____

- ☐ I do not intend to fish trap gear with my federally permitted vessel in fishing year 2025 (May 1, 2025 - April 30, 2026) and am opting out of the vessel tracking program. I understand that before fishing trap gear with my federally permitted vessel I must install an approved tracking device and resubmit this affidavit.

Permit Holder Signature: _____

Permit Holder Printed Name: _____

Date: _____