



**National Marine Fisheries Service**  
Office of Law Enforcement  
Northeast Division

**Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)**

**Activity Declaration Code Glossary**  
**Greater Atlantic Region**

May 1, 2018

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## DECLARATION CODE FORMAT

The format of a Declaration code is: **CCC-PPP-AADGTB**.

Fields within the code are formatted per the table below:

Code	Description	Length	Type
CCC	Plan Code	3	Alpha
PPP	Program Code	3	Alpha
AA	Area Identifier	2	Alphanumeric
D	Days-at-Sea (DAS) Code	1	Alpha
G	Gear Type	1	Alpha
T	Trip Modifier	1	Alpha
B	Broad Stock Area (BSA)	1	Alpha

### How do I determine the meaning of a VMS declaration code?

Use the tables on the following pages to break down the individual fields within the code.

For example, NMS-SEC-OPXWMA would be:

- a. Plan Code 'NMS' is 'Northeast Multispecies'.
- b. Program Code 'SEC' is 'Multispecies Sector Vessel Trip'.
- c. Area Identifier 'OP' is 'Open Area'.
- d. Days-at-Sea Code 'X' is 'No Days-at-Sea'.
- e. Gear Type 'W' is 'Trawl'.
- f. Trip Modifier 'M' is 'Monkfish Option'.
- g. Broad Stock Area 'A' is 'Gulf of Maine (GOM)'.

## DECLARATION FIELD DESCRIPTIONS

### Plan Code (CCC-???-??????)

Code	Description
NMS	Northeast Multispecies
MNK	Monkfish
SES	Scallop
HER	Herring
SCO	Surfclam & Ocean Quahog
SMB	Squid, Mackerel, Butterfish
PWD	Power Down
DOF	Declare out of Fishery

### Program Code (???-PPP-??????)

Code	Description
SEC	Multispecies Sector Vessel Trip
COM	Multispecies Common Pool Vessel Trip
NAS	Monkfish Northern Management Area Sector Vessel Trip
NAC	Monkfish Northern Management Area Common Pool Vessel Trip
SAS	Monkfish Southern Management Area Sector Vessel Trip
SAC	Monkfish Southern Management Area Common Pool Vessel Trip
NAM	Monkfish Northern Management Area Monkfish-Only Vessel Trip
SAM	Monkfish Southern Management Area Monkfish-Only Vessel Trip
NOC	Monkfish Northern Management Area Common Pool Vessel Trip - Offshore Program Access
SOC	Monkfish Southern Management Area Common Pool Vessel Trip - Offshore Program Access
NOS	Monkfish Northern Management Area Sector Vessel Trip - Offshore Program Access
SOS	Monkfish Southern Management Area Sector Vessel Trip - Offshore Program Access
BDP	Multispecies B-DAS Program
SAA	Special Access Area
SCA	Limited Access
SCG	Limited Access General Category (LAGC)
HER	Herring Trip
CAR	Herring Carrier Trip
HMS	Herring Trip with Mackerel and/or Squid Retention
SFC	Surfclam
OQU	Ocean Quahog

## DECLARATION FIELD DESCRIPTIONS

### Program Code (???-PPP-??????)(Cont'd)

Code	Description
MMQ	Maine Mahogany Quahog
SWE	State Waters Exemption
TST	Transit without Product Onboard
TST	Transit without Product Onboard
TSP	Transit with Product Onboard
CML	Fishing - Commercial
REC	Fishing - Recreational/Charter
SCI	Scientific Research
NAF	NW Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) participation
MAC	Mackerel Trip
MAS	Mackerel Trip with Squid Retention
MAH	Mackerel Trip with Herring Retention
MHS	Mackerel Trip with Herring and Squid Retention
SQL	Longfin Squid Trip
SLM	Longfin Squid Trip with Mackerel Retention
SLH	Longfin Squid Trip with Herring Retention
LHM	Longfin Squid Trip with Herring and Mackerel Retention
SQI	Illex Squid Trip
SIM	Illex Squid Trip with Mackerel Retention
SIH	Illex Squid Trip with Herring Retention
IHM	Illex Squid Trip with Herring and Mackerel Retention
SQC	Combination Longfin and Illex Squid
SCH	Combination Longfin and Illex Squid with Herring Retention
SCM	Combination Longfin and Illex Squid with Mackerel Retention
SHM	Combination Longfin and Illex Squid with Herring and Mackerel Retention
PWD	Power Down

## DECLARATION FIELD DESCRIPTIONS

### Area Identifier (???-???-AA????)

Code	Description
U1	US/CANADA Area 1 (CA-2 Yellowtail/Haddock SAP)
U2	US/CANADA Area 2 (Eastern US/Canada Area)
U3	US/CANADA Area 3 (CA-2 Yellowtail/Haddock SAP + Eastern US/Canada Area)
U4	US/CANADA Area 4 (Western US/Canada Area)
U5	US/CANADA Area 5 (Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP)
U6	US/CANADA Area 6 (Eastern US/Canada Area + Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP)
U7	US/CANADA Area 7 (CA-2 Yellowtail/Haddock SAP + Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP)
U8	US/CANADA Area 8 (Eastern US/Canada Area + CA-2 Yellowtail/Haddock SAP + Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP)
R1	US/CANADA Area 1 (CA-2 Yellowtail/Haddock SAP) + Open Area
R2	US/CANADA Area 2 (Eastern US/Canada Area) + Open Area
R3	US/CANADA Area 3 (CA-2 Yellowtail/Haddock SAP + Eastern US/Canada Area) + Open Area
R5	US/CANADA Area 5 (Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP) + Open Area
R6	US/CANADA Area 6 (Eastern US/Canada Area + Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP) + Open Area
R7	US/CANADA Area 7 (CA-2 Yellowtail/Haddock SAP + Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP) + Open Area
R8	US/CANADA Area 8 (Eastern US/Canada Area + CA-2 Yellowtail/Haddock SAP + Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP) + Open Area
W1	US/CANADA Area 1 (CA-2 Yellowtail/Haddock SAP) + Area 4 (Western US/Canada Area)
W2	US/CANADA Area 2 (Eastern US/Canada Area) + Area 4 (Western US/Canada Area)
W3	US/CANADA Area 3 (CA-2 Yellowtail/Haddock SAP + Eastern US/Canada Area) + Area 4 (Western US/Canada Area)
W5	US/CANADA Area 5 (Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP) + Area 4 (Western US/Canada Area)
W6	US/CANADA Area 6 (Eastern US/Canada Area + Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP) + Area 4 (Western US/Canada Area)
W7	US/CANADA Area 7 (CA-2 Yellowtail/Haddock SAP + Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP) + Area 4 (Western US/Canada Area)
W8	US/CANADA Area 8 (Eastern US/Canada Area + CA-2 Yellowtail/Haddock SAP + Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP) + Area 4 (Western US/Canada Area)
O1	US/CANADA Area 1 (CA-2 Yellowtail/Haddock SAP) + Area 4 (Western US/Canada Area) + Open Area

## DECLARATION FIELD DESCRIPTIONS

### Area Identifier (???-???-AA????)(Cont'd)

Code	Description
O2	US/CANADA Area 2 (Eastern US/Canada Area) + Area 4 (Western US/Canada Area) + Open Area
O3	US/CANADA Area 3 (CA-2 Yellowtail/Haddock SAP + Eastern US/Canada Area)+ Area 4 (Western US/Canada Area) + Open Area
O4	US/CANADA Area 4 (Western US/Canada Area) + Open Area
O5	US/CANADA Area 5 (Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP) + Area 4 (Western US/Canada Area) + Open Area
O6	US/CANADA Area 6 (Eastern US/Canada Area + Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP) + Area 4 (Western US/Canada Area) + Open Area
O7	US/CANADA Area 7 (CA-2 Yellowtail/Haddock SAP + Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP) + Area 4 (Western US/Canada Area) + Open Area
O8	US/CANADA Area 8 (Eastern US/Canada Area + CA-2 Yellowtail/Haddock SAP + Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP) + Area 4 (Western US/Canada Area) + Open Area
H1	US/CANADA Area 1 (CA-2 Yellowtail/Haddock SAP) + CA-1 HGH SAP
H2	US/CANADA Area 2 (Eastern US/Canada Area) + CA-1 HGH SAP
H3	US/CANADA Area 3 (CA-2 Yellowtail/Haddock SAP + Eastern US/Canada Area) + CA-1 HGH SAP
H4	US/CANADA Area 4 (Western US/Canada Area) + CA-1 HGH SAP
H5	US/CANADA Area 5 (Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP) + CA-1 HGH SAP
H6	US/CANADA Area 6 (Eastern US/Canada Area + Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP) + CA-1 HGH SAP
H7	US/CANADA Area 7 (CA-2 Yellowtail/Haddock SAP + Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP) + CA-1 HGH SAP
H8	US/CANADA Area 8 (Eastern US/Canada Area + CA-2 Yellowtail/Haddock SAP + Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP) + CA-1 HGH SAP
T1	US/CANADA Area 1 (CA-2 Yellowtail/Haddock SAP) + CA-1 HGH SAP + Area 4 (Western US/Canada Area)
T2	US/CANADA Area 2 (Eastern US/Canada Area) + CA-1 HGH SAP + Area 4 (Western US/Canada Area)
T3	US/CANADA Area 3 (CA-2 Yellowtail/Haddock SAP + Eastern US/Canada Area)+ CA-1 HGH SAP + Area 4 (Western US/Canada Area)
T5	US/CANADA Area 5 (Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP) + CA-1 HGH SAP + Area 4 (Western US/Canada Area)
T6	US/CANADA Area 6 (Eastern US/Canada Area + Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP) + CA-1 HGH SAP + Area 4 (Western US/Canada Area)
T7	US/CANADA Area 7 (CA-2 Yellowtail/Haddock SAP + Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP) + CA-1 HGH SAP + Area 4 (Western US/Canada Area)
T8	US/CANADA Area 8 (Eastern US/Canada Area + CA-2 Yellowtail/Haddock SAP + Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP) + CA-1 HGH SAP + Area 4 (Western US/Canada Area)

## DECLARATION FIELD DESCRIPTIONS

### Area Identifier (???-???-AA????)(Cont'd)

Code	Description
P1	US/CANADA Area 1 (CA-2 Yellowtail/Haddock SAP) + Open Area + CA-1 HGH SAP
P2	US/CANADA Area 2 (Eastern US/Canada Area) + Open Area + CA-1 HGH SAP
P3	US/CANADA Area 3 (CA-2 Yellowtail/Haddock SAP + Eastern US/Canada Area) + Open Area + CA-1 HGH SAP
P4	US/CANADA Area 4 (Western US/Canada Area) + Open Area + CA-1 HGH SAP
P5	US/CANADA Area 5 (Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP) + Open Area + CA-1 HGH SAP
P6	US/CANADA Area 6 (Eastern US/Canada Area + Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP) + Open Area + CA-1 HGH SAP
P7	US/CANADA Area 7 (CA-2 Yellowtail/Haddock SAP + Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP) + Open Area + CA-1 HGH SAP
P8	US/CANADA Area 8 (Eastern US/Canada Area + CA-2 Yellowtail/Haddock SAP + Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP) + Open Area + CA-1 HGH SAP
Q1	US/CANADA Area 1 (CA-2 Yellowtail/Haddock SAP) + Open Area + CA-1 HGH SAP + Area 4 (Western US/Canada Area)
Q2	US/CANADA Area 2 (Eastern US/Canada Area) + Open Area + CA-1 HGH SAP + Area 4 (Western US/Canada Area)
Q3	US/CANADA Area 3 (CA-2 Yellowtail/Haddock SAP + Eastern US/Canada Area)+ Open Area + CA-1 HGH SAP + Area 4 (Western US/Canada Area)
Q5	US/CANADA Area 5 (Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP) + Open Area + CA-1 HGH SAP + Area 4 (Western US/Canada Area)
Q6	US/CANADA Area 6 (Eastern US/Canada Area + Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP ) + Open Area + CA-1 HGH SAP + Area 4 (Western US/Canada Area)
Q7	US/CANADA Area 7 (CA-2 Yellowtail/Haddock SAP + Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP) + Open Area + CA-1 HGH SAP + Area 4 (Western US/Canada Area)
Q8	US/CANADA Area 8 (Eastern US/Canada Area + CA-2 Yellowtail/Haddock SAP + Eastern US/Canada Haddock SAP) + Open Area + CA-1 HGH SAP + Area 4 (Western US/Canada Area)
C1	Closed Area 1
HX	CA-1 Hook Gear Haddock (HGH) SAP
HO	CA-1 Hook Gear Haddock (HGH) SAP + Open Area
1S	CA-1 Scallop Access Area
C2	Closed Area 2
2S	CA-2 Scallop Access Area Carry-Over Trip
HC	Hudson Canyon Scallop Access Area

## DECLARATION FIELD DESCRIPTIONS

### Area Identifier (???-???-AA????)(Cont'd)

Code	Description
NL	Nantucket Lightship
NS	Nantucket Lightship Scallop Access Area Carry-Over Trip
NW	Nantucket Lightship West Scallop Access Area
NH	Nantucket Lightship South Scallop Access Area
EF	Elephant Trunk Flex Scallop Access Area
OF	Monkfish Offshore Area
MA	Mid-Atlantic Scallop Access Area
VB	Virginia Beach
OP	Open Area
DM	DELMARVA Scallop Access Area
OQ	Surfclam & Ocean Quahog Open Area
OM	Maine Mahogany Quahog Zone
NG	Northern Gulf of Maine (Federal)
SN	Northern Gulf of Maine (State only)
SW	State Waters Exemption
GB	Georges Bank PSP Area Reopened Portion
XX	None or Not Applicable

### Days-at-Sea (DAS) Code (???-???-??D???)

Code	Description
A	Multispecies 'A' (and Monkfish or Monkfish RSA for 'MNK' trips only)
B	Multispecies 'B'-Regular
R	Multispecies 'B'-Reserve
S	Scallop (and Monkfish or Monkfish RSA for 'MNK' trips only)
C	Combination Multispecies 'A' and Scallop (and Monkfish or Monkfish RSA for 'MNK' trips only)
D	Combination Multispecies 'B' and Scallop
E	Combination Multispecies 'R' and Scallop
X	No Days-at-Sea (NE-Sector), Monkfish or Monkfish RSA DAS ('MNK' trips only)



## DECLARATION FIELD DESCRIPTIONS

### Gear Type (???-???-???G??)

Code	Description
W	Bottom Trawl
H	Hook
G	Gillnet
M	Mid-Water Trawl
S	Purse Seine
O	Other Gear
D	Dredge
B	Bottom Hook
K	Pelagic Hook
P	Pot/Trap
X	None or Not applicable

### Trip Modifier (???-???-????T?)

Code	Description
M	Monkfish Option
R	Research Set Aside Trip
X	None

### Broad Stock Area (BSA) (???-???-?????B)

Code	Description
A	Gulf of Maine (GOM)
B	Inshore Georges Bank (IGB)
C	Offshore Georges Bank (OGB)
D	Southern New England (SNE)
E	Gulf of Maine and Inshore Georges Bank (GOM + IGB)
F	Gulf of Maine and Offshore Georges Bank (GOM + OGB)
G	Gulf of Maine and Southern New England (GOM + SNE)
H	Inshore Georges Bank and Offshore Georges Bank (IGB + OGB)
I	Inshore Georges Bank and Southern New England (IGB + SNE)
J	Offshore Georges Bank and Southern New England (OGB + SNE)
K	Gulf of Maine and Inshore Georges Bank and Offshore Georges Bank (GOM + IGB + OGB)
L	Gulf of Maine and Inshore Georges Bank and Southern New England (GOM + IGB + SNE)

## DECLARATION FIELD DESCRIPTIONS

### **Broad Stock Area (BSA) (???-???-?????B)(Cont'd)**

Code	Description
M	Gulf of Maine and Offshore Georges Bank and Southern New England (GOM + OGB + SNE)
N	Inshore Georges Bank and Offshore Georges Bank and Southern New England (IGB + OGB + SNE)
O	Gulf of Maine and Inshore Georges Bank and Offshore Georges Bank and Southern New England (GOM + IGB + OGB + SNE)
X	None