

Client

NOAA Fisheries

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Client Overview

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service ("NOAA Fisheries") is the federal agency, a division of the Department of Commerce, responsible for the stewardship of the nation's living marine resources and their habitat. NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service is responsible for the management, conservation and protection of living marine resources within the United States' Exclusive Economic Zone (water 3 to 200 nautical miles offshore).

Using the tools provided by the Magnuson-Stevens Act, NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service assesses and predicts the status of fish stocks, ensures compliance with fisheries regulations and works to reduce wasteful fishing practices.

Project Details

Absolute's electronic logbook solutions are designed to be as user friendly as possible, and operate in conjunction with a number of leading Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS) terminals on both the Inmarsat and Iridium satellite networks.

Electronic Logbooks can reduce the paperwork burden to industry and improve regulatory compliance by streamlining submission of catch data to the regulatory authorities. Fisheries regulations can change frequently, so our system is designed to remotely receive updated electronic forms over-the-air, avoiding the need to visit the vessel to manually install updates.

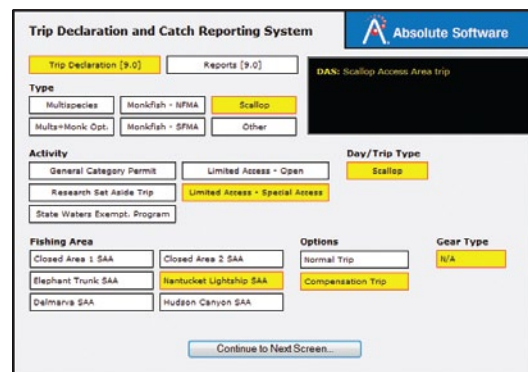
Absolute has provided Electronic logbooks since 2007. Our work in this field began with programs in the United States NOAA Northeast Region, under the Days-at-Sea program. In 2008 Electronic forms were introduced within the Southeast Region also. In late 2010 NOAA awarded a further contract to Absolute to cover the Pacific Islands Region - providing electronic logbooks and catch reporting systems to the United States fishing fleet operating in the South Pacific.

The addition of this new program within the Pacific will further assist United States fishing vessel operators in meeting their obligations to file timely notices including arrival/departure reports, catch reports, trans-shipment reports and notice of entry to restricted fishing areas.

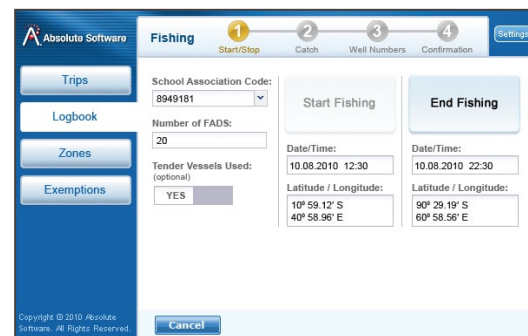
Our latest release, the Forms 2.0 package, marks a major upgrade to Absolute's on-board catch reporting system. For the first time our electronic logs are directly linked to the Absolute Fleet Information System, used by several leading fisheries management organizations worldwide for their vessel monitoring programs.

Key Facts

- **Electronic forms / Electronic logbook software installed to NOAA Requirements**
- **Contracts: 2007-2011**
- **Areas covered: United States North East, South East and Pacific Islands Regions**
- **Fleet size: 2000+ vessels**
- **Technology: Inmarsat-C and Iridium**



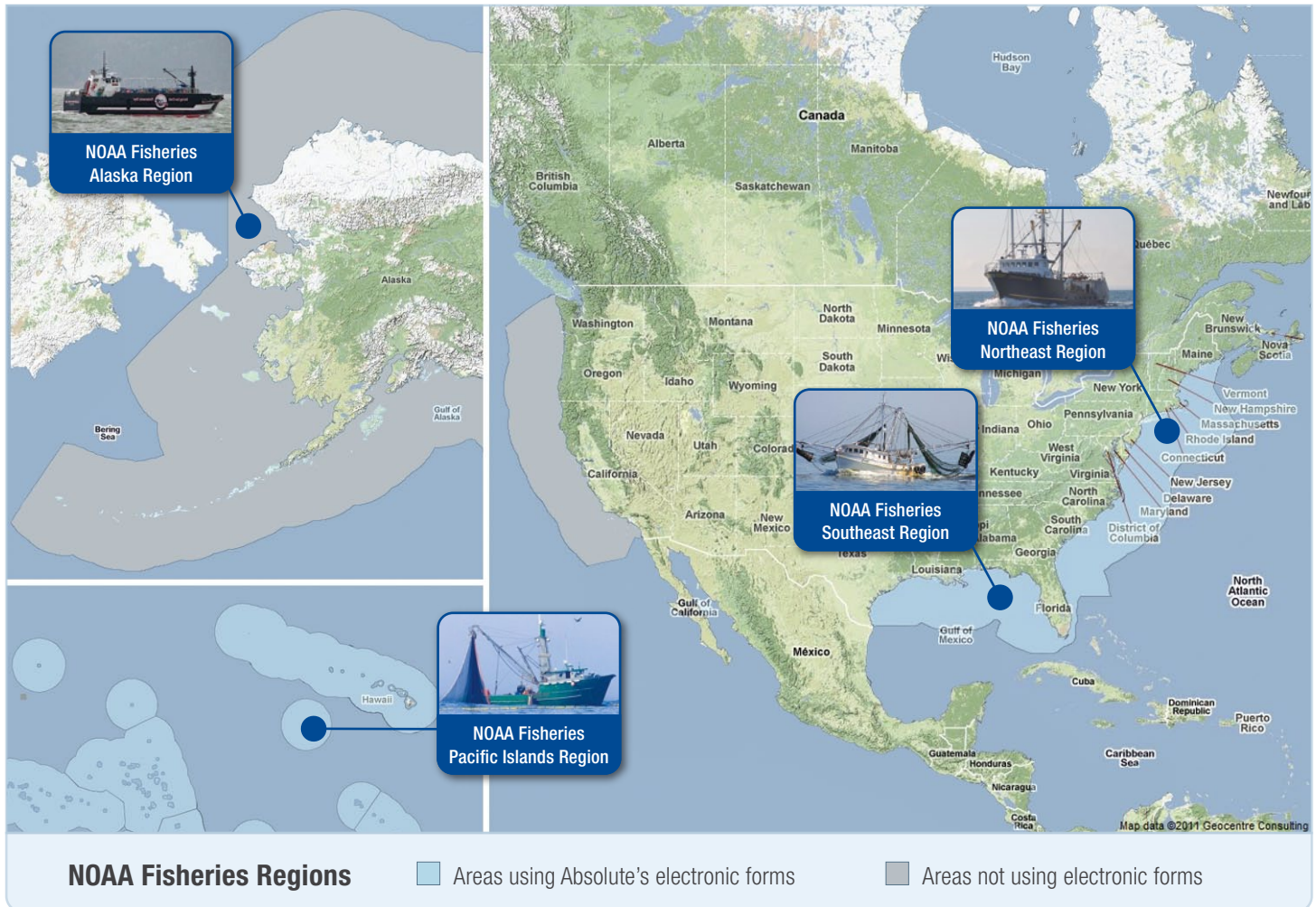
Electronic logbook sample screen showing a Declared Activity used in Northeast and Southeast Fisheries



Electronic logbook sample screen showing a catch logbook being introduced for the Pacific Region Fisheries

Electronic logbooks installed on over 2,000 ships

Today over 2,000 vessels use Absolute's electronic forms technology to report their catch activities to fisheries authorities - in real-time via a Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) terminal fitted on-board each vessel.



Electronic Reporting Programs Implemented for NOAA

NOAA Fisheries Northeast Region

Multi-species (groundfish), herring, monkfish, scallop, and other Special Access Programs

NOAA Fisheries Southeast Region

Gulf, South Atlantic, Caribbean, Highly Migratory Species (HMS)
e.g; grouper, mackerel, reef fish, shark, shrimp, snapper, stone crab, swordfish, tuna, tilefish, and more

NOAA Fisheries Pacific Region

Vessels fishing in the Pacific under US Treaty arrangements

