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**From:** [Carolyn Woodhead](#)  
**To:** [NMFS NEF Coopresearch](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Message to Commercial Fishermen from the U.S. Coast Guard  
**Date:** Friday, September 07, 2012 4:01:23 PM

*Apologies for Cross-Postings*

**Please see the below regarding mandatory United States Coast Guard dockside safety exams as of October 16, 2012**

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Marjorie Mooney-Seus** <[marjorie.mooney-seus@noaa.gov](mailto:marjorie.mooney-seus@noaa.gov)>  
**Date:** Thu, Sep 6, 2012 at 12:40 PM  
**Subject:** Message to Commercial Fishermen from the U.S. Coast Guard  
**To:**

As of October 16, 2012, The United States Coast Guard voluntary dockside safety exam becomes mandatory for all commercial State registered and Documented fishing vessels operating beyond 3 nautical miles from the territorial sea baseline. This requirement was mandated by the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2010. This includes any full time commercial fishing vessel as well as recreational vessels while operating with a commercial permit to sell their catch. If you have a current decal, it will remain valid until the expiration date. For all other commercial F/Vs, you should schedule an exam in the near future.

The Coast Guard will accommodate exam requests to the best of our ability with the proviso that there are approximately 6,000-8,000 vessels that may need exams. It should be stressed that currently there are no additional safety equipment requirements. There will be additional regulation in the future, but for now the decal will be issued based upon compliance with the safety regulations that have been in effect for 20 years.

The Coast Guard recognizes the hardships the fishing industry is currently facing and we will do all we can to facilitate implementation of this new mandate whose sole purpose is to make the industry a safer place to work.

For additional information please visit the following websites:

<http://www.uscg.mil/d1/prevention/CFVS.asp>

or

<http://www.fishsafe.info/>

To Schedule a dockside exam please contact the Coast Guard safety examiner nearest you:.

Dockside exams are free of charge		
Maine and New Hampshire:	Kevin Plowman	207-780-
3256		
	Gerry Moores	207-338-
8395		
Newburyport to Manomet:	John Buckley	617-223-
3045		

Provincetown MA to Watch Hill, RI: 6812	Kevin Coyle	508-991-
Connecticut and Long Island Sound: 4437	Mark Dixon	203-468-
New York and New Jersey:	MSSE2 Gilberto Gonzalez	718-354-2143

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