



NORTHEAST FISHERIES SCIENCE CENTER FISHERIES SAMPLING BRANCH

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM, INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP OBSERVER PROGRAM, AND AT- SEA MONITORING PROGRAM

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC) Fisheries Sampling Branch (FSB) collects, maintains, and distributes data for scientific and management purposes in the Northwest Atlantic. FSB manages three separate but related observer programs: the Northeast Fisheries Observer Program (NEFOP), the Industry Funded Scallop (IFS) Observer Program, and the At-Sea Monitoring (ASM) Program. Here “observer” refers to any observer or monitor working for FSB.

TRAINING STANDARDS

This document outlines the training standards for all three FSB observer programs. Observers and trainees are required to maintain the FSB Training Standards during current and future training sessions and for the entirety of their FSB observer career.

Training Standards must be met and maintained during all training sessions, lectures, workshops, and activities.

Attendance and Conduct

1. Attend and be on time for all training sessions and activities
2. Participate in discussions and exercises
3. Be alert during training sessions
4. Complete all homework and readings as assigned
5. Communicate with trainers, staff, classmates, and guest speakers in a respectful and professional manner
6. Do not take part in any illegal activities
7. Do not attend any part of training sessions under the influence of drugs or alcohol. Excessive alcohol use after training hours may violate Standards of Conduct outlined in the Program Standards
8. Follow all rules established by the training program
9. Wear a seatbelt whenever a passenger in a government or driver in a personal vehicle while attending training
10. Submit a signed copy of the Training Standards and the Program Standards on the first day of training

Performance

To successfully pass any FSB training program, the trainee must:

1. Receive an overall grade of at least 85%. Grading will be calculated using the table below.
2. Receive an individual minimum score on the following exams:
 - Incidental Take ID Exam: $\geq 85\%$

- Safety Exam & Practical
 - Part 1: Safety Written Exam: $\geq 85\%$
 - Part 2: Safety Practical: Pass
 - Fish ID Exam:
 - Open Book Practical: $\geq 80\%$
 - Closed Book Practical: $\geq 80\%$
 - Combined Open Book & Closed Book Average: $\geq 85\%$
3. Turn in all homework completed and **on time**
 - 50% deduction on late assignments
 - NO credit given on assignments turned in > 24 hours late, but are still required to be turned in
 4. Successfully complete all training sessions and workshops
 5. Possess a current CPR and First Aid certification
 6. Successfully complete the certification training trips as outlined in the FSB Observer Program Certifications document
 7. Adhere to any special accommodations or remediation plans as documented on the FSB Student Training Accommodation Policy and/or the FSB Remediation Policy

Training Certifications	Fish ID Exams: Open Book and Closed Book Practical	Incidental Take ID Exam	Course Exam(s)		Safety Written Exam	Homework and Quizzes	Performance, Attitude, and Participation
ASM (Core)	30%	15%	30%		10%	10%	5%
ASM Cross Training	30%	15%	40%		-	10%	5%
ASM Recertification	30%	55%		-	10%	5%	
ASM Recertification II	30%	65%		-	-	5%	
IFS (Core)	30%	15%	30%		10%	10%	5%
IFS Cross Training	30%	15%	40%		-	10%	5%
NEFOP (Core: 1 Fishery Module)	30%	15%	30%		10%	10%	5%
NEFOP (Core: 2 or more Fishery Modules)	30%	15%	Exam 1: 15%	Exam 2: 15%	10%	10%	5%
NEFOP Cross Training	30%	15%	Exam 1: 20%	Exam 2: 20%	-	10%	5%
NEFOP Specialized	-	-	85%		-	10%	5%
Safety II	Pass/Fail						
Safety III	Pass/Fail						

Training Standards not met and/or maintained are grounds for removal from any or all FSB observer certification programs.

I, _____ (Print Full Name), have fully read and understand the Training Standards required of an observer.

Signature

Date