



# New Hampshire Fish and Game Department

11 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03301-6500  
Headquarters: (603) 271-3421  
Website: [www.WildNH.com](http://www.WildNH.com)

TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964  
Fax: (603) 271-1438  
Email: [info@wildlife.nh.gov](mailto:info@wildlife.nh.gov)

Stephanie L. Simek, Ph.D.  
Executive Director

## **Surplus Loss Trap Tags (additional 10% of the trap limit) will no longer be automatically issued to license/permit holders**

### **Who does this apply to?**

All New Hampshire (NH) Lobster and Crab licensees as well as residents holding a federal permit fishing in Lobster Conservation Management Areas (LCMA) 1 and 3. You will be limited to purchasing trap tags up to or equal the number of traps you are allocated to fish under your state license or federal permit. No surplus loss trap tags will be automatically issued to a licensee or federal permit holder for these areas until trap losses actually occur and are documented through an affidavit.

### **Can I purchase surplus loss trap tags (maximum of additional 10% of trap allocation)?**

You will be able to purchase surplus loss trap tags through the trap tag vendor for commercial lobster harvesters or through the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department's (NHFG) Licensing office for recreational lobster licensees, however you will have to submit an affidavit documenting your loss and only have access to the number of trap tags you have lost and only up to the maximum of 10% of your trap allocation.

### **How do I purchase these surplus loss trap tags?**

#### *Commercial lobster license holders and federal permit holders:*

There will be two lobster trap tag applications. One application for the issuance of trap tags up to or equal to the licensee's trap allocation (trap tags will be mailed to address of harvester identified on application). A second application will be for the issuance of surplus loss trap tags up to a maximum of 10% of harvester's trap allocation. Surplus trap tags will be mailed to and held at NH Fish and Game Department, Region 3, 225 Main Street, Durham, NH 03824.

#### *Recreational lobster license holders:*

Surplus loss tags will be available at NHFG's Licensing office.

#### **REGION 1**

629B Main Street  
Lancaster, NH 03584-3612  
(603) 788-3164  
FAX (603) 788-4823  
email: [reg1@wildlife.nh.gov](mailto:reg1@wildlife.nh.gov)  
FAX (603) 788-4823  
email: [reg1@wildlife.nh.gov](mailto:reg1@wildlife.nh.gov)

#### **REGION 2**

PO Box 417  
New Hampton, NH 03256  
(603) 744-5470  
FAX (603) 744-6302  
email: [reg2@wildlife.nh.gov](mailto:reg2@wildlife.nh.gov)  
FAX (603) 744-6302  
email: [reg2@wildlife.nh.gov](mailto:reg2@wildlife.nh.gov)

#### **REGION 3**

225 Main Street  
Durham, NH 03824-4732  
(603) 868-1095  
FAX (603) 868-3305  
email: [reg3@wildlife.nh.gov](mailto:reg3@wildlife.nh.gov)  
FAX (603) 868-3305  
email: [reg3@wildlife.nh.gov](mailto:reg3@wildlife.nh.gov)

#### **REGION 4**

15 Ash Brook Court  
Keene, NH 03431  
(603) 352-9669  
FAX (603) 352-8798  
email: [reg4@wildlife.nh.gov](mailto:reg4@wildlife.nh.gov)  
FAX (603) 352-8798  
email: [reg4@wildlife.nh.gov](mailto:reg4@wildlife.nh.gov)

### **How to receive surplus loss trap tags?**

Commercial licensees who order surplus loss trap tags must pick up the trap tags at the NH Fish and Game Department, Region 3 office in Durham. The harvester will be required to sign an affidavit stating they experienced trap loss and can only receive their surplus loss trap tags equal to the amount of traps lost and not to exceed the 10% surplus allocation. Commercial harvesters who lose more than 10% of their traps have the option to purchase a completely new set of catastrophic loss trap tags with NHFG approval.

Recreational harvesters may purchase surplus loss tags at the NHFG Licensing office. The harvester will be required to sign an affidavit that they experienced trap loss and can only receive surplus loss trap tags equal to the amount of traps lost and not to exceed 2 surplus loss trap tags.

### **Why did this change?**

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's (ASMFC) Addendum XXVII to Amendment 3 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for American Lobster was adopted with the requirement that effective January 1, 2025, the States have rules to prevent lobster and crab trap harvesters in LCMAs 1 and 3 from ordering and receiving, prior to a documented loss, more trap tags than legally allowed to fish based on their trap allocation.

### **Where can I find the laws and rules?**

- Fis 602.16
- ASMFC Addendum XXVII to Amendment 3 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for American Lobster