

# Observer Declare and Deploy System (ODDS) in 2025

As a member of the partial coverage fleet, you are required to log intended future fishing trips at least 72 hours in advance through the ODDS website (<http://odds.afsc.noaa.gov>) or by calling the ODDS call center at 1-855-747-6377.

**What is new in 2025?** ODDS will rely on users to modify their trips if needed, rather than canceling the trip.

**Why is this happening?** Past annual reports have shown a disproportionate cancellation of trips between those that were selected for observer coverage and those that were not selected. This creates biased monitoring data which leads to inaccurate catch estimates.

**When is this happening?** 1 January 2025

**What does this mean for me as a vessel operator?** You have lots of flexibility within ODDS to change your trip details. ODDS already allows you to change trip details including dates, landing ports, fishing location, gear type used, etc., which eliminates the need to cancel trips.

Paying close attention to the following will make your ODDs experience much easier and straightforward:

- how many trips you log - the current maximum is 3 **but you should only log the trips you intend to take**, for example, you do not need to log 3 trips if you only intend to take 2;
- the order you log trips - you will not be able to change the order of trips once they are logged; and
- when your next trip is scheduled - you can change the dates, locations, etc. if needed - but all changes must be done **prior to the scheduled start of the trip**. In other words, you cannot make edits if the trip start date has already passed!

## **Read on for more tips on how best to maximize your ODDS experience**

You have a lot to keep track of before fishing, and logging a trip can easily get to the bottom of that list. However, it is to your advantage to get in the practice of quickly logging and maintaining your intended fishing trips in ODDS. Here are some tips to help avoid unwanted headaches.

1. **You are required to log your trip in ODDS a minimum of 72 hours (3 days) prior to embarking on the trip.** It is logistically better to avoid waiting until the 72 hour deadline and instead log your trip at least 3 days in advance. If you log a trip which is then selected for monitoring with less than 72 hours before departure, the provider could delay departure (up to the 72 hour limit) to allow for observer deployment.

2. **Log accurate information** - The more accurately you log your trip, the fewer problems you will encounter. For example, it's important to accurately log: where you are going; when you are leaving; what gears you will be using; if you will be fishing IFQ or CDQ, and; if you plan on delivering to a tender vessel. You can edit all the characteristics of the trip before you leave to ensure that it is accurate. However, once the original fishing start date has passed, you will not be able to change trip information. Logging accurate information will avoid future problems.
3. **Update your fishing plans in ODDS when they change.** If your expected fishing dates have changed, update the trip start and end date. Change the end date first, because it can't come after the start date. ODDS allows you to update any aspect of your fishing trip up until the day the trip is supposed to start.
4. **Close past fishing trips.** Talk to your processor when you offload and get your eLanding number. Use the eLanding number to close your trip in ODDS or on the phone. It's so much easier than entering the date, port, and processor.
5. **Log only the trips you intend to take.** Logging extra trips means that there are more things to keep track of and more things to be forgotten or confused (e.g., multiple eLanding tickets, where and when deliveries were made, etc.). Any trips not closed at the end of the year are automatically removed, so it is a waste of your time and energy to enter more trips than necessary.