

## MEMORANDUM | October 1, 2015

**TO** DWH NRDA Field Ops  
**FROM** Scott Friedman  
**SUBJECT** IEC's NRDA Nearshore Small Vessel Selection Protocol

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Small vessels (< 50 feet in length) for nearshore NRDA sampling activities are scheduled at least 12 hours in advance. To obtain the best value, we asked that vessel owners respond to the RFQ by proposing an all-inclusive day rate, stand down rate and areas of operation (i.e., the areas they are willing to work). Currently, there are 21 active vessels in our pool with operational areas extending from western Louisiana to the panhandle of Florida.

The remainder of this memorandum outlines how vessels are chosen.

When selecting vessels for NRDA sampling, for each sampling day determine the following:

- The operational area(s),
- The required number of vessel(s),
- The required type(s) of vessel(s) (bayboat/skiff/airboat, etc.),
- The required size of each vessel (feet),
- Whether or not the vessel owner can provide multiple vessels, and
- If the vessel and captain will need to work with the team(s) on subsequent days in other operational areas.

Use the Vessel Tracker Microsoft Access Database (vessel selection tool) to determine which vessels meet our requirements for the particular sampling day.

Working with the fewest number of vendors is preferable because it facilitates vessel dispatch and coordination with field samplers, thus providing the best value. As such, determine if a single vendor can supply multiple vessels.

After contacting vendors that can provide multiple vessels, schedule the remaining vessels by contacting the lowest priced vessel operator that meets the requirements. If the lowest priced vessel is not available, contact the next lowest priced vessel and so on.