

Amendment to 5 AAC 39.130(b) Frequently Asked Questions.

1. **Why is the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) requiring the use of the tLandings application for all operations, by processor code, who have submitted 2,000 salmon fish tickets or bought over 20 million pounds of salmon in any of the previous three years (2012, 2013, or 2014) and for all groundfish delivered to a tender?**

ADF&G is requiring the use of the tLandings application to reduce costs in the areas of printing and distribution of fish ticket forms, data processing, and to provide the opportunity for one time data entry for both ADF&G and industry. Harvest data collected through tLandings/eLandings provides ADF&G with improved data quality. It allows fishery managers access to more timely and accurate harvest data than afforded by paper fish tickets and manual data entry.

2. **Who will this affect?**

This will affect any operation, by processor code, which has submitted 2,000 salmon fish tickets or bought over 20 million pounds of salmon in any of the previous three years (2012, 2013, or 2014) and for all groundfish delivered to a tender. ADF&G estimates that approximately 55 operations may fall into this threshold. Many of these operations already use the eLandings system for all of their IFQ, salmon, and groundfish reporting.

3. **Potential cost to those affected?**

The approximate cost **per tender** is \$1,000. For example, if an operation has a tender fleet of 5 tender vessels, then the operation could expect a total cost of implementation equal to approximately \$5,000. There will be additional costs in staff time for training that are beyond the means of the agency to estimate.

4. **What type of equipment will I need to buy?**

A list of recommended equipment can be found online here: <https://elandings.atlassian.net/wiki/display/doc/tLandings+Tender+Equipment+and+Preparation>

5. **What is eLandings? tLandings?**

The **eLandings Electronic Reporting System** is the electronic and Internet based reporting system maintained by ADF&G, the National Marine Fisheries Service, Alaska Region, and the International Pacific Halibut Commission to obtain non-redundant, real-time catch and production reports.

**The eLandings system includes:**

- **eLandings** – A web application for shore side and Internet capable vessels;

- **seaLandings** - A desktop application for sea vessels without Internet capability;
- **tLandings** – A portable data storage application for tender and other operations.

The eLandings website can be found here: <https://elandings.alaska.gov/> . All systems require log in accounts.

## 6. What training resources are provided?

ADF&G provides onsite training and consulting for operations that are new to the tLandings application. In addition, we have developed videos on the tLandings application to provide initial and ongoing training for office staff and tender crew. We also have training scenarios which can be found online here: <https://elandings.atlassian.net/wiki/display/tr/tLandings+Training+Scenarios>

Each November, during Pacific Marine Expo, Seattle, we conduct an all-day eLandings/tLandings workshop for seafood industry office staff. In 2015, we will also provide training to any interested tender crew.

ADF&G provides user support, maintaining a 24/7 help desk and staff assigned to assist with reporting issues.

## 7. How much time does it take to train office staff and tender crew to use tLandings?

On average, approximately 3 hours of training is required for office staff and two hours for tender crew. The time is spent viewing the videos, reviewing resource documents such as the tLandings FAQ, and completing the training scenarios. Training requirements is unique to each company and the number of tenders.

## 8. Are any processors currently using the tLandings application?

Yes, during the 2015 salmon season twenty-five seafood processing facilities used the tLandings application for all of their salmon landings. As of July 25, 2015, 330,000 fish tickets generated from the tLandings application have been submitted to ADF&G.

## 9. What do you mean one time data entry?

The fish ticket is created onboard the tender using the tLandings application rather than reporting via paper fish ticket forms. The electronic records are stored on a portable thumb drive. When the tender trip is completed, the thumb drive, and the printed and signed copies of the fish tickets are transferred to the seafood office. The electronic fish ticket records are uploaded to the eLandings database and this data is then available to the local seafood plant office staff, as well as the company's managers in other locations, such as

Seattle. ADF&G has developed tools to extract fish ticket records in formats suitable for import into individual business applications.

**10. Is the information stored on the thumb drive and in the eLandings database secure and confidential?**

Each seafood facility establishes an operation within the eLandings System. All accounts are User ID and Password protected. Access to the thumb drives is also password protected and all stored records are encrypted.

ADF&G maintains confidential standards for all landings of fish and shellfish per Alaska Statute Sec. 16.05.815.

**11. What are the benefits when you use the tLandings application?**

Working with industry we have developed features within the tLandings application at their request, including the documentation of fish temperatures, catcher vessel chill type, quality assurance characteristics, and time of landing. These data elements are part of the fish ticket record, stored within the eLandings database and easily extracted for import. All fish ticket records are correctly summed, eliminating the need for additional verification and are legible. The tLandings application can quickly summarize the total number of fish and pounds by species and statistical area at any time during the tender trip. The application also generates a printable tender log with correct sums.

Several seafood companies have full data integration between the eLandings system and their own business applications, increasing efficiency.

**12. What are the challenges associated with implementation of tLandings?**

The tLandings application follows the same reporting process as paper fish ticket forms. The application does perform immediate validation of information reported and lets the reporter know if a problem has occurred, much like any web based data entry application.

Office staff and tender crew do not need any special computer skills and usually are able to comfortably use the system after training.

**13. Why are you required to use tLandings for tendered groundfish?**

Many state managed groundfish fisheries have small guideline harvest levels. These fisheries require careful monitoring and more timely data acquisition will assist with management decisions. ADF&G also needs to determine individual landings that occurred to tenders.

**14. I do not currently meet the threshold to require my company to use tLandings. Who will monitor this if my landings increase?**

ADF&G will evaluate participation annually to determine the status of processors.

**15. My processing facility will be required to use the tLandings application. We have two buying stations that share the same Fisheries Business License (Processor Code). Will they also be required to use the tLandings application?**

Yes.