

practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: November 21, 1996.

Linda Engelmeier,

*Acting Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.*

[FR Doc. 96-30267 Filed 11-26-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

### Southwest Region Permit Family of Forms

**AGENCY:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before January 27, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Acting Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington DC 20230.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information of copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Svein Fougner, Fisheries Management Division, Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 W. Ocean Boulevard, Suite 4200, Long Beach, California 90802, telephone 310-980-4034.

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### I. Abstract

The Federal Fisheries Permits Program administered by the Southwest Region, NMFS, is the principal mechanism for monitoring participation in the pelagic longline, crustacean, bottomfish and precious corals fisheries in the western Pacific region. These fisheries are regulated under fishery management plans prepared by the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council and approved by the Secretary of Commerce. Persons wishing to participate in these fisheries must have permits, and permits are obtained from the Southwest Region, NMFS. Information on the permit application forms ensures up-to-date records for purposes of determining interests in the fisheries, participation, entry and exit patterns so that impacts on permittees from possible regulatory changes can be determined; for enforcement; and for advising fishermen of actual or potential changes in regulations.

#### II. Method of Collection

Permittees file applications for new permits, renewals, or other permit actions (e.g., permit transfers) with the Pacific Area Office, Southwest Region, and submit appropriate fees if required. Application forms are provided by the Pacific Area Office, which then reviews the application, determines that all information is furnished, obtains NOAA General Counsel clearance (to determine if there are any unpaid fines or penalties), and issues the permit. Permit information is then entered into the appropriate data base.

#### III. Data

*OMB Number:* 0648-0204.

*Form Number:* None.

*Type of Review:* Regular Submission.

*Affected Public:* Individuals and Businesses, primarily commercial fishermen.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 275.

*Estimated Time Per Response:* 30 minutes for fishery permit applications, 1 hour for experimental permit applications, and 2 hours for longline limited entry permit appeals.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 158.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* \$0.

#### IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information

is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: November 21, 1996.

Linda Engelmeier,

*Acting Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.*

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### Notice of Public Meeting, Modernization Transition Committee (MTC)

*Time and Date:* December 12, 1996 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

*Place:* This meeting will take place at the Silver Spring Holiday Inn, 8777 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland.

*Status:* The meeting will be open to the public. The time between 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. will be set aside for oral comments or questions from the public. Approximately 50 seats will be available on a first-come first-served basis for the public.

*Matters to be Considered:* This meeting will cover: Consultation on approximately 11 Automation Certifications and 5 combined Consolidation and Automation Certifications; consultation on the FY 1998 National Implementation Plan; update on the Air Safety Appraisal Letter; and a presentation on the planned survey to be conducted at the 27 service level "D" locations.

*Contact Person for More Information:* Mr. Nicholas Scheller, National Weather Service, Modernization Staff, 1325 East-West Highway, SSMC2, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910. Telephone: (301) 713-0454.

Dated: November 22, 1996.

Nicholas R. Scheller,

*Manager, National Implementation Staff.*

[FR Doc. 96-30314 Filed 11-26-96; 8:45 am]

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