

approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: May 13, 1998.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.

[FR Doc. 98-13174 Filed 5-18-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Surf Clam/Ocean Quahog ITQ Transfer Form; Proposed Collection; Comment Request

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 July 20, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, 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 or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Myles Raizin, NMFS, 1 Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA, 01930, (978) 281-9104.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

Amendment 8 to the Fishery Management Plan for Surf Clams and Ocean Quahogs (FMP) implemented an individual transferable quota (ITQ) system for both fisheries. The FMP, under 50 CFR § 648.70 (b), requires the Regional Administrator, NMFS, Northeast Region, to approve both permanent and temporary transfers of allocations. The Surf Clam/Ocean Quahog ITQ Transfer Form (Form) serves as the official application to the Regional Administrator to effect these transfers. The Form requires names of the transferor and transferee and their respective allocation numbers, and number of 32-bushel cages transferred and corresponding cage tag numbers. New applicants must furnish vessel

name, owner name, address, and telephone number, and NMFS will assign them an allocation number. Both the transferor and transferee must sign the form.

II. Method of Collection

Written application.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0238.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Business and other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 206.

Estimated Time Per Response: 5 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 52 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$0 (no capital expenditures).

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: May 13, 1998.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.

[FR Doc. 98-13175 Filed 5-18-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Application to Shuck Surf Clams/Ocean Quahogs at Sea; Proposed Collection; Comment Request

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 July 20, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, 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 or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Myles Raizin, NMFS, 1 Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA, 01930, (978)281-9104.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

Amendment 8 to the Fishery Management Plan for Surf Clams and Ocean Quahogs (FMP) implemented a requirement for vessel owners that desire to use their vessels for shucking either surf clams or ocean quahogs at sea to submit an Application to Process Surf Clams/Ocean Quahogs at Sea (Application) to the Regional Administrator, NMFS, Northeast Region (Regional Administrator). The contents of the application are specified at 50 CFR 648.74(a)(2) and include: Name and address of the applicant, permit number of the vessel, method of calculating the amount of surf clams or ocean quahogs harvested in the shell, vessel dimensions and accommodations, and length of fishing trip. Upon receipt of the application, the Regional Administrator may allow the shucking of surf clams or ocean quahogs at sea if he/she determines that an observer carried aboard the vessel can measure accurately, in bushels, the total amount of surf clams and ocean quahogs harvested in the shell prior to shucking. The calculation of bushels is extremely important since the fisheries operate under a system of individual transferable quotas which are defined in 32-bushel units.

II. Method of Collection

Written application.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0240.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Business and other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 2.