specialists). The concept and design are tested by internal staff and a select sample of respondents to confirm its appropriateness, user-friendliness, and to estimate burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information. Collection techniques are discussed and included in the research concept design discussions to define the most time-, cost-efficient and accurate collection media.

The clearance operates in the following manner: A block of hours is reserved at the beginning of each year, and the particular activities that will be conducted under the clearance are not specified in advance. The Census Bureau provides information to OMB about the specific activities on a flow basis throughout the year. OMB is notified of each activity in a letter that gives specific details about the activity, rather than by means of individual clearance packages. At the end of each year, a report is submitted to OMB that summarizes the number of hours used as well as the nature and results of the activities completed under the clearance.

Affected Public: Individuals or households, businesses or other for-profit, not-for-profit institutions, Federal Government, State, Local or Tribal Government.

Frequency: On occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

Legal Authority: Executive Order 12862 (Setting Customer Service Standards).

OMB Desk Officer: Nancy Kirkendall, (202) 395–7313.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Linda Engelmeier, DOC Forms Clearance Officer, (202) 482–3272, Department of Commerce, room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to Nancy Kirkendall, OMB Desk Officer, room 10201, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: July 14, 1998.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 071398B]

Highly Migratory Species and Billfish Advisory Panels; Public Meeting

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (HMS) and Billfish Advisory Panels (APs) will hold a joint meeting to discuss bycatch reduction issues in HMS fisheries, followed by a meeting of the HMS AP to discuss shark management measures for inclusion in the draft HMS fishery management plan (FMP).

DATES: The joint HMS/Billfish Advisory Panel meeting will be held Monday, July 27, 1998, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The HMS AP meeting will be held Monday, July 27, 1998, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. and Tuesday, July 28, 1998, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the meeting location. There will be a public comment period on issues that the APs are discussing on Monday, July 27, 1998, from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The APs will meet at the Ramada Plaza Hotel, 901 N. Fairfax Street, Alexandria, Virginia. Written comments should be submitted to, and informational materials related to the AP meeting are available from, Liz Lauck, Highly Migratory Species Management Division, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Liz Lauck or Pat Wilbert, telephone: (301) 713–2347, fax: (301) 713–1917.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The HMS and Billfish APs were established under the authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, 16 U.S.C. 1901 *et seq*. The APs will assist the Secretary of Commerce in collecting and evaluating information relevant to the development of an FMP for Atlantic tunas, swordfish, and sharks, and an amendment to the Billfish FMP. All AP meetings are open to the public and will be attended by members of the AP, including appointed members, representatives of the five fishery Management Councils that work with Atlantic HMS, and the Chair, or his representative, of the U.S. Advisory Committee to the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas. A public comment period is scheduled for Monday, July 27, 1998, from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the meeting location. Comments are solicited on bycatch reduction measures and shark management measures that should be considered for inclusion in the draft FMP documents. See **ADDRESSES** to request informational materials related to the AP discussion or to submit public comments on bycatch reduction or shark management measures. Agenda items for the joint HMS/Billfish AP meeting to discuss bycath management include discussion of:

1. Consideration of protected resource issues in bycatch management for HMS fisheries;

2. Gear modifications that could be considered to reduce bycatch in HMS fisheries; and

3. The possible use of time and area closures to reduce bycatch in HMS fisheries.

Agenda items for the HMS AP meeting to discuss shark management include discussion of:

1. A review of preliminary or final results from the June 1998 Shark Evaluation Workshop;

2. Rebuilding scenarios for the overfished large coastal shark management sub-unit;

3. Issues related to operation of the commercial and recreational shark fisheries, which could include permitting and reporting, mitigating derby conditions in the fishery, and enforcement concerns;

4. Research and management needs for the small coastal and pelagic shark management sub-units; and

5. Current international management activities related to Atlantic sharks.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Pat Wilbert, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910, phone (301) 713–2347; fax: (301) 713–1917, at least 7 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: July 14, 1998.

Bruce C. Morehead,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 98–19159 Filed 7–14–98; 4:04 pm]

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