

Dated: May 19, 1999.

**Lee Ann Carpenter,**

*Committee Liaison Officer.*

[FR Doc. 99-13150 Filed 5-24-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-33-M

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Institute of Standards and Technology

#### Applications for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award

**ACTION:** 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, Pub. L. 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before July 26, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5033, 14th and Constitution Ave, NW, Washington, D.C. 20230 (or via the Internet at LEngelme@doc.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Request for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instruction should be directed to Lanse Felker, Baldrige National Quality Program, Administration Building, Room 635, 100 Bureau Drive, Stop 1020, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-1020, (301) 975-2715, (301)948-3716 fax, Llsansing.felker@NIST.GOV e-mail.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Abstract

Applicants for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award must submit an eligibility application, and if declared eligible, an application package. NIST will use the eligibility application to determine if the applicant is eligible to apply and will use the application package to assess and provide feedback on the applicant's quality and performance practices.

##### Method of Collection

Applicants must comply in writing according to the *Application Forms & Instructions* booklet.

#### Data

*OMB Number:* 00693-0006.

*Form Number:* N/A.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Affected Public:* Eligible U.S. organizations that choose to apply for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 100.

*Estimated Time Per Response:* 100 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden*

*Hours:* 10,000 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost:* \$0—no capital expenditures required.

#### 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.

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

Dated: May 19, 1999.

**Linda Engelmeier,**

*Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. 99-13144 Filed 5-24-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-13-P

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 052099A]

#### Report of Whaling Operations

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

**ACTION:** 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 26, 1999.

**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 should be directed to Kevin Chu, National Marine Fisheries Service, 166 Water St., Woods Hole, MA 02543, (508) 495-2367.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Abstract

Native Americans are allowed to conduct certain aboriginal subsistence whaling in accordance with the provisions of the International Whaling Commission (IWC). In order to respond to obligations under the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling, and the IWC, captains participating in these operations must submit certain information to the relevant Native American whaling organization about strikes on and catch of whales. Anyone retrieving a dead whale is also required to report. Captains must place a distinctive permanent identification mark on any harpoon, lance, or explosive dart used, and must also provide information on the mark and self-identification information.

The relevant Native American whaling organization receives the reports, compiles them, and submits the information to NOAA.

The information is used to monitor the hunt and to ensure that quotas are not exceeded. The information is also provided to the International Whaling Commission, which uses it to monitor compliance with its requirements.

##### II. Method of Collection

Reports may be made by phone or fax. Information on equipment marks must be made in writing.

##### III. Data

*OMB Number:* 0648-0311

*Form Number:* None

*Type of Review:* Regular submission

*Affected public:* Individuals; State, Local, or Tribal government  
*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 52  
*Estimated Time Per Response:* 30 minutes for reports on whales struck or on recovery of dead whales, 5 minutes for providing the relevant Native