

effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on this continuing information collection, 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 August 14, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6066, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW, Washington DC 20230 (or via Internet at lengelme@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Robert Sadler, Southeast Regional Office, 9721 Executive Center Drive, St. Petersburg, Florida 33702.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

Federal fisheries permits are a major component of fishery management in the Southeast. Conservation and management of fishery resources require identification of fishing vessels and dealers through permits, and notification of agency fishery managers by fishery participants regarding certain fishing activities.

II. Method of Collection

Fishers must notify the agency regarding certain fishing activities, such as retrieval of traps, by telephonic communication. Vessel owners and fishery dealers must submit applications for federal fishing permits and provide relevant information on those applications. However, in many cases fishery permit applications are filled out using data which had previously been submitted and mailed to the applicant. The applicant need only modify any data which has changed and choose the desired permits.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0205.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Business and other for-profit organizations, and individuals.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 6,968.

Estimated Time Per Response: 5 minutes for dealer permit applications; 20 minutes for vessel permit applications; 20 minutes for an Aquacultured Live Rock permit application; 20 minutes for an

Aquacultured Live Rock site evaluation report; 5 minutes for Permit Purchase Price Information; 20 minutes for permit endorsements for Gulf Red Snapper; 5 minutes for permit endorsements for Mackerel Gillnet; 5 minutes for notification of Golden Crab Lost or Stolen Traps; 5 minutes for observer notifications for Golden Crab, Shark, and Swordfish trips; 5 minutes for a transit notification for Golden Crab; 5 minutes for a Notification of Authorization for Trap Retrieval for Gulf Reef Fish; 15 minutes for Notification of Authorization for Trap Retrieval for South Atlantic Snapper-Grouper or Golden Crab; 5 minutes for Notification of Harvest Activity for Aquacultured Live Rock; 5 minutes for Notification Lost Traps for Caribbean Spiny Lobster; and 5 minutes for Coupons for Tracking Individual Transferable Quotas for Wreckfish.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 1,592.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$382,303 (Fishers are charged for the administrative cost of issuing the permit).

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: June 8, 2000.

Madeleine Clayton,

Management Analyst, Office of Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 00-15176 Filed 6-14-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 061200B]

Southeast Region Logbook Family of Forms

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

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 August 14, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6066, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW, Washington DC 20230 (or via Internet at lengelme@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Robert Sadler, Southeast Regional Office, 9721 Executive Center Drive, St. Petersburg, Florida 33702 (727-570-5326).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

Logbooks are required from selected Federally-managed fisheries in the Southeast Region of the U.S. The catch and effort data from the logbooks are used in stock assessments and for impact analyses of proposed or existing management regulations. Notification is required prior to the harvest of live rock coral for enforcement purposes.

II. Method of Collection

Logbooks are in paper form. Notifications are by phone.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0016.

Form Number: NOAA Form 88-186.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Business and other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 4,000.

Estimated Time Per Response: 10 minutes per day for logbooks in the

golden crab, mackerel, and wreckfish fisheries when fish were caught; 20 minutes per day for logbooks from vessels fishing in Columbia waters; 2 minutes for negative logbook reports in all fisheries listed above; 12 minutes per day for logbooks from headboats; 15 minutes per day for logbooks for live rock; and 2 minutes for notifications prior to harvest of live rock.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 13,100.

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: June 8, 2000.

Madeleine Clayton,

Management Analyst, Office of Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 00-15178 Filed 6-14-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 041000B] [A]

Notice of Decision and Availability of Decision Documents on the Issuance of a Permit for Incidental Takes of Threatened and Endangered Species

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

ACTION: Notice of decision and availability of decision documents on the issuance of a permit (1233) for incidental takes of endangered and threatened species.

SUMMARY: This notice advises the public that a decision on the application for an incidental take permit by the State of Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG), pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA), has been made and that the decision documents are available upon request.

DATES: Permit 1233 was issued on May 26, 2000, subject to certain conditions set forth therein, and expires on December 31, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Requests for copies of the decision documents or any of the other associated documents should be directed to the Hatcheries and Inland Fisheries Branch, Sustainable Fisheries Division, F/NWO3, NMFS, 525 NE Oregon Street, Suite 510, Portland, OR 97232-2737 (503-230-5407).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Herbert Pollard, Portland, OR, at phone number: (208) 378-5614, fax: (208) 378-5699, or e-mail: Herbert.Pollard@noaa.gov

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following species and evolutionary significant units (ESU's) are covered in the permit: Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*): threatened Snake River (SnR) spring/summer, threatened SnR fall.

Sockeye salmon (*O. nerka*): endangered SnR.

Steelhead (*O. mykiss*): threatened SnR.

Decision

Notice was published on April 19, 2000 (65 FR 20951) that IDFG applied for a section 10(a)(1)(B) permit for annual incidental takes of ESA-listed anadromous fish associated with otherwise lawful recreational fisheries on non-listed species in the Snake, Salmon, and Clearwater River Basins and the Stanley Basin lakes in the State of Idaho in the Pacific Northwest. IDFG submitted a Conservation Plan with its permit application that describes measures designed to monitor, minimize, and mitigate the incidental taking of ESA-listed anadromous salmonids associated with the sport-fisheries, some or all of which are expected to occur annually for the duration of the permit.

NMFS' decision is to adopt the preferred alternative in the Conservation Plan together with the preferred alternative in the Environmental Assessment that was completed for this permit action and issue a permit with conditions authorizing incidental takes of the ESA-listed anadromous fish species. This decision is based on a thorough review of the alternatives and

their environmental consequences. NMFS' conditions will ensure that the incidental takes of ESA-listed anadromous fish will not appreciably reduce the likelihood of the survival and recovery of the species in the wild. By adopting the preferred alternative in the Conservation Plan, with the Conservation Plan's stated assurances that IDFG's mitigation program will be implemented, all practicable means to avoid or minimize harm have been adopted.

IDFG requested an annual incidental take of threatened SnR steelhead. Protective regulations are currently proposed for SnR steelhead (64 FR 73479, December 30, 1999). NMFS did not act on that part of IDFG's permit application. In the future, when NMFS promulgates final rules under section 4(d) of the ESA that will provide take prohibitions for threatened SnR steelhead, NMFS may amend the permit to include the authorization for an incidental take of this species as IDFG requested in its application. Issuance of the permit does not presuppose the contents of the eventual protective regulations.

Rationale for Decision

The decision to issue the permit was made because the Conservation Plan proposed by IDFG meets the statutory criteria for issuance of an incidental take permit under section 10 of the ESA. In issuing the permit, NMFS determined that IDFG's Conservation Plan provides adequate mitigation measures to avoid, minimize, and/or compensate for the anticipated takes of ESA-listed anadromous fish.

The permit was granted only after NMFS determined that the permit was applied for in good faith, that all permit issuance criteria were met, including the requirement that granting the permit would not jeopardize the continued existence of the species, and that the permit is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended.

Dated: June 9, 2000.

Wanda L. Cain,

Chief, Endangered Species Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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