

they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: August 3, 2001.

Madeleine Clayton,

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

[FR Doc. 01-20115 Filed 8-9-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 080701C]

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Survey of Intent and Capacity to Harvest and Process Fish and Shellfish (Northwest Region)

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

ACTION: Notice.

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 October 9, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Madeleine Clayton, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6086, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW, Washington DC 20230 (or via Internet at MClayton@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to William L. Robinson, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115 (phone 206-526-6140).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

Telephone interviews have been used by NMFS to determine the amounts and species of fish that would not be used by domestic processors and could be made available to foreign and joint venture operations. Pacific whiting, the species most recently utilized by to foreign and joint venture operations, became fully utilized by domestic processors in 1991. However, minor opportunities for joint venture processing of shortbelly rockfish and jack mackerel continued to exist. In

December 2000, the West Coast groundfish resource was declared to be fully utilized by domestic fisheries. The supporting groundfish regulations at 50 CFR 660.303 (a) were revised to reflect this change.

Telephone interviews continue to be necessary to determine the intent and capacity of the various sectors of the domestic fleet to harvest and process Pacific whiting. Each year the Pacific whiting optimum yield is divided between the treaty Indian tribes on the coast of Washington State and the three sectors of the non-tribal commercial fisheries (motherships, catcher/processors, and shore-base processor). If it is determined that a sector will be unable to use all of their allocation before the end of the fishing year, NMFS may reapportion whiting to the other sectors to ensure full utilization of the resource. Therefore, information collected from the groundfish industry in telephone interviews continues to be valuable and important in groundfish management.

II. Method of Collection

Telephone interview.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0243.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations (owners or operators of vessels that catch or process fish in ocean waters 0-200 nautical miles offshore Washington, Oregon, and California).

Estimated Number of Respondents: 60.

Estimated Time Per Response: 5 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 5 hours.

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: August 3, 2001.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 01-20116 Filed 8-9-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 080701E]

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Northeast Region Gear Identification Requirements

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

ACTION: Notice.

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 October 9, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Madeleine Clayton, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6086, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW, Washington DC 20230 (or via Internet at MClayton@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to William L. Robinson, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115 (phone 206-526-6140).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The success of fisheries management programs depends significantly on regulatory compliance. Requirements that fishing gear be marked are essential to facilitate enforcement. The ability to link fishing gear to the vessel owner or operator is crucial to enforcement of regulations issued under the authority of the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management. The marking of fishing gear is also valuable in actions concerning damage, loss, and civil

proceedings. The regulations specify fishing gear must be marked with the vessel's official number, federal permit or tag number, or some other specified form of identification. The regulations further specify how the gear is to be marked, e.g., location and color. Law enforcement personnel rely on this information to assure compliance with fisheries management regulations. Gear that is not properly identified is confiscated. The identifying number on fishing gear is used by NMFS, the U.S. Coast Guard, and other marine agencies in issuing violations, prosecutions, and other enforcement actions. Gear marking helps ensure that a vessel harvests fish only from its own traps/pots/other gear and that traps/pots/other gear are not illegally placed. Gear violations are more readily prosecuted when the gear is marked, allowing for more cost-effective enforcement. Cooperating fishermen also use the number to report placement or occurrence of gear in unauthorized areas. Regulation-compliant fishermen ultimately benefit as unauthorized and illegal fishing is deterred and more burdensome regulations are avoided.

II. Method of Collection

The physical marking of fishing buoys is done by the affected public (fishermen in the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery) according to regulation.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0352.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations (fishermen in the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery).

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,033.

Estimated Time Per Response: 15 minutes per marking (with an average of 11.6 buoy markings per vessel).

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 3,002.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$4,503.

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: August 3, 2001.

Madeleine Clayton,

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

[FR Doc. 01-20118 Filed 8-9-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 010723185-1185-01]

Nominations for Federal Advisory Committee on Marine Protected Areas

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of request for nominations.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce is establishing a Federal Advisory Committee on Marine Protected Areas (MPA) pursuant to Executive Order 13158 and is seeking nominations for membership on this Committee.

DATES: Nominations must be postmarked on or before September 15, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Nominations should be sent to Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, NOAA, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
ATTN: Federal Advisory Committee on Marine Protected Areas.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Roger Griffis, NOAA, (301) 713-3155 Extension 104. E-mail: Roger.B.Griffis@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On June 4, 2001, Secretary of Commerce Donald L. Evans released a statement announcing the Administration's retention of Executive Order 13158. The Secretary also announced his intention to appoint a Marine Protection Area Advisory Committee. To complete this task the Secretary has decided to seek nominations in addition to those previously solicited (see 65 FR 50503, August 18, 2000) and initiate a review of all nominees.

Executive Order 13158 directs the Department of Commerce and the Department of the Interior to seek the

expert advice and recommendations of non-Federal scientists, resource managers, and other interested persons and organizations through a Marine Protected Areas Federal Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee will provide advice and recommendations to the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of the Interior to focus Federal Government efforts to develop information about existing MPAs, to help identify areas where research may support management of marine resources through MPAs, and to undertake other appropriate MPA activities. The terms of Executive Order 13158 make clear that it is not intended to supplant existing statutory authorities or to create new legal authority to regulate marine resources. Activities conducted under Executive Order 13158 will be consistent with current law. The MPA Advisory Committee will be established through a public process that will ensure the Administration will benefit from a broad, balanced range of expertise and views as it undertakes MPA-related activities. Initial committee members will be selected for two or three year terms of service. The Committee will meet at least once annually; however, members of subcommittees, task forces, and/or working groups established by the Committee may meet on a more frequent basis. Members of the Committee will not be compensated, but may be allowed travel and per diem expenses.

The Department of Commerce is seeking a diverse group of approximately 25 highly qualified individuals to serve on the Marine Protected Areas Federal Advisory Committee. Nominations are sought for non-Federal scientists, resource managers, and persons representing other interests or organizations. Individuals seeking membership on the Advisory Committee should possess demonstrable expertise in a field related to MPAs and/or an interest affected by MPAs. Nominees will also be considered based on their ability to contribute to a balance of interests and points of view.

Nominations are encouraged from all interested parties, such as scientific societies; academic and research institutions; groups or governments representing Native Americans, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, Caribbean Islanders and Pacific islanders; states, territories and localities; interest groups such as the fishing (recreational and commercial), boating, diving, recreational, maritime, historical and philanthropic communities; conservation organizations; mineral and