

a monthly tuna storage removal report; 60 minutes for a monthly tuna receiving report; and 30 minutes for a special report documenting the origin of tuna (if requested by the NOAA Administrator).

Estimated Total Annual Burden

Hours: 144.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$847.

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 16, 2002.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 02-12777 Filed 5-21-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-12-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 051702B]

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Application for Commission in the NOAA Officer Corps

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 July 22, 2002.

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 Lt. Cecile Daniels, 301-713-3444, ext. 119, or Cecile.Daniels@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The NOAA Corps is the smallest of the seven uniformed services of the United States and is an integral part of NOAA. The NOAA Corps provides a cadre of professionals trained in engineering, earth sciences, oceanography, meteorology, fisheries science, and other related disciplines who serve in assignments within the five major Line Offices of NOAA. Persons wishing to obtain a NOAA Corps Commission must submit an application package, including an eye test and five references.

II. Method of Collection

Paper forms are submitted via mail in postage-paid envelopes.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0047.

Form Number: NOAA Forms 56-42, 56-42A, 56-42C, 5-42D.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 130.

Estimated Time Per Response: 2 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 260.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$5,850.

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 16, 2002.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

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BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 050102H]

Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals

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

ACTION: Notice of embargo for Peru.

SUMMARY: On May 17, 2002, the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NMFS, acted to prohibit the importation into the United States from Peru of yellowfin tuna and yellowfin tuna products harvested by purse seine in the eastern tropical Pacific Ocean (ETP). NMFS is required to take this action because Peru harvests tuna in the ETP with purse seine vessels with greater than 400 short tons (362.8 metric tons) carrying capacity and has not received an "affirmative finding" as required by regulations. This ban remains in effect for Peru until an affirmative finding has been granted by the Assistant Administrator.

DATES: Effective May 17, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Allison Routt, Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Boulevard, Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA, 90802-4213, Phone 562-980-4020, Fax 562-980-4027.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In order to export to the United States yellowfin tuna harvested by purse seine in the ETP, the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) requires a nation that has purse seine vessels with over 400 short tons (362.8 metric tons) carrying capacity fishing for tuna in the ETP (i.e., a harvesting nation) submit documentary evidence to the Assistant Administrator requesting an affirmative finding. The process for such requests is described in regulations at 50 CFR 216.24(f)(9). Based

upon documentary evidence submitted by the harvesting nation and obtained from the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) and/or from the Department of State, the Assistant Administrator will determine whether the nation qualifies for an affirmative finding under section 101(a)(2)(B) of the MMPA. An affirmative finding allows for the importation into the United States of yellowfin tuna and yellowfin tuna products harvested by purse seine in the ETP after March 3, 1999. If a harvesting nation does not provide documentary evidence that shows that the nation meets the standards under section 101(a)(2)(B) of the MMPA, the Assistant Administrator must prohibit imports of yellowfin tuna harvested by purse seine vessels in the ETP.

The application procedures to request an affirmative finding are described in the interim final regulations implementing the International Dolphin Conservation Program Act (65 FR 30, January 3, 2000). Harvesting nations must submit documentary evidence directly to the Assistant Administrator demonstrating that they meet several conditions related to compliance with the International Dolphin Conservation Program (IDCP) and request an affirmative finding. To issue an affirmative finding, NMFS must receive the following information:

1. A statement requesting an affirmative finding;
2. Evidence of membership in the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC);
3. Evidence that a nation is meeting its obligations to the IATTC, including financial obligations;
4. Evidence that a nation is complying with the IDCP. For example, national laws and regulations implementing the Agreement on the IDCP and information that the nation is enforcing those laws and regulations;
5. Evidence of a tuna tracking and verification program comparable to the U.S. tracking and verification regulations at 50 CFR 216.94;
6. Evidence that the national fleet dolphin mortality limits (DMLs) were not exceeded in the previous calendar year;
7. Evidence that the national fleet per-stock per-year mortality limits, if they are allocated to countries, were not exceeded in the previous calendar year;
8. Authorization for the IATTC to release to the Assistant Administrator complete, accurate, and timely information necessary to verify and inspect Tuna Tracking Forms; and
9. Authorization for the IATTC to release to the Assistant Administrator

information about whether a nation is meeting its obligations of membership to the IATTC and whether a nation is meeting its obligations under the IDCP, including managing (i.e., not exceeding) its national fleet DMLs or its national fleet per-stock per-year mortality limits.

To maintain the affirmative finding, the government of a harvesting nation must request an affirmative finding every 5 years and submit the required documentary evidence directly to the Assistant Administrator. A nation may opt to provide this information directly to NMFS on an annual basis or to authorize the IATTC to release the information to NMFS in years when NMFS will review and consider whether to issue an affirmative finding determination without an application from the harvesting nation.

An affirmative finding will be terminated, in consultation with the Secretary of State, if the Assistant Administrator determines that the requirements of 50 CFR 216.24(f)(9) are no longer being met or that a nation is consistently failing to take enforcement actions on violations which diminish the effectiveness of the IDCP.

Until such time as the Assistant Administrator receives documentary evidence from the Republic of Peru demonstrating that it is in compliance with the IDCP and issues an affirmative finding, the ban on imports of yellowfin tuna harvested by purse seine in the ETP will continue. This action prohibits the importation into the United States of yellowfin tuna and yellowfin tuna products harvested by purse seine vessels in the ETP after March 3, 1999, and exported from the Republic of Peru.

Dated: May 17, 2002.

Rebecca Lent,

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 02-12870 Filed 5-21-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 051402A]

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is

scheduling public meetings of its Monkfish Oversight Committee and Scallop Oversight and Advisory Panel in June, 2002. Recommendations from these committees will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

DATES: The meetings will be held between June 5, 2002 and June 11, 2002.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel at the Crossings 801 Greenwich Avenue, Warwick, RI 02886; telephone: (401) 732-6000.

Council address: New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Newburyport, MA 01950.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; (978) 465-0492.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Meeting Dates and Agendas:

Wednesday, June 5, 2002 at 10:00 a.m. and Thursday, June 6, 2002 at 8:30 a.m.—Monkfish Oversight Committee Meeting.

The Committee will review the report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee and the Plan Development Team on options for revising the overfishing definition reference points and status determination criteria. The Committee will finalize its recommendations to the Councils for management alternatives to be analyzed in the Amendment 2 Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement. Alternatives designed to achieve the approved goals and objectives include, but are not limited to: Permit qualification criteria for vessels fishing south of 38°N; management program for a deepwater directed fishery in the southern fishery management area (SFMA); separation of monkfish days-at-sea (DAS) from multispecies and sea scallop DAS programs, including counting of monkfish DAS as 24-hour days; measures to minimize impacts of the fishery on endangered sea turtles; measures to minimize bycatch in directed in non-directed fisheries, including mesh size and other gear requirements; an exemption program for vessels fishing for monkfish outside of the exclusive economic zone (in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) Regulated Area); alternative areas for essential fish habitat (EFH) designation and measures to minimize impacts of the fishery on EFH; measures to improve data collection and research on monkfish, including mechanisms for funding cooperative research programs. The Committee may develop and