

before the end of the fishing year, NMFS may reapportion whiting to the other sectors to ensure full utilization of the resource. Therefore, it is necessary to collect information, via telephone and/or email, from the groundfish industry to determine the level of interest in harvesting the unused portion of the Pacific whiting resource and to project the number of participants. This survey continues to be valuable and important in groundfish management.

II. Method of Collection

Telephone and email.

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: 40.

Estimated Time Per Response: 5 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 3.33 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$0 (no capital expenditures required).

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: January 7, 2005.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 011105G]

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Coral Reefs Economic Valuation Study

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, Public Law 104–13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before March 15, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dHynek@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Vernon R. Leeworthy, NOS/ Special Projects, 1305 East-West Highway, SSMC 4, 9th Floor, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910; or via e-mail at Bob.Leeworthy@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The purpose of this data collection is to provide information on the value of Hawaii's coral reef habitats to specific segments of the U.S. population. The study will measure total economic values for Hawaii's coral reefs. This effort is designed to provide defensible information for both resource managers and damage assessments on the value of coral reef habitats and alternative management actions. The project is designed as a phased three-year effort to ensure effective use of all the available information. It will involve the development of extensive knowledge about how reef habitats are perceived, implication of alternative management actions, designing original survey instruments, interviewing of a large number of respondents via an electronically downloadable and submittable pretest (200) and survey

(2000), conducting formal statistical analysis of the data, and developing a decision support system for resource managers to use. For total economic value, a nationally oriented survey will be conducted using stated preferences methods.

II. Method of Collection

Data collection will be done in two phases. First, a large-scale pretest of the full survey instrument will be tested for a response of up to 200 usable observations. The pretest data will then be analyzed and the questionnaire revised, as needed. In the second phase, the final survey instrument will be administered to a sample of up to 2000 people. Both the pretest and final surveys are planned as taking an average of 30 minutes per completed interview.

III. Data

OMB Number: None.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 2,200.

Estimated Time Per Response: 30 minutes for a pretest, and 30 minutes for a final survey.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 1,100.

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: January 7, 2005.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

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