

indirectly, by non-U.S. citizens or non-U.S. companies. For eligibility purposes, a "U.S. organization" is an organization, including trade associations and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), established under the laws of the United States, that is controlled by U.S. citizens, by another U.S. organization (or organizations), or by a U.S. company (or companies), as determined based on its board of directors (or comparable governing body), membership, and funding sources, as applicable. For eligibility purposes, a U.S. entity includes state and local tourism marketing entities, state government tourism offices, state and/or local government-supported tourism marketing entities, multi-state tourism marketing entities, and other tourism-related entities that can demonstrate U.S. ownership or control.

Members of the Board will be selected, in accordance with applicable Department of Commerce guidelines, based on their ability to carry out the objectives of the Board as set forth above. Members of the Board shall be selected in a manner that ensures that the Board is balanced in terms of points of view, industry subsector, range of products and services, demographics, geography, and company size.

Additional factors which will be considered in the selection of Board members include candidates' proven experience in the strategic development and management of travel and tourism-related or other service-related organizations; or the candidate's proven experience in promoting, developing, and implementing advertising and marketing programs for travel-related or tourism-related industries.

Priority may be given to a Chief Executive Officer, Executive Director, or President (or comparable level of responsibility) of a U.S. company, U.S. organization, or U.S. entity in the travel and tourism sector.

Members shall serve a term of two years from the date of appointment, at the pleasure of the Secretary of Commerce. All appointments will automatically terminate no later than November 15, 2013. Members will serve at the discretion of the Secretary of Commerce. Although the Board's current charter terminates in September 2011, it is anticipated that it will be rechartered.

Members shall serve in a representative capacity, representing the views and interests of their particular industry subsector. Board members are not special government employees, and will receive no compensation for their participation in Board activities. Members participating in Board

meetings and events will be responsible for their travel, living and other personal expenses. Meetings will be held regularly and, to the extent practical, not less than twice annually, usually in Washington, DC.

To be considered for membership, please provide the following information by the 9/16/2011, 5 p.m. EDT deadline, via e-mail, to [OACIE@trade.gov](mailto:OACIE@trade.gov) or, via mail, to Jennifer Pilat, Office of Advisory Committees, U.S. Travel and Tourism Advisory Board Executive Secretariat, U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4043, 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230.

1. Name and title of the individual requesting consideration.

2. A sponsor letter from the applicant on his or her company/organization/entity letterhead or, if the applicant is to represent a company/organization/entity other than his or her employer, a letter from the company/organization/entity to be represented, containing a brief statement of why the applicant should be considered for membership on the Board. This sponsor letter should also address the applicant's travel and tourism-related experience.

3. The applicant's personal resume.

4. An affirmative statement that the applicant is not required to register as a foreign agent under the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended.

5. An affirmative statement by the applicant that he or she is not a Federally registered lobbyist, and that the applicant understands that he or she, if appointed, will not be allowed to continue to serve as a Board member if the applicant becomes a Federally registered lobbyist.

6. If the applicant represents a tourism-related U.S. entity, the functions and responsibilities of the entity, and information regarding the entity's U.S. ownership or control.

7. If the applicant represents an organization, information regarding the control of the organization, including the governing structure, members, and revenue sources as appropriate signifying compliance with the criteria set forth above.

8. If the applicant represents a company, information regarding the control of the company, including the governing structure and stock holdings as appropriate signifying compliance with the criteria set forth above.

9. The company's, organization's, or entity's size and ownership, product or service line and major markets in which the company, organization, or operates.

10. Brief statement describing how the applicant will contribute to the work of the Board based on his or her unique

experience and perspective (not to exceed 100 words).

Dated: August 2, 2011.

**Jennifer Pilat,**

*Executive Secretary, U.S. Travel & Tourism Advisory Board.*

[FR Doc. 2011-20514 Filed 8-11-11; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-DR-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Northwest Region Gear Identification Requirements

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

**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.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before October 11, 2011.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6616, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at [dHynek@doc.gov](mailto:dHynek@doc.gov)).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Becky Renko, (206) 526-6110 or [becky.renko@noaa.gov](mailto:becky.renko@noaa.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Abstract

The success of fisheries management programs depends significantly on regulatory compliance. The 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 the enforcement of regulations issued under the authority of the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA). 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 the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), the United States Coast Guard (USCG), 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 from this requirement, because 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. No information is collected.

## III. Data

*OMB Number:* 0648-0352.

*Form Number:* None.

*Type of Review:* Regular submission.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit organizations.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 946.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 15 minutes per marking.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 3,798.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* \$3,798.

## 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.

### Gwellnar Banks,

*Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

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**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XA505**

#### Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; Exempted Fishing Permit

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

**ACTION:** Notice of receipt of an application for an exempted fishing permit; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS announces the receipt of an application for an exempted fishing permit (EFP) from the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF). If granted, the EFP would authorize the applicant to collect and retain limited numbers of specimens that would otherwise be prohibited from possession and retention. This study, to be conducted in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of the Gulf of Mexico (Gulf) off Louisiana, is intended to more closely monitor populations of red snapper and other reef fish to ensure public health and seafood quality are maintained.

**DATES:** Comments must be received no later than 5 p.m., eastern time, on September 12, 2011.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments on the application by any of the following methods:

- *E-mail:* [Steve.Branstetter@noaa.gov](mailto:Steve.Branstetter@noaa.gov).

Include in the subject line of the e-mail comment the following document identifier: "LDWF\_EFP".

- *Mail:* Steve Branstetter, Southeast Regional Office, NMFS, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701.

The application and related documents are available for review upon written request to any of the above addresses.

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Steve Branstetter, 727-824-5305; e-mail: [Steve.Branstetter@noaa.gov](mailto:Steve.Branstetter@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The EFP is requested under the authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*), and regulations at 50 CFR 600.745(b) concerning exempted fishing.

The described research is part of a new monitoring program by LDWF. The research is intended to involve recreational fishermen in the collection of fundamental biological information of Gulf reef fish. The proposed collection for scientific research involves activities that could otherwise be prohibited by regulations at 50 CFR part 622, as they pertain to reef fish managed by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council). The applicant requires authorization through the EFP to collect these Council-managed species that may be taken as part of the normal fishing activities of the recreational for-hire sector of the Gulf reef fish fishery. LDWF would enlist the Louisiana Charter Boat Association, a for-hire recreational fishing body that is recognized by the department and the state legislature to assist with a focused watch for red snapper and other Gulf reef fish species exhibiting biological abnormalities, such as skin lesions or infections. LDWF Office of Fisheries personnel and university researchers would train participating charter boat operators to recognize abnormalities in reef fish and to use scientifically accepted technical procedures to process affected fish for laboratory analysis. The charter boat captain would attach an identification tag to each specimen, record the fishing location using Global Positioning System coordinates, and then contact the LDWF via an emergency call-in number. LDWF field personnel would assist in transferring these samples to shore facilities for transport to a pathology laboratory at Louisiana State University for analysis.

The goal of the research is to more closely monitor populations of red snapper and other reef fish taken from state and Federal waters off Louisiana to ensure public health and seafood quality are maintained. The EFP, if approved, would authorize the take of as many as 100 Federally-managed red snapper or other Gulf reef fish through August 31, 2012. Such fish, collected as biological samples, would be exempted from the recreational bag limit for the particular species, and not subject to size limits or seasonal closures.