SUMMARY: The Assistant Regional Administrator for Sustainable Fisheries, Greater Atlantic Region, NMFS, has made a preliminary determination that an Exempted Fishing Permit application from the Commercial Fisheries Research Foundation and Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management contains all of the required information and warrants further consideration. This Exempted Fishing Permit would allow seven commercial fishing vessels and one party/charter vessel to collect black sea bass catch data while on routine fishing trips and retain a limited amount of black sea bass for laboratory analysis. Regulations under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act require publication of this notice to provide interested parties the opportunity to comment on applications for proposed Exempted Fishing Permits.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before November 2, 2016.

ADDRESSES: You may submit written comments by any of the following methods:

- Email to: nmfs.gar.efp@noaa.gov. Include in the subject line “BSB Research Fleet EFP.”
- Mail to: John K. Bullard, Regional Administrator, NMFS, Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930. Mark the outside of the envelope “Comments on BSB Research Fleet EFP.”

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Reid Lichwell, Fisheries Management Specialist, 978–281–9112.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Commercial Fisheries Research Foundation (CFRF) and Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RI DEM) submitted a complete application for an EFP on September 9, 2016, to develop a research fleet that would collect fishery-dependent information on black sea bass for eight months, November 2016 through July 2017. The EFP would authorize seven commercial fishing vessels and one party/charter vessel to collect data on black sea bass catch, and retain a limited amount of black sea bass for a laboratory study conducted by RI DEM. This EFP would exempt the participating vessels from the following Federal regulations:

1. Recreational possession limits specified at 50 CFR 648.145;
2. Commercial and party/charter minimum size limits for black sea bass specified at 50 CFR 648.147(a) and (b) respectively;
3. No recording of black sea bass as bycatch on all appropriate fishing logs.

The research fleet would be comprised of vessels fishing with different gear types including trawls, lobster pots, gillnets, and hook and line. All gear deployments would be typical of the routine fishing practices associated with the fishery being targeted. All vessels fishing under this research would have either a black sea bass moratorium or charter/party/charter federal permit allowing them to legally land black sea bass. There will be no increase in fishing effort associated with this project.

Each vessel would be randomly selected to conduct sampling events during three trips per month within Southern New England and the Mid-Atlantic Bight. During each sampling event, up to 50 black sea bass would be temporarily held to record their length and sex. Some may be retained for shore-side analysis. Each vessel would be allowed to retain 100 black sea bass per month, not to exceed a cumulative total of 6,400 individual fish or 10,880 lb (4,935 kg) of black sea bass catch over the course of the project.

All legal sized black sea bass retained for sampling by commercial vessels would be reported through a dealer as “research” landings and attributed to the state of Rhode Island’s allocated commercial black sea bass quota. Undersized black sea bass retained for sampling would be weighed and recorded as bycatch on all appropriate fishing logs. The participating vessels would be able to sell their additional catch as they typically would under the permits they possess. Catch not retained for sale or sampling will be returned to the sea as soon as practicable. The participating vessels would be issued the appropriate state exemptions to all applicable state regulations. If the Federal commercial coastwide quota for black sea bass is reached and leads to a Federal black sea bass closure, then no retention of black sea bass would occur under this EFP until the fishery reopens.

Vessels fishing under this research permit would be exempt from the commercial and party/charter minimum size limits for black sea bass, to allow for the retention of both adult and undersized juvenile black sea bass. The party/charter vessel would be exempt from the possession limits found at § 648.145 to retain black sea bass for sampling above the designated possession limit; there are no federal commercial possession limits for black sea bass.

If approved, CCFR and RI DEM may request minor modifications and extensions to the EFP throughout the study period. EFP modifications and extensions may be granted without further notice if they are deemed essential to facilitate completion of the proposed research and have minimal impacts that do not change the scope or impact of the initially approved EFP request. Any fishing activity conducted outside the scope of the exempted fishing activity would be prohibited.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.


Emily H. Menashes, Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2016–25137 Filed 10–17–16; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Defense Acquisition Regulations System

[OMB Control Number 0704–0225; Docket Number DARS–2016–0041]

Information Collection Requirement; Defense Federal Acquisition
Regulation Supplement (DFARS); Administrative Matters

AGENCY: Defense Acquisition Regulations System, Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Notice and request for comments regarding a proposed revision of an approved information collection requirement.

SUMMARY: In compliance with section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35), DoD announces the proposed revision of a public information collection requirement and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. DoD invites comments on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of DoD, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has approved this information collection for use through March 31, 2017. DoD proposes that OMB extend its approval for use for three additional years beyond the current expiration date.

DATES: DoD will consider all comments received by December 19, 2016.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by OMB Control Number...
0704–0225, using any of the following methods: Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the instructions for submitting comments. Email: osd.dfars@mail.mil. Include OMB Control Number 0704–0225 in the subject line of the message. Fax: 571–372–6094.


Comments received generally will be posted without change to http://www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
Title and OMB Number: Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS), Part 204, Administrative Matters and Related Clauses at 252.204; OMB Control Number 0704–0225.

Needs and Uses: DFARS 204.404–70 prescribes the use of the clause at DFARS 204.204–7000. Disclosure of Information, when the contractor will have access to or generate unclassified information that may be sensitive and inappropriate for release to the public. Upon receipt of a contractor’s request, the Government reviews the information provided by the contractor to determine if it is sensitive or otherwise inappropriate for release for the stated purpose.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profit and not-for-profit institutions.

Number of Respondents: 1,196.

Responses per Respondent: Approximately 2.35.

Annual Responses: 2,806.

Average Burden per Response: Approximately 3 hours.

Annual Burden Hours: 8,418.

Reporting Frequency: On occasion.

Summary of Information Collection
DFARS 204.404–70 prescribes use of DFARS Clause 252.204–7000. Disclosure of Information, in contracts that require the contractor to access or generate unclassified information that may be sensitive and inappropriate for release to the public. The clause requires the contractor to obtain approval of the contracting officer before release of any unclassified contract-related information outside the contractor’s organization, unless the information is already in the public domain. In requesting this approval, the contractor must identify the specific information to be released, the medium to be used, and the purpose for the release.

Jennifer L. Hawes, Editor, Defense Acquisition Regulations System.

BILLING CODE 5001–06–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
Office of the Secretary
Availability of the Fiscal Year 2015 Inventory of Contracted Services

agency information collection request (ICR) that helps the public understand the Department’s information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format. The Department is soliciting comments on the proposed information collection request (ICR) that