public record and subject to public disclosure.

Ericka Ukrow,
Senior International Trade Specialist,
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
[RTID 0648–XW002]
Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; General Provisions for Domestic Fisheries; Application for Exempted Fishing Permits

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

ACTION: Notice; request for comments

SUMMARY: The Regional Administrator, West Coast Region, NMFS, has made a preliminary determination that an application for an Exempted Fishing Permit warrants further consideration. The application, submitted by the West Coast Pelagic Conservation Group (a non-profit industry group), requests an exemption from the expected prohibition of directed fishing for Pacific sardine for the 2019–2020 fishing year to collect Pacific sardine as part of an industry-based scientific survey. NMFS requests public comment on the application.

DATES: Comments must be received by June 26, 2019.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments on this document, identified by NOAA–NMFS–2019–0055, by any of the following methods:

• Electronic Submissions: Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal. Go to www.regulations.gov/#!docketDetail;D=NOAA-NMFS-2019-0055, click the “Comment Now!” icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments. The EFP application will be available under Relevant Documents through the same link.

• Mail: Submit written comments to Lynn Massey, Sustainable Fisheries Division, West Coast Region, NMFS, 501 W Ocean Blvd., Ste. 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802–4250.

• Instructions: Comments must be submitted by one of the above methods to ensure that the comments are received, documented, and considered by NMFS. Comments sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the end of the comment period, may not be considered. All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted for public viewing on www.regulations.gov without change. All personal identifying information (e.g., name, address, etc.) submitted voluntarily by the sender will be publicly accessible. Do not submit confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive or protected information. NMFS will accept anonymous comments (enter “N/A” in the required fields if you wish to remain anonymous).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lynn Massey, West Coast Region, NMFS, (562) 436–2462, lynn.massey@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On May 28, 2019, NMFS published a proposed rule (84 FR 24459) to implement Pacific sardine harvest specifications for the 2019–2020 fishing year off the U.S. West Coast. This proposed rule included a 4,000 metric ton (mt) annual catch target (ACT) and a prohibition on directed commercial fishing for Pacific sardine off the coasts of Washington, Oregon, and California (except for small directed catch and catch of live bait). At the April 2019 Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) meeting, the Council voted in support of the West Coast Pelagic Conservation Group’s (WCPCG) EFP application and one other application that is being processed on a separate track. The WCPCG’s application requests an exemption from the prohibition to directly harvest Pacific sardine. The proposed 2019–2020 Pacific sardine harvest specifications take into account the potential for up to 405 mt (the combined total of the two EFP proposals the Council reviewed) of the ACT to be harvested under EFPS.

The WCPCG EFP application requests a permit to directly harvest 10 mt of CPS, of which the applicant estimates no more than 5 mt will be Pacific sardine. The purpose of the EFP is to collect biological samples in areas inshore of the 2019 NMFS Southwest Fisheries Science Center acoustic trawl survey to better assess species composition and CPS distribution and abundance. An EFP is necessary to conduct this collection because the proposed 2019–2020 harvest specifications would prohibit most directed fishing for Pacific sardine. The collections under the EFP would take place between approximately June 25, 2019, and August 31, 2019. If NMFS
does not issue this EFP, then this 5-mt portion of the ACT would be available for harvest by other permissible fishing activities.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.
Dated: June 5, 2019.

Jennifer M. Wallace,
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2019–12245 Filed 6–6–19; 4:15 pm]
BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).


Title: North Pacific Observer Program Safety and Security Survey.

OMB Control Number: 0648–0759.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Request: Regular (Revision request).

Number of Respondents: 300.

Average Hours per Response: .17 (10 minutes per respondent).

Burden Hours: 50.

Needs and Uses: NMFS certified observers are a vital part of fisheries management. Observers are deployed to collect fisheries data in the field; observers often deploy to vessels and work alongside fishermen for weeks and months at a time. The work environment in which observers find themselves can be challenging, especially if the observer finds themselves a target for victim type violations such as sexual harassment, intimidation, or even assault. NOAA Fisheries’ Office of Law Enforcement prioritizes investigations into allegations of sexual harassment, hostile work environment, assault, and other complaints that may affect observers individually. However, it is difficult for a person to disclose if they have been a victim of a crime, and law enforcement cannot respond if no complaint is submitted. The true number of observers who have experienced victim type crimes is unknown, and the reasons why they do not report is also unclear. More information is needed to understand how many observers per year experience victim type crimes, and why they chose not to report to law enforcement.

The survey will also investigate the reasons that prevented observers from reporting these violations. The results of the survey will provide the Office of Law Enforcement a better understanding of how often observers are victimized, which will enable them to reallocate resources as needed, conduct more training for observers to ensure they know how to report, conduct training to ensure people understand what constitutes a victim crime, and to increase awareness of potential victimizations. Additionally, the survey results will help law enforcement understand the barriers to disclosure, so enforcement may begin to address these impediments so they no longer prevent observers from disclosure.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Frequency: Annually.

Respondent’s Obligation: Voluntary.

This information collection request may be viewed at reginfo.gov. Follow the instructions to view Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to OIRA Submission@omb.eop.gov or fax to (202) 395–5806.

Sheleen Dumas,
Departmental Lead PRA Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Commerce Department.

[FR Doc. 2019–12196 Filed 6–10–19; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).


Title: Alaska Groundfish Tagging Program.

OMB Control Number: 0648–0276.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Request: Regular.

Number of Respondents: 440.

Average Hours per Response: 5 minutes for returning a regular tag, and 20 minutes for returning an internal archival tag.

Burden Hours: 89

Needs and Uses: NOAA Fisheries is mandated to assess the health of the populations of commercially important species with the best information possible. Groundfish tagging programs in the northeastern Pacific Ocean and Alaska waters provide essential research data on groundfish life histories and migration patterns that are necessary for successful management. Collecting tag recovery data from the public is essential for the success of this program. Each year, thousands of fish are caught during NOAA Fisheries stock assessment surveys. These fish are weighed and measured, and their sex is determined. Fish that appear healthy and uninjured are tagged before being released back into the wild. Fishermen and seafood processors subsequently find the tagged fish. By returning the tag to NOAA Fisheries, along with information on when and where the fish was caught and the size and weight of the fish, these fishermen and processors provide extremely valuable information to fishery scientists and managers. Tagging groundfish for subsequent tracking and recovery is an important tool for managing fishery resources and the information gathered has resulted in numerous scientific and management publications by NOAA Fisheries personnel.

Affected Public: Not-for-profit institutions; State, local, or tribal government; business or other for-profit organizations.

Frequency: Once per year.

Respondent’s Obligation: Voluntary.

This information collection request may be viewed at reginfo.gov. Follow the instructions to view Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to OIRA Submission@omb.eop.gov or fax to (202) 395–5806.

Sheleen Dumas,
Departmental Lead PRA Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Commerce Department.

[FR Doc. 2019–12198 Filed 6–10–19; 8:45 am]
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