

transmitting unit and communication service is necessary to ensure that automatic position reports will be received properly by NMFS and to identify the unique signature for each VMS unit. In the event that there are any problems, NMFS will need to have ready access to a database that links owner information with installation information. NMFS can then apply troubleshooting techniques and, as necessary, contact the vessel operator and discern whether the problem is associated with the transmitting hardware or the service provider. This is not expected to occur more than once per year.

Position reports are transmitted 24 hours per day and provide OLE and USCG with real-time vessel location and activity information. When an operator is aware that the transmission of automatic position reports has been interrupted, or when notified by OLE that automatic position reports are not being received, they must contact OLE and follow instructions provided.

“On/off reports”, also known as exemption reports, permit the vessel owner/operator to power off the VMS unit while the vessel is at port, or after the end of the fishing season, provided that the vessel owner/operator notifies OLE and receives OLE confirmation in advance of each such shutdown and each time the VMS unit is subsequently turned back on. These reports allow flexibility to fishery participants while providing OLE with the information needed to determine why a position report is not being received from the vessel.

Declaration Reports are only required under domestic regulations and are provided by vessel owners/operators to OLE before the vessel leaves port to fish in state or federal waters. These are used to determine which vessels may be at-sea at any given time and when to expect VMS position reports. NOAA Fisheries will retain control over the information collected and safeguard it from improper access, modification, and destruction, consistent with NOAA standards for confidentiality, privacy, and electronic information.

II. Method of Collection

VMS vessel location reports: Electronic VMS shipboard position is communicated between the shipboard VMS unit and the monitoring agency’s fishery monitoring center. Position reports are transferred automatically at a specified frequency and received via a satellite communication system by NOAA.

Installation/activation reports: Written activation reports may be

submitted via mail, facsimile, or email to the Special Agent in Charge (SAC), the point of contact for the OLE.

Pre-trip notification reports: These reports are submitted by telephone or email to NMFS or a designated observer service provider.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0648–0498.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Review: Regular (extension of a current information collection).

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 49.

Estimated Time per Response: VMS Unit Install—4 hours; Annual Maintenance/Repair of VMS Unit—1 hour; Installation/Activation Reports—5 min; “On-Off” Reports—5 min; Pre-Trip Notifications—5 min.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 145 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$113,175.

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.

Sheleen Dumas,

Department PRA Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Commerce Department.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Davidson Fellowship

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), 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 comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995.

DATES: To ensure consideration, written or on-line comments must be submitted on or before June 1, 2020.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Adrienne Thomas, PRA Officer, NOAA, 151 Patton Avenue, Room 159, Asheville, NC 28801 (or via the internet at PRAComments@doc.gov). All comments received are part of the public record. Comments will generally be posted without change. All Personally Identifiable Information (for example, name and address) voluntarily submitted by the commenter may be publicly accessible. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Chris Ellis, NOAA Office for Coastal Management, 2234 South Hobson Avenue, Charleston SC 29405, ((843) 740–1195), chris.ellis@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Office for Coastal Management (OCM) in the National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce is funding a new, two-year fellowship program called the “FY20–21 Margaret A. Davidson Graduate Fellowship for the National Estuarine Research Reserve System” (Davidson Fellowship). Funding is being made available through a competitive process to master’s and doctoral students actively enrolled in a graduate program at an accredited university, through the use of a cooperative agreement to the university. The goals of the Davidson Fellowship are to build the next

generation of leaders in estuarine science and coastal management by affording qualified graduate students the opportunity to conduct collaborative science within the National Estuarine Research Reserve System; partake in professional development opportunities; and receive mentoring to support professional growth.

The National Estuarine Research Reserve System is a national program administered by the Office for Coastal Management. The National Estuarine Reserve System has an interest in balancing the needs of the natural environment and coastal economies and is one of the primary programs responsible for implementing the Coastal Zone Management Act. All Davidson Fellowship projects must be conducted in a research reserve and should be designed to contribute to one of the reserve's priority management areas, and thus enhance the scientific understanding of the natural or social science aspects of the research subject matter. One fellow is being selected in Spring 2020 for each of the 29 reserves for a two-year duration. Mentoring and professional development activities will be provided to build knowledge and skills needed to successfully contribute to the workforce responsible for the coast. These opportunities are also designed to create a strong network among the fellows during their tenure and into the early portion of their careers.

The purpose of this information collection is to gather information on the effectiveness of the Davidson Fellowship program in reaching the desired outcomes, so that we can adaptively manage and make continuous improvements to the program. This information collection will take place initially in Fall 2020, as the first cohort of fellows begins their program, and will gather information from selected fellows, their faculty advisors, contacts from each university's sponsored program office, reserve staff, and NOAA federal and contract staff supporting the Davidson Fellowship program. It will take place again in Fall 2022, as the second cohort of fellows begins their program and the first cohort of fellows finishes, and will gather information from selected fellows, their faculty advisors, contacts from each university's sponsored program office, reserve staff, and NOAA federal and contract staff supporting the Davidson Fellowship program.

More information on the fellowship can be found at this link: *Davidson Fellowship website*.

Program Authority: Section 315 of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972,

as amended CZMA, 16 U.S.C. 1461, establishes the National Estuarine Research Reserve System (NERRS). 16 U.S.C. 1461 (e)(1)(B) authorizes the Secretary of Commerce to make grants to any coastal state or public or private person for purposes of supporting research and monitoring within a National Estuarine Research Reserve that are consistent with the research guidelines developed under subsection (c).

II. Method of Collection

Information will be collected via an online survey, using Survey Monkey software, sent only to those directly involved with the Davidson Fellowship (student fellows, universities receiving funding for fellows, research reserves hosting the fellows, and NOAA staff and contractors supporting the program).

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0648-xxxx.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Review: Regular submission, new information collection.

Affected Public: Those directly involved in the Davidson Fellowship—individuals (student fellows), academic institutions (universities receiving funding for student fellows), state government (research reserves), and federal government (NOAA staff supporting the program).

Estimated Number of Respondents: 500.

Estimated Time Per Response: 15 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 52 hours (155 hours total spread over three years).

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.

Sheleen Dumas,

Department PRA Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Commerce Department.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RTID 0648-XR112

Taking and Importing Marine Mammals; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to U.S. Navy Construction

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

ACTION: Notice of issuance of Letter of Authorization.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), as amended, and implementing regulations, notification is hereby given that a Letter of Authorization (LOA) has been issued to the U.S. Navy (Navy) for the take of marine mammals incidental to construction activities at Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, California.

DATES: Applicable from March 25, 2020 through March 25, 2025.

ADDRESSES: The LOA and supporting documentation are available online at: www.fisheries.noaa.gov/action/incidental-take-authorization-us-navy-construction-ammunition-pier-and-turning-basin-naval. In case of problems accessing these documents, please call the contact listed below (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ben Laws, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, (301) 427-8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Sections 101(a)(5)(A) and (D) of the MMPA (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) direct the Secretary of Commerce to allow, upon request, the incidental, but not intentional, taking of small numbers of marine mammals by U.S. citizens who engage in a specified activity (other than commercial fishing) within a specified geographical region if certain findings are made and either regulations are issued or, if the taking is limited to harassment, a notice of a proposed authorization is provided to the public for review.