

migratory game fish; waters; research; purpose.

The SWFSC provides tagging supplies to individuals electing to tag and release the billfish they catch (the Program is advertised by a newsletter and fishermen hear in this way and also by word of mouth from others catching billfish). Each Billfish Tagging Report Card is issued with an individual billfish tag and is imprinted with the number matching the accompanying tag. The Billfish Tagging Report Card is the primary mechanism by which these cooperating anglers and commercial fishers return the tag and release information concerning the billfish they have tagged. Individuals cooperating in the Program do so on a strictly voluntary basis.

Tagging supplies are provided to volunteer anglers. When anglers catch and release a tagged fish, they submit a brief report on the fish and the location of the tagging. The Program is conducted throughout the year to determine billfish habitat, mortality rates, migration patterns, feeding habits, and growth rates. Fishery biologists investigating the health of billfish resources throughout the Pacific utilize data from this Program. Results aid in ongoing research concerning billfish resources and are published annually in the Billfish Newsletter.

II. Method of Collection

Information is submitted by mail, via a paper form the size of a postcard.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0648-0009.

Form Number(s): NOAA 88-162.

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

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1000.

Estimated Time per Response: 5 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 83.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$0.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

Legal Authority: This program is authorized under 16 U.S.C. 760(e), Study of migratory game fish; waters; research; purpose.

IV. Request for Comments

We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department/Bureau to: (a) Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department, including whether the information will

have practical utility; (b) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the time and cost burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) Evaluate ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. We will include or summarize each comment in our request to OMB to approve this ICR. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Sheleen Dumas,

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

[FR Doc. 2020-13528 Filed 6-23-20; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; NMFS Alaska Region Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) Program

AGENCY: National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of information collection, request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. The purpose of this notice is to allow for 60 days of public comment preceding submission of the collection to OMB.

DATES: To ensure consideration, comments regarding this proposed information collection must be received on or before August 24, 2020.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments to Adrienne Thomas, NOAA PRA Officer, at Adrienne.thomas@noaa.gov. Please reference OMB Control Number 0648-0445 in the subject line of your comments. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or specific questions related to collection activities should be directed to Gabrielle Aberle, 907-586-7228.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS), Alaska Regional Office, is requesting extension of a currently approved information collection for the NMFS Alaska Region Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) Program. There are no proposed changes to this information collection.

NMFS requires the owners and operators of selected vessels participating in federally managed groundfish and crab fisheries off Alaska to obtain, install, and maintain an operational, NMFS-approved Vessel Monitoring System (VMS). VMS units automatically transmit the location of a vessel several times per hour using a Global Positioning System satellite. The VMS unit is passive and automatic, requiring no reporting effort by the vessel operator. A communications service provider receives the transmission and relays it to NMFS Office for Law Enforcement (OLE).

Tracking vessel location using VMS is required to monitor compliance with area-specific catch allocations, to monitor compliance with requirements to redeploy or remove fishing gear from commercial fishing grounds, and to monitor compliance with complicated time and area closures in the Gulf of Alaska (GOA) and Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI) designed to protect Steller sea lion or essential fish habitat. The VMS requirements are found at 50 CFR parts 679 and 680.

VMS is an essential component of monitoring and management for complicated, geographically widespread fishing closures. Given the large size and remoteness of the area in which Alaska fisheries occur, and the limited enforcement infrastructure available, determining a vessel's location depends crucially on VMS reports. When a VMS track is examined, information can be

inferred about whether a vessel is actively fishing, the type of gear being used, and the fisheries that are open. NMFS uses information from VMS to identify where vessels are operating, to organize patrols so as to increase the number of fishing vessels visually examined, or to focus examination of vessels of greatest concern, and as evidence in prosecutions.

II. Method of Collection

Automatic GPS position reporting starts after VMS transceiver installation and power activation on board the vessel. The unit is pre-configured and tested for NMFS VMS operations. The VMS unit is passive and automatic, requiring no reporting effort by the vessel operator.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0648-0445.

Form Number(s): None.

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

Affected Public: Individuals or households; Business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 550.

Estimated Time per Response: VMS installation, maintenance, and troubleshooting, 12 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 2,476 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$812,668.

Respondent's Obligation: Required to Obtain or Retain Benefits.

Legal Authority: 16 U.S.C.1801 *et seq.*; 16 U.S.C. 773-773k.

IV. Request for Comments

We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department/Bureau to: (a) Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the time and cost burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) Evaluate ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. We will include or summarize each comment in our request to OMB to approve this ICR. Before including your address, phone number,

email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Sheleen Dumas,

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

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COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

RIN 3038-0023; 3038-0072

Adoption of Revised Registration Form 8-R

AGENCY: Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commodity Futures Trading Commission (the “Commission” or “CFTC”) is revising its Form 8-R, the application form that individuals must use to register with the Commission as an associated person of a registrant, floor broker, or floor trader, or to be listed as a principal of a registrant (collectively, “applicants”). These revisions, which are essentially technical and non-substantive in nature, have been adopted to assist the National Futures Association (“NFA”) in the performance of the registration functions authorized by the Commission, and in the implementation and operation of NFA’s program to register and regulate directly the associated persons sponsored by members of NFA.

DATES: The new, revised version of Form 8-R shall come into effect (and the prior version shall cease to be in effect) when the NFA makes the new, revised version of the Form 8-R available on the NFA website for use by individual applicants.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Joshua Sterling, Director, (202) 418-6700, jsterling@cftc.gov; Amanda Olear, Deputy Director, (202) 418-5283, aolear@cftc.gov; or Christopher Cummings, Special Counsel, (202) 418-5445, ccummings@cftc.gov, Division of Swap Dealer and Intermediary Oversight, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, 1155 21st Street NW, Washington, DC 20581.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Form 8-R requests information about the applicant that can be used to assess the applicant’s fitness to engage in business as a derivatives professional. Form 8-R is a Commission form administered and used by NFA. Individuals acting in certain capacities in the markets regulated by the Commission must file a completed Form 8-R with NFA.¹ These applicants include: associated persons of futures commission merchants, retail foreign exchange dealers, introducing brokers, commodity trading advisors, commodity pool operators, and leverage transaction merchants; floor brokers; and floor traders.² Additionally, any individual acting in the capacity as principal of a futures commission merchant, retail foreign exchange dealer, introducing broker, commodity trading advisor, commodity pool operator, swap dealer, major swap participant, floor trader or leverage transaction merchant also must file a completed Form 8-R.³ Lastly, individuals that enter orders for floor trader firms must file the Form 8-R as well.⁴ Individual applicants have been required to use Form 8-R since 1977.⁵

NFA is currently the only registered futures association authorized by the Commission in accordance with Section 17 of the Commodity Exchange Act (“Act”).⁶ Pursuant to Section 17(o) of the Act,⁷ Regulation 3.2,⁸ and a series of orders, the Commission delegated to NFA certain registration functions including, among other things, the processing of all Form 8-R filings.⁹

¹ 17 CFR 3.10(a)(2), 3.11(a), and 3.12(c).

² 17 CFR 3.11(a); 3.12(c).

³ 17 CFR 3.1(a); 3.10(a)(2); 3.11(a)(1). While “principal” is not technically a registration class and principals do not apply for registration, for purposes of this Notice, the Form 8-R filings by principals will be referred to with the other Form 8-R filings as “registration applications.”

⁴ 17 CFR 3.11(a)(1).

⁵ Revision of Registration Forms and Amendment of Related Rules, 42 FR 23988 (May 11, 1977) (Form 8-R replaced Forms 2-R, 4-R and 94).

⁶ U.S.C. 21 (2012).

⁷ U.S.C. 21(o) (2012).

⁸ 17 CFR 3.2.

⁹ See, e.g., Introducing Brokers and Associated Persons of Introducing Brokers; Authorization of National Futures Association to Perform Commission Registration Functions, 48 FR 35158 (Aug. 3, 1983); Performance of Registration Functions by National Futures Association, 49 FR 39593 (Oct. 9, 1984) (futures commission merchants, commodity pool operators, commodity trading advisors, and associated persons thereof); Performance of Registration Functions by National Futures Association; Delegation of Authority, 51 FR 34490 (Sept. 29, 1986) (floor brokers); Performance of Registration Functions by National Futures Association with Respect to Floor Traders and Floor Brokers, 58 FR 19657 (Apr. 15, 1993); and Performance of Registration Functions by National