

February 19, 2008.

David M. Spooner,

*Assistant Secretary for Import
Administration.*

[FR Doc. E8-3493 Filed 2-22-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Highly Migratory Species Vessel Logbooks and Cost- Earnings Data Reports

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
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 April 25, 2008.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments
to Diana Hynek, Departmental
Paperwork Clearance Officer,
Department of Commerce, Room 6625,
14th and Constitution Avenue, NW.,
Washington, DC 20230 (or via the
Internet at dHynek@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Requests for additional information or
copies of the information collection
instrument and instructions should be
directed to Joseph Desfosse, (301) 713-
2347 or Joseph.Desfosse@noaa.gov or
Margo Schulze-Haugen, (301) 713-2347
or Margo.Schulze-Haugen@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

Under the provisions of the
Magnuson-Stevens Fishery
Conservation and Management Act (16
U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*), the National
Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration's National Marine
Fisheries Service (NMFS) is responsible
for management of the nation's marine
fisheries. In addition, NMFS must
comply with the United States'
obligations under the Atlantic Tunas
Convention Act of 1975 (16 U.S.C. 971
et seq.), which implements the
International Commission for the
Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)
recommendations. NMFS collects
information via vessel logbooks to

monitor the U.S. catch of Atlantic
swordfish, sharks, marlins, and tunas in
relation to the quotas, thereby ensuring
that the United States complies with its
domestic and international obligations.
The information supplied through
vessel logbooks also provides the catch
and effort data necessary to assess the
status of highly migratory species and to
evaluate bycatch in each fishery.
International stock assessments for
tunas, swordfish, marlins, and some
species of sharks are conducted and
presented to the ICCAT periodically and
provide, in part, the basis for ICCAT
management recommendations which
become binding on member nations.
The domestic stock assessments for
most species of sharks are used as the
basis of managing these species.
Supplementary information on fishing
costs and earnings has been collected
via this vessel logbook program. This
economic information enables NMFS to
assess the economic impacts of
regulatory programs on small businesses
and fishing communities, consistent
with the National Environmental Policy
Act (NEPA), Executive Order 12866, the
Regulatory Flexibility Act, and other
domestic laws.

II. Method of Collection

Logbooks are being completed and
submitted in paper form.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0648-0371.

Form Number: NOAA Form 88-191.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Business or other for-
profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents:
7,451.

Estimated Time per Response: 10
minutes for cost/earnings summaries
attached to logbook reports; 30 minutes
for annual expenditure forms; 12
minutes for logbook catch reports; and
2 minutes for negative logbook catch
reports.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden
Hours:* 29,461.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to
Public:* \$0 (no capital or recordkeeping/
reporting expenditures required).

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.

Dated: February 20, 2008.

Gwellnar Banks,

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

[FR Doc. E8-3507 Filed 2-22-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Fishery Capacity Reduction Program Buyback Requests

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
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 April 25, 2008.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments
to Diana Hynek, Departmental
Paperwork Clearance Officer,
Department of Commerce, Room 6625,
14th and Constitution Avenue, NW.,
Washington, DC 20230 (or via the
Internet at dHynek@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Requests for additional information or
copies of the information collection
instrument and instructions should be
directed to Leo Erwin, (301) 713-2390,
or via the Internet at
Leo.Erwin@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

NOAA has established a program to
reduce excess fishing capacity by paying
fishermen to (1) surrender their fishing
permits or (2) both surrender their
permits and either scrap their vessels or
restrict vessel titles to prevent fishing.

These fishing capacity reduction programs, or buybacks, can be funded by a Federal loan to the industry or by direct Federal or other funding. These buybacks are conducted pursuant to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, and the Magnuson-Stevens Reauthorization Act (Pub. L. 109–479). The regulations implementing the buybacks are at 50 CFR part 600.

Depending upon the type of buyback involved, the program can entail the submission of buyback requests by industry, the submission of bids, referenda of fishery participants, and reporting of the collection of fees to repay a Federal loan. For buybacks involving State-managed fisheries, the State may need to develop the buyback plan and comply with other information requirements. The information collected by NMFS is required to request a buyback, submit supporting data for requested buybacks, to submit bids, and to conduct referenda of fishery participants.

The recordkeeping and reporting requirements at 50 CFR parts 600.1013 through 600.1017 form the basis for this collection of information on fee payment and collection. NMFS requests information from participating buyback participants. This information, upon receipt, tracks the repayment of the Federal loans that are issued as part of the buybacks, and ensures accurate management and monitoring of the loans during the repayment term.

II. Method of Collection

Paper reports or electronic reports are required from buyback participants. Methods of submittal include mailing of paper forms, submission of forms via the Internet, and/or facsimile transmission of paper forms.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0648–0376.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations; individuals or households; and State, Local, or Tribal government.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,200.

Estimated Time per Response: 6,634 hours for an implementation plan; 4 hours for a referenda vote; 4 hours for an invitation to bid; 10 minutes to submit a fish ticket; 2 hours for a monthly buyer fee collection report; 4 hours for an annual buyer fee collection report; potentially 270 hours for a State approval of plans and amendments to State fishery management plans; and 1 hour for advising of any holder or owner

claims that conflict with accepted bidders' representations about reduction permit ownership or reduction vessel ownership.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 46,300.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$2,000.

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.

Dated: February 20, 2008.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. E8–3508 Filed 2–22–08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Commercial Operator's Annual Report (COAR)

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 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 April 25, 2008.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer,

Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dHynek@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Patsy A. Bearden, (907) 586–7008 or patsy.bearden@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act authorizes the North Pacific Fishery Management Council to prepare and amend fishery management plans for any fishery in waters under its jurisdiction. Fishing for groundfish by U.S. vessels in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) in waters off the coast of Alaska is managed by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) according to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska and the Fishery Management Plan for the Groundfish Fishery of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area (FMPs). Regulations implementing the FMPs are found at 50 CFR part 679.

The owners of shoreside processors and stationary floating processors are required to annually submit the COAR to the State of Alaska, Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), under Alaska Administrative Code (AAC), chapter 5 AAC 39.130. Owners of catcher/processors and motherships operating in the EEZ off Alaska are required to annually submit the COAR to ADF&G under 50 CFR part 679.5(p).

The COAR provides information on exvessel and first wholesale values for statewide fish and shellfish products. Containing information from shoreside processors, stationary floating processors, motherships, and catcher/processors, this data collection yields equivalent annual product value information for all respective processing sectors and provides a consistent time series according to which groundfish resources may be managed more efficiently.

II. Method of Collection

Paper reports are required from participants; these reports are transmitted by U.S. mail.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0648–0428.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.