

Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104–106) and the Federal Information Security Management Act of 2002 (FISMA) (Pub. L. 107–347), the Secretary of Commerce is authorized to approve Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS). Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD) 12, entitled “Policy for a Common Identification Standard for Federal Employees and Contractors,” dated August 27, 2004, directed the Secretary of Commerce to promulgate, by February 27, 2005, “\* \* \* a Federal standard for secure and reliable forms of identification (the ‘Standard’) \* \* \*,” and further directed that the Secretary of Commerce “shall periodically review the Standard and update the Standard as appropriate in consultation with the affected agencies.”

*E.O. 12866:* This notice has been determined to be not significant for purposes of E.O. 12866.

Dated: July 2, 2012.

**Willie E. May,**

*Associate Director for Laboratory Programs.*

[FR Doc. 2012–16725 Filed 7–6–12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–13–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Application for Appointment in the NOAA Commissioned Officer Corps

**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 September 7, 2012.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Jennifer Jessup, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6616, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at [Jjessup@doc.gov](mailto:Jjessup@doc.gov)).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Eric Johnson, (301) 713–7727 or [NOAACorps.recruiting@noaa.gov](mailto:NOAACorps.recruiting@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

## I. Abstract

This request is for extension of a currently approved information collection. The NOAA Commissioned Corps is the uniformed component of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), a bureau of the Department of Commerce. Officers serve under Senate-confirmed appointments and Presidential commissions (33 U.S.C. chapter 17, subchapter 1, sections 853 and 854). The NOAA Corps provides a cadre of professionals trained in engineering, earth sciences, oceanography, meteorology, fisheries science, and other related disciplines, who are dedicated to the service of their country and optimization of NOAA’s missions to ensure the economic and physical well-being of the Nation. NOAA Corps officers serve in assignments throughout NOAA, as well as in each of NOAA’s Line Offices (National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Ocean Service, National Weather Service, Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, and Office of Program, Planning, and Integration).

Persons wishing to be considered for a NOAA Corps Commission must submit a complete application package, including NOAA Form 56–42, at least three letters of recommendation, and official transcripts. A personal interview must also be conducted. Eligibility requirements include a bachelor’s degree with at least 48 credit hours of science, engineering, or other disciplines related to NOAA’s missions (including either calculus or physics), excellent health, normal color vision with uncorrected visual acuity no worse than 20/400 in each eye (correctable to 20/20), and ability to complete 20 years of active duty commissioned service prior to their 62nd birthday.

## II. Method of Collection

Applicants must utilize the E-recruit electronic application process (<https://cpc.oma.noaa.gov/erecruit/login.jsp>) and then submit paper forms via mail. An in-person interview is also required.

## III. Data

*OMB Control Number:* 0648–0047.

*Form Number:* NOAA 56–42, 56–42A.

*Type of Review:* Regular submission (extension of a currently approved collection).

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 1,800.

*Estimated Time per Response:* written applications, 2 hours; interviews, 5 hours; references, 15 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 2,475.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* \$21,750 in recordkeeping/reporting and travel costs.

## 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: July 2, 2012.

**Gwellnar Banks,**

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

[FR Doc. 2012–16608 Filed 7–6–12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–12–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648–XC084**

#### Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Notice of Public Workshop for Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Crab Economic Data Reports

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public workshop.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS and the Alaska Fishery Science Center (AFSC) will hold a public workshop in Seattle, WA, to review draft revisions to the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI) Crab Economic Data Reports (EDR) currently required from catcher vessels, catcher/processors, shoreside processors, and stationary floating crab processors participating in the BSAI Crab Rationalization Program.

**DATES:** The workshop will be held on Friday, July 20, 2012, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time.

**ADDRESSES:** The workshop will be held in the Nordby Conference Room, Fisherman's Terminal, 3919 18th Avenue West, Seattle, WA 98119-1679.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Brian Garber-Yonts, AFSC, (206) 526-6301 or Karen Palmigiano, NMFS Alaska Region, at 907-586-7240.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The workshop is being held to review preliminary draft EDR forms for catcher vessels, catcher/processors, shoreside crab processors, and stationary floating crab processors participating in the Crab Rationalization Program fisheries, as well as Registered Crab Receivers that participate in the fisheries as non-processing crab buyers. The preliminary draft EDR forms are intended to implement changes to the crab EDR requirements recommended by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) on February 4, 2012.

The Council's preferred alternative for crab EDR revisions eliminates redundant data reporting by removing requirements to report data that is collected through other sources. It also eliminates data inaccuracies in order to reduce the cost of collecting the data, and clarifies EDR form instructions to reduce the burden on those required to complete the forms. More information on the Council recommendation and a description of the preferred alternative, Modified Alternative 3, can be accessed at the link below.

The workshop is intended to gather input from participants on the preliminary draft EDR forms. Feedback received during the workshop will also be used by NMFS to develop the proposed rule to implement the Council's preferred alternative. Other topics to be addressed at the workshop include general planning for administration of the EDR process by NMFS' Data Collection Agent (Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission [PSMFC]), future potential for online reporting, and the development of the draft proposed rule implementing the Council's preferred alternative to revise the EDR requirements.

Documents describing the draft revised EDR reporting instructions and forms for catcher vessels, catcher/processors, shoreside crab processors, and stationary floating crab processors can be downloaded at <http://www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/sustainablefisheries/crab/rat/edr/>. The Council motion and description of the preferred alternative to revise crab EDR requirements, can be downloaded at [http://www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/npfmc/PDFdocuments/catch\\_shares/Crab/CrabEDR\\_Motion212.pdf](http://www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/npfmc/PDFdocuments/catch_shares/Crab/CrabEDR_Motion212.pdf), and the

Public Review Draft Regulatory Impact Review/Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis for Modification of Economic Data Reports can be downloaded at [http://www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/npfmc/PDFdocuments/catch\\_shares/Crab/CrabEDR212.pdf](http://www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/npfmc/PDFdocuments/catch_shares/Crab/CrabEDR212.pdf).

#### Special Accommodations

These workshops are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for special accommodations should be directed to Brian Garber-Yonts (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**) at least 5 working days before the workshop date.

Dated: July 2, 2012.

**Emily Menashes,**

*Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 2012-16717 Filed 7-6-12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No. PTO-P-2012-0025]

#### Extension of the Full First Action Interview Pilot Program and Request for Comments

**AGENCY:** United States Patent and Trademark Office, Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Patent and Trademark Office (Office) is extending the First Action Interview (FAI) Pilot Program while completing a comprehensive review of the program, deciding what, if any, adjustments should be made to the program, and whether the program should be extended further or made permanent. The program is intended to expedite disposition of an application by enhancing communication between an applicant and an examiner at the beginning of the examination process. Specifically, the program allows an applicant to conduct an interview with an examiner prior to the issuance of an Office action, but after receiving the examiner's search results and initially identified issues. During its review, the Office will consider feedback from both internal and external stakeholders. Accordingly, in addition to announcing the extension of the program, the Office is requesting comments on the program.

**DATES:** *Comment Deadline Date:* Written comments must be received on or before August 8, 2012. No public hearing will be held.

*Extension Date:* The Office has extended the FAI Pilot Program until

August 16, 2012. Notice of this extension was placed on the USPTO's Web site just after expiration of the prior extension.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be sent by electronic mail message over the Internet addressed to:

[first.action.interview@uspto.gov](mailto:first.action.interview@uspto.gov).

Comments may also be submitted by postal mail addressed to: United States Patent and Trademark Office, Mail Stop Comments—Patents, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, marked to the attention of Joseph F. Weiss, Jr. Although comments may be submitted by postal mail, the Office prefers to receive comments by electronic mail message over the Internet in order to facilitate posting on the Office's Internet Web site.

The comments will be available for public inspection at the Office of the Commissioner for Patents, located at Madison Building East, Tenth Floor, 600 Dulany Street, Alexandria, Virginia. Comments also will be available for viewing via the Office's Internet Web site (<http://www.uspto.gov>). Because comments will be made available for public inspection, information that is not desired to be made public, such as an address or phone number should not be included in the comments.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Joseph F. Weiss, Jr., Legal Advisor (telephone (571) 272-7759; email [joseph.weiss@uspto.gov](mailto:joseph.weiss@uspto.gov)), of the Office of the Deputy Commissioner for Patent Examination Policy. Alternatively, mail may be addressed to Mr. Weiss at Commissioner for Patents, Attn.: FFAIPP, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Background:* The Office published a notice implementing the Full FAI Pilot Program in 2011, which expanded the eligibility criteria to all utility applications of the previous Enhanced FAI Pilot Program. See *Full First Action Interview Pilot Program*, 1367 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 42 (June 7, 2011). See also *Enhanced First Action Interview Pilot Program*, 1347 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 173 (October 20, 2009). Under the program, participants are permitted to conduct an interview with the examiner after reviewing a Pre-Interview Communication providing the results of a prior art search conducted by the examiner.

Since the date the pilot was expanded, the Office has received over 2,100 requests to participate in the program. Of the applications that have been taken up for examination since the expansion, the Office has allowed over 35% on first action. Participants in the