

Participants in certain fisheries may also be required to notify NOAA before fishing trips for the purpose of observer placement and to make other reports on fishing activities.

II. Method of Collection

Initial permit applications are made by form. After the initial permit issuance, permit renewal has been made as simple as possible for both the public and the issuing office. The information obtained from current permits is used to prepare a computer-generated pre-printed renewal permit which is sent to the permit holder for updating. If there are no changes to the information required on the permit, renewal requires nothing more than a signature from the applicant.

Amendments to the multispecies and sea scallop FMPs have adopted automated reporting for all vessels fishing under limited access categories. The Vessel Tracking System (VTS) is required for all multispecies vessels issued an Individual DAS or Combination Vessel permit, scallop vessels issued a full-time or part-time limited access scallop permit, scallop vessels fishing under the small dredge program, or vessels issued a limited access multispecies or scallop permit whose owners voluntarily elect to use the VTS. All remaining limited access multispecies and scallop permit holders are required to report via a call-in system. This reporting is required in order to monitor: (1) Usage of days-at-sea allocations, (2) Compliance with vessel layover requirements, and (3) Compliance with "days out of the fishery" requirements.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0202.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular Submission.

Affected Public: Small businesses or other for-profit are primarily affected.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 2,500 (gillnet) + 47,678 (all others) = 50,178 total respondents.

Estimated Time Per Response: Preprinted renewals require an estimated 15 minutes to complete, while an initial vessel permit application is estimated at 0.5 hours per response. In order to obtain an Atlantic Bluefish permit an applicant would need to complete a separate permit application, at an estimated response time of 5 minutes per response. Dealer permits take five minutes to complete. The operator permit application is estimated to take an average of 1 hour due to the requirement to submit color photographs.

For each multispecies trip (estimated at 1/month/vessel) or block of time out of the fishery (estimated at four blocks per vessel), vessels must notify NMFS of the start date and end date through the call-in system. The notifications associated with this amount to 32 notifications/vessel, at an estimated 2 minutes per response. Occasional sea scallop vessels must notify NMFS 30 times per year at an estimated 2 minutes per response. The burden of the vessel monitoring is estimated at 2 minutes for submission of proof of VTS installation. The burden of the notification requirement for vessels which must enter Closed Area II is estimated at 2 minutes each. Requests for observer coverage are estimated at 2 minutes each. Operators of tuna purse seine vessels may request an inspection 24 hours before the start of a trip or off-loading of tuna at an estimated 5 minutes per response. In addition, 6 hour pre-notification of tuna off-loading by tuna "Buy-Boat" operators is estimated at 5 minutes per response.

Vessels seeking to participate in the small mesh, mid-water trawl, or cultivator shoal exemption programs will be required to notify NMFS as to the beginning and end of the desired interval within the exemption period. These notifications are estimated at 2 minutes per notification. Requests for Atlantic Bluefin Tuna exemption permits require approximately 1 hour per response. Completion of catch reports under the Atlantic Bluefin Tuna exemption permit are estimated to require approximately 1.9 hours per respondent.

Applicants are expected to spend approximately 3 hours gathering and presenting the documentation needed for a limited access lobster or multispecies Hook Gear appeals. Applicants are expected to spend approximately one half hour gathering and presenting the documentation needed for either moratorium scup or black sea bass appeals.

For participants of the gillnet tag program it is estimated to take 2 minutes per initial request for tags. It will take an estimated 1-3 minutes to attach tags and an estimated 2 minutes per respondent to report lost tags, if replacement tags aren't needed, and an estimated 5 minutes per respondent to report lost tags and order replacement tags. It will take an estimated 2 minutes for respondents to call out of the gillnet fishery for the 120 days required. For participants of the cod trip limit exemption program fishing south of 42°00' N. Latitude, it is estimated to take approximately 2 minutes to request the certificate of enrollment. For

respondents that exceed their possession limit North of 42°00' N. Latitude it will take an estimated 3 minutes to report hail weight through the call-in.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 1,998.9 (gillnet) + 31,203 (all others) = 33,201.9.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$28,000 (for gillnet tags) + \$2,546,560 = \$2,574,560.

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: May 21, 1997.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.

(FR Doc. 97-14004 Filed 5-28-97; 8:45 am)

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 052197A]

Formation of National Marine Fisheries Service Advisory Panels for National Academy of Sciences Study on Individual Fishing Quotas and Formation of National Marine Fisheries Service Advisory Panel for Ecosystem Principles

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

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that NMFS has selected members for an East coast and a West coast advisory panel for an Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) study to be conducted by the National

Academy of Sciences' National Research Council (NRC). NMFS has also selected members for its Advisory Panel on Ecosystem Principles. All three panels were formed to comply with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: IFQ Advisory Panels, contact Amy Gautam, NMFS, Office of Science and Technology. Telephone: (301)713-2328. Ecosystem Principles Advisory Panel, contact Ned Cyr, NMFS, Office of Science and Technology. Telephone: (301)713-2363.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following individuals have been selected to the East coast Advisory Panel on IFQs: Richard B. Allen, RI; Ted Ames, ME; Lee Anderson, University of Delaware, DE; Harriet A. Didrikson, MA; Walter M. Gordon, Mid-Atlantic Foods, Inc., MD; Tom R. Hill, Atlantic and Pacific Marine Consultants, MA; D. Doug Hopkins, Environmental Defense Fund, NY; Pete Jensen, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, MD; Jim Kendall, New Bedford Seafood Coalition, MA; Miles Mackaness, FL; Howard Nickerson, Offshore Mariner's Association, MA; Kenneth J. Roberts, Louisiana State University, LA; David Wallace, MD; Roy O. Williams, Florida Marine Fisheries Commission, FL; R.F. Zales, II, FL. The following individuals have been selected to the West coast Advisory Panel on IFQs: Linda Behnken, North Pacific Fishery Management Council, AK; Francis Christy, Washington, DC; James Cook, West Pacific Fisheries Management Council, HI; David Fraser, AK; Rodney M. Fujita, Environmental Defense Fund, CA; Ralph G. Hoard, Icicle Seafoods, WA; Jan Jacobs, American Seafoods Company, WA; Linda Kozak, Kodiak Vessel Owners Association, AK; L. John Iani, UniSea Inc, WA; Mark S. Lundsten, WA; Scott C. Matulich, Washington State University, WA; Ben Muse, Alaska Fisheries Entry Commission, AK; C. Jim Potts, CA; Paul K. Seaton, Alaska Marine Conservation Council, AK; Elizabeth A. Stewart, Aleutians East Borough, AK. The following individuals have been selected to the Advisory Panel on Ecosystem Principles: Pete Aparicio, Texas Shrimpers Association/Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; Chris Blackburn, Alaska Groundfish Data Bank; George Boehlert, NMFS-Pacific Fisheries Environment Group; Felicia Coleman, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council/ Florida State University; Philip Conkling, The Island

Institute; Robert Costanza, University of Maryland; Paul Dayton, University of California, San Diego—Scripps Institution of Oceanography; Dave Fluharty, North Pacific Fishery Management Council/ University of Washington; Robert Francis, University of Washington; Doyle Hanan, California Department of Fish and Game; Ken Hinman, National Coalition for Marine Conservation; Ed Houde, University of Maryland; James Kitchell, University of Wisconsin; Rich Langton, Maine Department of Marine Resources; Jane Lubchenco, Oregon State University; Marc Mangel, University of California at Santa Cruz; Russell Nelson, Florida Marine Fisheries Commission/ Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic Fishery Management Councils; Victoria O'Connell, Alaska Department of Fish and Game; Michael Orbach, Duke University; Michael Sissenwine, NMFS—Northeast Fisheries Science Center.

Dated: May 21, 1997.

Rolland A. Schmitt,

*Assistant Administrator for Fisheries,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 97-13956 Filed 5-28-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 052097D]

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) will convene a public meeting of the Mackerel Advisory Panel (AP).

DATES: The meeting will be held beginning at 1:00 p.m. on June 10, 1997 and will conclude at 5:00 p.m. on June 11, 1997.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Radisson Bay Harbor Inn, 7700 Courtney Campbell Causeway, Tampa, FL; 813-281-8900.

Council address: Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 3018 U.S. Highway 301 North, Suite 1000, Tampa, FL 33619.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Richard Leard, Senior Fishery Biologist; telephone: 813-228-2815.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Mackerel AP will review options for a limited licensing system, seasonal and areal subdivisions of total allowable catch, reporting requirements, size limits, fishing seasons, and other potential management alternatives for Gulf group king mackerel.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Anne Alford at the Council (see **ADDRESSES**) by June 3, 1997.

Dated: May 22, 1997.

Richard W. Surdi,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 97-13955 Filed 5-28-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 051997A]

Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Pacific Fishery Management Council's Groundfish Management Team will hold a public meeting.

DATES: The meeting will be held on June 2, 1997, beginning at 1:00 p.m. and may go into the evening until business for the day is completed. The meeting will reconvene from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on June 3, June 4, and June 5, 1997.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the NMFS Alaska Fisheries Science Center Facility, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Room 2039, Building 4, Seattle, WA; telephone: (206) 526-6150.

Council address: Pacific Fishery Management Council, 2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224, Portland, OR 97201.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jim Glock, Groundfish Fishery Management Coordinator; telephone: (503) 326-6352.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The first day of the meeting will be dedicated to a workshop on the use of F35% as the proxy for maximum sustainable yield. Agenda items scheduled also include inseason management projections, an update on at-sea whiting fisheries, fishery management plan amendments