

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**Submission for OMB Review;
Comment Request**

The Department of Commerce has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Agency: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Title: Groundfish Tagging Program.

Form Number(s): None.

OMB Approval Number: 0648-0276.

Type of Request: Regular submission.

Burden Hours: 88.

Number of Respondents: 661.

Average Hours Per Response: Forms for tagged fish, 5 minutes; electronic archival tag return, 30 minutes.

Needs and Uses: The Groundfish Tagging Program provides scientists with information necessary for effective conservation, management, and scientific understanding of the groundfish fishery off Alaska and the Pacific Northwest. The program area includes the Pacific Ocean off Alaska (the Gulf of Alaska, the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area, the Alexander Archipelago of Southeast Alaska), California, Oregon, and Washington. The distribution, movement rates and direction, growth, recruitment and mortality estimated from tag recoveries are important parameters used in groundfish population assessment models and in developing allocation systems.

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

Frequency: On occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

OMB Desk Officer: David Rostker, (202) 395-3897.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, (202) 482-0266, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dHynek@doc.gov).

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to David Rostker, OMB Desk Officer, FAX number (202) 395-7285, or David_Rostker@omb.eop.gov.

Dated: June 1, 2006.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. E6-8752 Filed 6-5-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**Submission for OMB Review;
Comment Request**

The Department of Commerce has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Agency: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Title: Alaska Cooperatives in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands.

Form Number(s): None.

OMB Approval Number: 0648-0401.

Type of Request: Regular submission.

Burden Hours: 320.

Number of Respondents: 11.

Average Hours Per Response:

Cooperative preliminary report, 20 hours; cooperative final report, 8 hours; inshore cooperative catcher vessel pollock catch report, 5 minutes; and appointment of agent for service of process, 5 minutes.

Needs and Uses: The cooperative management structure, originally implemented by the American Fisheries Act (AFA), has shifted more of the monitoring and enforcement burden to the cooperatives and their members; and has allowed NMFS to manage the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands pollock fishery more precisely. With the flexibility provided by cooperatives, vessels are able to individually (and in aggregate) come very close to harvesting exactly the amount of pollock they were allocated. The allocations of pollock and other species have allowed the AFA fleet the ability to spread their effort in time and space to accommodate Steller Sea Lion conservation measures. This collection describes some of the recordkeeping and reporting requirements under the AFA Program.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Frequency: Annually and on occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

OMB Desk Officer: David Rostker, (202) 395-3897.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, (202) 482-0266, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and

Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dHynek@doc.gov).

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to David Rostker, OMB Desk Officer, FAX number (202) 395-7285, or David_Rostker@omb.eop.gov.

Dated: June 1, 2006.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. E6-8753 Filed 6-5-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**Submission for OMB Review;
Comment Request**

The Department of Commerce has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Agency: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).
Title: National Estuaries Restoration Inventory.

Form Number(s): None.

OMB Approval Number: 0648-0479.

Type of Request: Regular submission.

Burden Hours: 787.

Number of Respondents: 234.

Average Hours Per Response: New project reports, 4 hours; and project updates, 2 hours.

Needs and Uses: The collection of estuary habitat restoration project information (e.g., location, habitat type, goals, status, monitoring information) will be undertaken in order to populate a restoration project database mandated by the Estuary Restoration Act of 2000. The database is intended to provide information to improve restoration methods, provide the basis for required reports to Congress, and track estuary habitat acreage restored. Estuary habitat restoration project information will be submitted by habitat restoration project managers through an interactive Web site, and will be accessible to the public via Internet for data queries and project reports.

Affected Public: Not-for-profit institutions; business or other for-profit organizations; State, Local or Tribal Government; Federal Government.

Frequency: Annually and on occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

OMB Desk Officer: David Rostker, (202) 395-3897.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by

calling or writing Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, (202) 482-0266, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dHynek@doc.gov).

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to David Rostker, OMB Desk Officer, FAX number (202) 395-7285, or David_Rostker@omb.eop.gov.

Dated: June 1, 2006.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. E6-8759 Filed 6-5-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of Economic Analysis

Proposal To collect Information on the Annual Survey of Foreign Direct Investment in the United States

ACTION: Proposed collection comment request.

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 authorized by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before 5 p.m., August 7, 2006.

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 e-mail dHynek@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Obie G. Whitchard, Chief, International Investment Division, (BE-50), Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20230; phone (202) 606-9890 (or e-mail obie.whitchard@bea.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Annual Survey of Foreign Direct Investment in the United States (Form BE-15) obtains sample data on the financial structure and operations of nonbank U.S. affiliates of foreign

investors. The data are needed to provide reliable, useful, and timely measures of foreign direct investment in the United States, assess its impact on the U.S. economy, and based upon this assessment, make informed policy decisions regarding foreign direct investment in the United States. The data are used to derive annual estimates of the operations of U.S. affiliates of foreign investors, including their balance sheets; income statements; property, plant, and equipment; external financing; employment and employee compensation; merchandise trade; sales of goods and services; taxes; and research and development activity. In addition, data covering employment and property, plant, and equipment are collected by state. The data are also used to update similar data for the universe of U.S. affiliates collected once every five years on the BE-12 benchmark survey.

BEA proposes the following changes to the survey, beginning with the survey for 2006: (1) Add a question to the BE-15 EZ, short form, and long form to identify the accounting principles used to compile and report the survey data. (2) Modify the question on the BE-15 long form that collects information on the major industrial activity of the U.S. affiliate to include all of the affiliate's major activities; currently, information on only one major activity is collected. (3) Include a check box on the BE-15 Supplement C to determine if a U.S. affiliate is claiming an exemption based on a merger or on a consolidation; currently, a single check box covers both mergers and consolidations. (4) Clarify certain instructions, add illustrative diagrams, and modify formatting in an effort to make the survey forms more clear and easier to complete. Taken together, these changes will not affect the overall respondent burden for the survey.

II. Method of Collection

The BE-15 annual survey is sent to potential respondents at the end of March each year. A completed report covering a reporting company's fiscal year ending during the previous calendar year is due by May 31. Reports must be filed by every nonbank U.S. business enterprise that is owned 10 percent or more by a foreign investor and that has total assets, sales, or net income (or loss) of over \$30 million. Potential respondents are those nonbank U.S. business enterprises that reported in the 2002 benchmark survey of foreign direct investment in the United States, along with nonbank businesses that subsequently entered the direct investment universe. The BE-15 is a

sample survey, as described; universe estimates are developed from the reported sample data.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0608-0034.

Form Number: BE-15.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 4,950.

Estimated Time per Response: 21.8 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 107,900 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Cost: \$4,316,000 (based on an estimated reporting burden of 107,900 hours and an estimated hourly cost of \$40).

IV. Requests for Comments

Comments are invited on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and costs) 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: June 1, 2006.

Madeleine Clayton,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 06-5138 Filed 6-5-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-06-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Foreign-Trade Zones Board

Scope Clarification Request Foreign-Trade Subzone 234B (Loading Equipment and Parts and Components Thereof), LeTourneau, Inc., Longview, Texas

An request for clarification of scope has been submitted to the Foreign-Trade Zones Board (the Board) by LeTourneau, Inc., operator of Foreign-Trade Subzone 234B. A grant of authority for LeTourneau's subzone was