

resulted in concrete and measureable outcomes?

29. Did the government provide assistance to other governments in combating trafficking in persons through trainings or other assistance programs?

30. Does the government have effective policies or laws regulating foreign labor recruitment, including the activities of recruitment agencies and individual recruiters, both licensed and unlicensed? What efforts did the government make to punish labor recruiters or brokers involved in the recruitment of workers through knowingly fraudulent offers of employment (including misrepresenting wages, working conditions, location, or nature of the job), charging workers of excessive fees for migration or job placement, retention of identity documents with an aim to control job seekers, or recruitment of workers in hazardous or unsafe work? What steps did the government take to minimize the trafficking risks faced by migrant workers departing from or arriving in the country and to raise awareness among potential labor migrants about the risks of human trafficking, legal limits on recruitment fees, or their rights while abroad? What agreements does the government have with either sending or receiving countries of migrant labor regarding safe and responsible recruitment? Are domestic workers (both nationals of the country and foreigners) protected under existing labor laws?

31. What measures has the government taken to reduce the participation by nationals of the country in international and domestic child sex tourism? If any of the country's nationals are perpetrators of child sex tourism, do the country's child sexual abuse laws allow the prosecution of suspected sex tourists for crimes committed abroad?

32. What measures did the government take to establish the identity of local populations, including birth registration and issuance of documentation, citizenship, and nationality?

33. Did the government fund any anti-trafficking information, education, or awareness campaigns? Were these campaigns targeting potential trafficking victims and/or the demand for commercial sex or goods produced with forced labor? Does the government provide financial support to nongovernment organizations working to promote public awareness?

34. Were there government policies, regulations, and agreements relating to migration, labor, trade, and investment

that had an impact, positive or negative, on forced labor or sex trafficking or vulnerabilities to such crimes? Please describe how this has impacted anti-trafficking efforts.

35. Please provide additional information and/or recommendations to improve the government's anti-trafficking efforts.

36. Please highlight effective strategies and practices that other governments could consider adopting.

Joel F. Maybury,

Deputy Director, Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, Department of State.

[FR Doc. 2018–26617 Filed 12–7–18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710–17–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

[Docket Number MARAD–2018–0178]

Waiver Request for Aquaculture Support Operations for the 2019 Calendar Year: COLBY PERCE, RONJA CARRIER, SADIE JANE, MISS MILDRED 1

AGENCY: Maritime Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to a delegation of authority from the Secretary of Transportation, the Maritime Administrator is authorized to issue waivers allowing documented vessels with registry endorsements or foreign flag vessels to be used in operations that treat aquaculture fish or protect aquaculture fish from disease, parasitic infestation, or other threats to their health when suitable vessels of the United States are not available that could perform those services. A request for such a waiver has been received by the Maritime Administration (MARAD). This notice is being published to solicit comments intended to assist MARAD in determining whether suitable vessels of the United States are available that could perform the required services. If no suitable U.S.-flag vessels are available, the Maritime Administrator may issue a waiver in accordance with USCG regulations on Aquaculture at 46 CFR part 106. A brief description of the proposed aquaculture support service is listed in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section below.

DATES: Submit comments on or before January 9, 2019.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by DOT Docket Number

MARAD–2018–0178 by any of the following methods:

- *On-line via the Federal Electronic Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Search using “MARAD–2018–0178” and follow the instructions for submitting comments.

- *Mail/Hand-Delivery/Courier:* Docket Management Facility; U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590. Submit comments in an unbound format, no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for copying and electronic filing.

Reference Materials and Docket Information: You may view the complete application, including the aquaculture support technical service requirements, and all public comments at the DOT Docket on-line via <http://www.regulations.gov>. Search using “MARAD–2018–0178.” All comments received will be posted without change to the docket, including any personal information provided. The Docket Management Facility is open 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Bianca Carr, U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W23–453, Washington, DC 20590. Telephone 202–366–9309, Email Bianca.carr@dot.gov.

If you have questions on viewing the Docket, call Docket Operations, telephone: (800) 647–5527.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As a result of the enactment of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2010, codified at 46 U.S.C. 12102, the Secretary of Transportation has the discretionary authority to issue waivers allowing documented vessels with registry endorsements or foreign flag vessels to be used in operations that treat aquaculture fish for or protect aquaculture fish from disease, parasitic infestation, or other threats to their health when suitable vessels of the United States are not available that could perform those services. The Secretary has delegated this authority to the Maritime Administrator. Pursuant to this authority, MARAD is providing notice of the service requirements proposed by Cooke Aquaculture (Cooke) in order to make a U.S.-flag vessel availability determination. Specifics can be found in Cooke's application letter posted in the docket.

To comply with USCG Aquaculture Support regulations at 46 CFR part 106, Cooke is seeking a MARAD Aquaculture Waiver to operate the vessels, COLBY

PERCE, RONJA CARRIER, SADIE JANE, and the MISS MILDRED 1 as follows:

Intended Commercial Use of Vessel: “to use highly-specialized foreign-flag vessels referred to as a “wellboat” (or “live fish carrier”) to treat Cooke’s swimming inventory of farmed Atlantic salmon in the company’s salt-water grow-out pens off Maine’s North Atlantic Coast. This treatment prevents against parasitic infestation by sea lice that is highly destructive to the salmon’s health.”

Geographic Region: “off Maine’s North Atlantic Coast”

Requested Time Period: “2019 calendar year, from January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019”

Interested parties may submit comments providing detailed information relating to the availability of U.S.-flag vessels to perform the required aquaculture support services. If MARAD determines, in accordance with 46 U.S.C. 12102(d)(1) and MARAD’s regulations at 46 CFR part 388, that suitable U.S.-flag vessels are available to perform the required services, a waiver will not be granted. Comments should refer to the docket number of this notice and the vessel name in order for MARAD to properly consider the comments. Comments should also state the commenter’s interest in the waiver application, and address the waiver criteria set forth in 46 CFR 388.4.

Privacy Act

In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), MARAD solicits comments from the public to inform its process to determine the availability of suitable vessels. DOT posts these comments, without edit, to www.regulations.gov, as described in the system of records notice, DOT/ALL-14 FDMS, accessible through www.dot.gov/privacy. In order to facilitate comment tracking and response, we encourage commenters to provide their name, or the name of their organization; however, submission of names is completely optional. Whether or not commenters identify themselves, all timely comments will be fully considered. If you wish to provide comments containing proprietary or confidential information, please contact the agency for alternate submission instructions.

Authority: 49 CFR 1.93(w).

* * * * *

Dated: December 3, 2018.

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.

T. Mitchell Hudson, Jr.,

Secretary, Maritime Administration.

[FR Doc. 2018-26589 Filed 12-7-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-81-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Regulation Project

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Internal Revenue Service, 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. Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning taxation of gain or loss from certain nonfunctional currency transactions.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before February 8, 2019 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Laurie Brimmer, Internal Revenue Service, Room 6526, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the regulation should be directed to LaNita Van Dyke, at (202) 317-6009, at Internal Revenue Service, Room 6526, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20224, or through the internet at LaNita.VanDyke@irs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Currently, the IRS is seeking comments concerning the following information collection tools, reporting, and record-keeping requirements.

Title: Taxation of Gain or Loss from Certain Nonfunctional Currency Transactions (Section 988 Transactions).
OMB Number: 1545-1131.

Regulation: TD 8400.

Abstract: Internal Revenue Code sections 988(c)(1)(D) and (E) allow taxpayers to make elections concerning the taxation of exchange gain or loss on certain foreign currency denominated transactions. In addition, Code sections 988(a)(1)(B) and 988(d) require taxpayers to identify transactions which

generate capital gain or loss or which are hedges of other transactions. This regulation provides guidance on making the elections and complying with the identification rules.

Current Actions: There are no changes to the previously approved burden of this existing collection.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Individuals or households and business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 5,000.

Estimated Time per Respondent: 40 min.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 3,333.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

Request for Comments: Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the 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 of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (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; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Approved: November 26, 2018.

Laurie Brimmer,

Senior Tax Analyst.

[FR Doc. 2018-26625 Filed 12-7-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P