

# NOTICE OF OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET ACTION

Date 06/03/2014

Department of Commerce  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

FOR CERTIFYING OFFICIAL: Simon Szykman

FOR CLEARANCE OFFICER: Jennifer Jessup

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, OMB has taken action on your request received 04/22/2014

ACTION REQUESTED: Extension without change of a currently approved collection

TYPE OF REVIEW REQUESTED: Regular

ICR REFERENCE NUMBER: 201403-0648-013

AGENCY ICR TRACKING NUMBER:

TITLE: Pacific Tuna Fisheries Logbook

LIST OF INFORMATION COLLECTIONS: See next page

OMB ACTION: Approved without change

OMB CONTROL NUMBER: 0648-0148

The agency is required to display the OMB Control Number and inform respondents of its legal significance in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.5(b).

EXPIRATION DATE: 06/30/2017

DISCONTINUE DATE:

| BURDEN:                         | RESPONSES | HOURS | COSTS |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-------|-------|
| Previous                        | 1,275     | 106   | 33    |
| New                             | 1,155     | 96    | 22    |
| Difference                      |           |       |       |
| Change due to New Statute       | 0         | 0     | 0     |
| Change due to Agency Discretion | 0         | 0     | 0     |
| Change due to Agency Adjustment | -120      | -10   | -11   |
| Change due to PRA Violation     | 0         | 0     | 0     |

TERMS OF CLEARANCE:

OMB Authorizing Official: Dominic J. Mancini  
Acting Deputy Administrator,  
Office Of Information And Regulatory Affairs

## List of ICs

| IC Title                       | Form No. | Form Name                            | CFR Citation |
|--------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Pacific Tuna Fisheries Logbook | NA       | Seiner Fishing Record and Bridge Log |              |

# PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT SUBMISSION

**Please read the instructions before completing this form. For additional forms or assistance in completing this form, contact your agency's Paperwork Clearance Officer. Send two copies of this form, the collection instrument to be reviewed, the supporting statement, and any additional documentation to: Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Docket Library, Room 10102, 725 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20503.**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Agency/Subagency originating request  | 2. OMB control number <span style="float: right;">b. <input type="checkbox"/> None</span><br>a. _____ - _____   |
| 3. Type of information collection ( <i>check one</i> )<br>a. <input type="checkbox"/> New Collection<br>b. <input type="checkbox"/> Revision of a currently approved collection<br>c. <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of a currently approved collection<br>d. <input type="checkbox"/> Reinstatement, without change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired<br>e. <input type="checkbox"/> Reinstatement, with change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired<br>f. <input type="checkbox"/> Existing collection in use without an OMB control number<br>For b-f, note Item A2 of Supporting Statement instructions | 4. Type of review requested ( <i>check one</i> )<br>a. <input type="checkbox"/> Regular submission<br>b. <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency - Approval requested by _____ / _____ / _____<br>c. <input type="checkbox"/> Delegated  |
| 7. Title   | 5. Small entities<br>Will this information collection have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No  |
| 8. Agency form number(s) ( <i>if applicable</i> )  | 6. Requested expiration date<br>a. <input type="checkbox"/> Three years from approval date b. <input type="checkbox"/> Other Specify: _____ / _____   |
| 9. Keywords  |   |
| 10. Abstract   |   |
| 11. Affected public ( <i>Mark primary with "P" and all others that apply with "x"</i> )<br>a. ___ Individuals or households d. ___ Farms<br>b. ___ Business or other for-profit e. ___ Federal Government<br>c. ___ Not-for-profit institutions f. ___ State, Local or Tribal Government   | 12. Obligation to respond ( <i>check one</i> )<br>a. <input type="checkbox"/> Voluntary<br>b. <input type="checkbox"/> Required to obtain or retain benefits<br>c. <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory   |
| 13. Annual recordkeeping and reporting burden<br>a. Number of respondents _____<br>b. Total annual responses _____<br>1. Percentage of these responses collected electronically _____ %<br>c. Total annual hours requested _____<br>d. Current OMB inventory _____<br>e. Difference _____<br>f. Explanation of difference<br>1. Program change _____<br>2. Adjustment _____  | 14. Annual reporting and recordkeeping cost burden ( <i>in thousands of dollars</i> )<br>a. Total annualized capital/startup costs _____<br>b. Total annual costs (O&M) _____<br>c. Total annualized cost requested _____<br>d. Current OMB inventory _____<br>e. Difference _____<br>f. Explanation of difference<br>1. Program change _____<br>2. Adjustment _____  |
| 15. Purpose of information collection ( <i>Mark primary with "P" and all others that apply with "X"</i> )<br>a. ___ Application for benefits e. ___ Program planning or management<br>b. ___ Program evaluation f. ___ Research<br>c. ___ General purpose statistics g. ___ Regulatory or compliance<br>d. ___ Audit   | 16. Frequency of recordkeeping or reporting ( <i>check all that apply</i> )<br>a. <input type="checkbox"/> Recordkeeping b. <input type="checkbox"/> Third party disclosure<br>c. <input type="checkbox"/> Reporting<br>1. <input type="checkbox"/> On occasion 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly<br>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Semi-annually 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Annually<br>7. <input type="checkbox"/> Biennially 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe) _____ |
| 17. Statistical methods<br>Does this information collection employ statistical methods<br><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No   | 18. Agency Contact (person who can best answer questions regarding the content of this submission)<br><br>Name: _____<br>Phone: _____   |

## 19. Certification for Paperwork Reduction Act Submissions

On behalf of this Federal Agency, I certify that the collection of information encompassed by this request complies with 5 CFR 1320.9

**NOTE:** The text of 5 CFR 1320.9, and the related provisions of 5 CFR 1320.8(b)(3), appear at the end of the instructions. *The certification is to be made with reference to those regulatory provisions as set forth in the instructions.*

The following is a summary of the topics, regarding the proposed collection of information, that the certification covers:

- (a) It is necessary for the proper performance of agency functions;
- (b) It avoids unnecessary duplication;
- (c) It reduces burden on small entities;
- (d) It used plain, coherent, and unambiguous terminology that is understandable to respondents;
- (e) Its implementation will be consistent and compatible with current reporting and recordkeeping practices;
- (f) It indicates the retention period for recordkeeping requirements;
- (g) It informs respondents of the information called for under 5 CFR 1320.8(b)(3):
  - (i) Why the information is being collected;
  - (ii) Use of information;
  - (iii) Burden estimate;
  - (iv) Nature of response (voluntary, required for a benefit, mandatory);
  - (v) Nature and extent of confidentiality; and
  - (vi) Need to display currently valid OMB control number;
- (h) It was developed by an office that has planned and allocated resources for the efficient and effective management and use of the information to be collected (see note in Item 19 of instructions);
- (i) It uses effective and efficient statistical survey methodology; and
- (j) It makes appropriate use of information technology.

If you are unable to certify compliance with any of the provisions, identify the item below and explain the reason in Item 18 of the Supporting Statement.

Signature of Senior Official or designee

Date

Agency Certification (signature of Assistant Administrator, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Line Office Chief Information Officer, head of MB staff for L.O.s, or of the Director of a Program or StaffOffice)

Signature

Date

Signature of NOAA Clearance Officer

Signature

Date

**SUPPORTING STATEMENT  
PACIFIC TUNA FISHERIES LOGBOOK  
OMB CONTROL NO. 0648-0148**

**A. JUSTIFICATION**

**1. Explain the circumstances that make the collection of information necessary.**

This request is for an extension of a currently approved information collection.

The United States' (U.S.) participation in the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) results in certain record keeping requirements for U.S. vessel owners and operators who fish in the IATTC's area of management responsibility. Under Federal regulations ([50 CFR Part 300 Subpart C](#)), these vessel owners and operators must maintain a log of all operations conducted from the fishing vessel, entering the date, noon position (latitude and longitude or in relation to known physical features), and the tonnage of fish aboard by species. This record keeping requirement may be met by using the bridge log, which is furnished and collected from vessel owners and operators by the IATTC. As a practical matter, all U.S. vessel owners and operators use the IATTC log rather than having to maintain two logbooks, and there is no separate National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) form now in use. The record keeping requirements provide information that is needed to assess the impacts of fishing on tuna stocks and non-target species, and to evaluate the effectiveness of management measures. The authority to implement Federal rules to meet U.S. responsibilities to the IATTC is set forth in [the Tuna Conventions Act of 1950](#) (16 U.S.C. 951-962).

**2. Explain how, by whom, how frequently, and for what purpose the information will be used. If the information collected will be disseminated to the public or used to support information that will be disseminated to the public, then explain how the collection complies with all applicable Information Quality Guidelines.**

The specific record keeping requirements are set forth in the regulations. Among the data entered daily are the date, noon position, the amount of fish on board by species, water temperature, specification of wells to keep fish, tracking device used to locate fish, and the time and location of catch. There is also a section for vessel owners or operators to enter in additional remarks. The IATTC log form provides this information as well as additional information, which the fisherman may include but is not required to record under the Federal regulations. U.S. vessel owners and operators in fact collect and record all the requested information on the IATTC form (included in this submission is the English example of the form and instructions, which are in both English and Spanish). These data are used with data from other fishing nations to monitor amounts and areas of catch by species and to assess annually the distribution and abundance of different tuna stocks. The information also is used to determine whether changes in management strategies can increase the yield from or productivity of the stocks, (e.g., targeting larger fish to increase yield per trip). The time of gear deployment is important so that the impacts of alternate strategies (e.g., time/area closures or time of day fishing restrictions) on the fisheries can be assessed. The type of school is important in determining yield potentials as

fishing on certain kinds of schools may result in greater mortality of juvenile fish or fish of certain species. The specification of wells in which fish are placed is important because landings are sampled and catches by species and size or gender can then be allocated by area and season of fishing. This can assist in determining the key spawning areas or possibly areas in which fishing should be restricted in the future to increase yields and values from the fishery.

Current and former member nations are continuing to provide data to ensure that the time series of data is not broken. All nations recognize an ongoing interest in maintaining the ability to assess the status of stocks and conditions in the fisheries even in the absence of a regulatory program.

NMFS will retain control over the information and safeguard it from improper access, modification, and destruction, consistent with National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) standards for confidentiality, privacy, and electronic information. See response to Question 10 of this Supporting Statement for more information on confidentiality and privacy. The information collection is designed to yield data that meet all applicable information quality guidelines. Prior to dissemination, the information will be subjected to quality control measures and a pre-dissemination review pursuant to [Section 515 of Public Law 106-554](#).

**3. Describe whether, and to what extent, the collection of information involves the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological techniques or other forms of information technology.**

The collection of information does not involve the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological techniques. The information being submitted is the least necessary to carry out U.S. obligations as party to the Convention and is collected in the least burdensome manner known. The IATTC has not proposed moving towards an electronic logbook; thus, U.S. vessel owners are obligated to submit the information using the paper logbook.

Forms are sent out with new permits, and may also be requested from the IATTC at 8901 La Jolla Shores Drive, La Jolla, CA 92037, or from NMFS, West Coast Region, 501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802, or by emailing [rachael.wadsworth@noaa.gov](mailto:rachael.wadsworth@noaa.gov).

**4. Describe efforts to identify duplication.**

NMFS has sole Federal authority to obtain these data. NMFS has coordinated with the IATTC and the State of California to eliminate redundancy between the Federally-mandated reports and logbooks or landings reports required by the IATTC and the State respectively. The NMFS also coordinates with other private and public organizations collecting or compiling information on catches and effort in the regulatory area to prevent duplication. This is necessary because a large portion of U.S. vessels' catches are landed in ports outside California. The logbooks are an important component of this coordinated data collection program. There are no other programs

that would result in the same information being available to the U.S. and the IATTC on the necessary schedule and which would satisfy U.S. reporting requirements.

**5. If the collection of information involves small businesses or other small entities, describe the methods used to minimize burden.**

All entities subject to this action are considered small business, thus there is no disproportional economic effect between small and large businesses. All practicable steps to minimize the burden on small entities have been taken. Record keeping requirements are directly proportional to each firm's level of activity. Thus, occasional, part-time or local vessels harvesting small amounts of tuna spend less time collecting and reporting data than the larger firms. As a practical matter, the U.S. fleet operating in the eastern Pacific Ocean has declined in recent years both overall and through the shift of many participants to the western and central Pacific Ocean. The remaining vessels are generally of comparable size and are affected in a similar manner.

**6. Describe the consequences to the Federal program or policy activities if the collection is not conducted or is conducted less frequently.**

If this data were not collected, there would be a significant gap in the database needed by the IATTC and the United States to complete stock assessments, determine U.S. interests in the fishery, and conduct evaluations of fishery management strategies to achieve the maximum economic yield from the fishery. The U.S. would be less able to protect or enhance U.S. benefits from fishing under the Convention. The U.S. also would not meet its commitments under the Tuna Conventions Act. The risk of erroneous stock assessments and inappropriate management would increase.

**7. Explain any special circumstances that require the collection to be conducted in a manner inconsistent with OMB guidelines.**

Not Applicable.

**8. Provide information on the PRA Federal Register Notice that solicited public comments on the information collection prior to this submission. Summarize the public comments received in response to that notice and describe the actions taken by the agency in response to those comments. Describe the efforts to consult with persons outside the agency to obtain their views on the availability of data, frequency of collection, the clarity of instructions and record keeping, disclosure, or reporting format (if any), and on the data elements to be recorded, disclosed, or reported.**

A Federal Register Notice published November 21, 2013 (78 FR 69822), solicited public comment on this renewal. No comments were received.

Consultations on data collection and reporting (among other matters) take place annually at the meeting of IATTC, the latest meeting having been in June 2013. Feedback from the Commission staff and from industry is the primary means for considering possible changes in the collection. In addition, the Department of State has chartered a General Advisory Committee to advise the

U.S. Commissioners to the IATTC and the Department of State on management issues facing the IATTC, including data submission and reporting needs. Among the members are representatives of the U.S. tuna fishing and processing industries and non-governmental organizations.

In 2013, four U.S. large purse seine vessels (greater than 363 metric tons well volume) and six U.S. smaller purse seine vessels (less than 363 metric tons well volume) were listed as active on the IATTC Regional Vessel Register. NMFS contacted, via email or telephone, the vessel owners of the four large purse seine vessels that fished in the EPO in 2013. NMFS provided time and cost estimates for logbook submissions and asked if the estimates appeared reasonable. Additionally, NMFS requested improvement suggestions for tuna purse seine logbook data collection. The vessel owner for three large purse seine vessels replied that the time and cost estimates appeared reasonable and did not provide further feedback on suggestions for improvement. Another large purse seine vessel was contacted, but no response was received. NMFS also spoke with the owner of a small purse seine vessel who indicated that the vessel had not caught tuna in recent years, therefore no logbook forms were submitted and no feedback for the process was provided.

**9. Explain any decisions to provide payments or gifts to respondents, other than remuneration of contractors or grantees.**

No payments or gifts are made to any respondents.

**10. Describe any assurance or confidentiality provided to respondents and the basis for assurance in statute, regulation, or agency policy.**

As stated on the forms, individual firm data are submitted to the IATTC and are not released to the public; only aggregated data or data with vessel identifiers removed are releasable. These procedures are consistent with [NOAA Administrative Order 216-100](#) governing the management of confidential data. The data also are maintained as confidential by the IATTC as they reveal the business practices of individual firms, and release of the data could be harmful to the firm involved.

**11. Provide additional justification for any questions of a sensitive nature, such as sexual behavior and attitudes, religious beliefs, and other matters that are commonly considered private.**

No sensitive questions are asked.

**12. Provide an estimate in hours of the burden of the collection of information.**

The burden estimate for record keeping and reporting is 96 hours per year, derived as follows:

Five (5) full-time and six (6) part-time vessels.

5 vessels x 195 reports (195 days per year) = 975 responses x 5 minutes per entry/60 minutes = 81 hours.

6 vessels x 30 reports (30 days per year) = 180 responses x 5 minutes per entry/60 minutes = 15 hours.

Respondents = 5 + 6 = 11.

Responses = 975 + 180 = 1,155.

Hours = 81 + 15 = 96.

Logbook records are maintained on a daily basis. The average vessel makes between three and four trips per year; thus, three or four submissions of logbooks (one per trip, including an entry for each day of that trip) would be made for each vessel if the IATTC form is used. The above estimate incorporates time for assembling and delivering the logbook data.

The estimated annual labor cost to respondents is estimated at \$1,920, which was derived as follows:

96 hours x \$20.00/hr (including overhead) = \$1,920.

**13. Provide an estimate of the total annual cost burden to the respondents or record-keepers resulting from the collection (excluding the value of the burden hours in Question 12 above).**

There are no start-up or capital costs; forms are provided by the IATTC and no equipment purchases are necessary. Mail costs are estimated at \$21.56 per year (44 trips x \$0.49 = \$21.56) (based on maximum 4 trips per vessel per year as stated above).

**14. Provide estimates of annualized cost to the Federal government.**

The estimated cost to the U.S. government is negligible. Logbooks are provided by the IATTC and forms are processed by IATTC. U.S. scientists participate in stock and fishery assessments but rely on IATTC to provide logbook data.

**15. Explain the reasons for any program changes or adjustments.**

Adjustments: The decrease of responses by 120 and hours by 10, and the net decrease in annual cost burden of \$11.44 is due to a reduction in the estimated number of part time vessels participating in the fishery that are required to send in logbooks (from 10 vessels to 6 vessels), as well as an increase in postage rates (from \$0.44 to \$0.49).

**16. For collections whose results will be published, outline the plans for tabulation and publication.**

The data are used in the computation of stock assessments and fishery condition reports by NMFS scientists and IATTC scientists. The results are compiled and analyzed for IATTC reports, typically in time for the IATTC annual meeting that usually takes place in June each year, but no time frame is set for other publications in scientific journals or government reports.

**17. If seeking approval to not display the expiration date for OMB approval of the information collection, explain the reasons why display would be inappropriate.**

We continue to request OMB approval not to display the expiration because there is no Federal government form used, and therefore there is no form on which to display the expiration date. The OMB Control No. and expiration date are on a separate PRA Statement that goes with the form.

**18. Explain each exception to the certification statement.**

Not Applicable.

**B. COLLECTIONS OF INFORMATION EMPLOYING STATISTICAL METHODS**

The collection does not involve any use of sampling.

### **Paperwork Reduction Act Statement**

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 5 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other suggestions for reducing this burden to NMFS West Coast Regional Office, NOAA Line office, 501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802. Notwithstanding any other provisions of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subjected to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.



number (*i.e.*, at that exporter's rate) will be liquidated at the PRC-wide rate.<sup>12</sup>

The final results of this review shall be the basis for the assessment of antidumping duties on entries of merchandise covered by the final results of this review and for future deposits of estimated antidumping duties.

### Cash Deposit Requirements

The following cash deposit requirements will be effective upon publication of the final results of this administrative review for shipments of the subject merchandise from the PRC entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the publication date, as provided by section 751(a)(2)(C) of the Act: (1) For the exporters listed above, the cash deposit rate will be equal to the weighted-average dumping margin established in the final results of this review (except, if the rate is zero or *de minimis*, then the cash deposit rate will be zero for that exporter); (2) for previously investigated or reviewed PRC and non-PRC exporters not listed above that have separate rates, the cash deposit rate will continue to be the exporter-specific rate published for the most recently completed segment of this proceeding; (3) for all PRC exporters of subject merchandise that have not been found to be entitled to a separate rate, the cash deposit rate will be 60.85 percent, which is the rate for the PRC-wide entity;<sup>13</sup> and (4) for all non-PRC exporters of subject merchandise which have not received their own rate, the cash deposit rate will be the rate applicable to the PRC exporter that supplied that non-PRC exporter. These deposit requirements, when imposed, shall remain in effect until further notice.

### Notification to Importers

This notice serves as a preliminary reminder to importers of their responsibility under 19 CFR 351.402(f)(2) to file a certificate regarding the reimbursement of antidumping duties prior to liquidation of the relevant entries during this review period. Failure to comply with this requirement could result in the CBP assessing double antidumping duties based on the Department's presumption that antidumping duties were reimbursed.

<sup>12</sup> For a full discussion of this practice, see *Non-Market Economy Antidumping Proceedings: Assessment of Antidumping Duties*, 76 FR 65694 (October 24, 2011).

<sup>13</sup> See *Seamless Refined Copper Pipe and Tube From the People's Republic of China: Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value*, 75 FR 60725, 60729 (October 1, 2010).

This administrative review and notice are in accordance with sections 751(a)(1) and 777(i) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.213.

Dated: November 14, 2013.

**Ronald K. Lorentzen,**

*Acting Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.*

### Appendix—List of Topics Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum

1. Affiliation and Collapsing
2. Separate Rate
3. Rate for Non-Examined, Separate Rate Respondents
4. PRC-Wide Entity
5. Use of Facts Available and Adverse Facts Available
6. Surrogate Country
7. Date of Sale
8. Fair Value Comparisons
9. Determination of Comparison Method
10. Export Price
11. Constructed Export Price
12. Normal Value
13. Factor Valuations
14. Duty Absorption
15. Currency Conversion

[FR Doc. 2013-27971 Filed 11-20-13; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Pacific Tuna Fisheries Logbook

**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 January 21, 2014.

**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 Rachael Wadsworth, (562)

980-4036 or [Rachael.Wadsworth@noaa.gov](mailto:Rachael.Wadsworth@noaa.gov)

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### I. Abstract

United States (U.S.) participation in the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) results in certain recordkeeping requirements for U.S. fishermen who fish in the IATTC's area of management responsibility. These fishermen must maintain a log of all operations conducted from the fishing vessel, including the date, noon position, and the tonnage of fish aboard the vessel, by species. The logbook form provided by the IATTC is universally used by U.S. fishermen to meet this recordkeeping requirement. The information in the logbooks includes areas and times of operation and catch and effort by area. Logbook data are used in stock assessments and other research concerning the fishery. If the data were not collected or if erroneous data were provided, the IATTC assessments would likely be incorrect and there would be an increased risk of overfishing or inadequate management of the fishery.

#### II. Method of Collection

Vessel operators maintain bridge logs on a daily basis, and the forms are either mailed to the IATTC or to National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) at the completion of each trip. The data are processed and maintained as confidential by the IATTC.

#### III. Data

*OMB Control Number:* 0648-0148.

*Form Number:* None.

*Type of Review:* Regular submission.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households, business or other for profit organizations.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:*

11.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 5 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 170.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* \$122.

#### 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: November 15, 2013.

**Gwellnar Banks,**

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

[FR Doc. 2013-27883 Filed 11-20-13; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XC974

#### Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Exempted Fishing, Scientific Research, Display, and Chartering Permits; Letters of Acknowledgment

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

**ACTION:** Notice of intent; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS announces its intent to issue Exempted Fishing Permits (EFPs), Scientific Research Permits (SRPs), Display Permits, Letters of Acknowledgment (LOAs), and Chartering Permits for Atlantic highly migratory species (HMS) in 2014. Exempted fishing permits and related permits would authorize collection of a limited number of tunas, swordfish, billfishes, and sharks (collectively known as HMS) from Federal waters in the Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean Sea, and Gulf of Mexico for the purposes of scientific data collection and public display. Chartering permits allow the collection of HMS on the high seas or in the Exclusive Economic Zone of other nations under certain conditions. Generally, EFPs and related permits will be valid from the date of issuance through December 31, 2014, unless otherwise specified, subject to the terms and conditions of individual permits.

**DATES:** Written comments on these activities received in response to this notice will be considered by NMFS when issuing EFPs and related permits and must be received on or before December 23, 2013.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- *Email:* [nmfs.hms.efp2014@noaa.gov](mailto:nmfs.hms.efp2014@noaa.gov). Include in the subject line the following identifier: 0648-XC974.
- *Mail:* Craig Cockrell, Highly Migratory Species Management Division (F/SF1), NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.
- *Fax:* (301) 713-1917.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Craig Cockrell, phone: (301) 427-8503, fax: (301) 713-1917.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Issuance of EFPs and related permits are necessary for the collections of HMS for public display and scientific research to exempt them from regulations (e.g., fishing seasons, prohibited species, authorized gear, closed areas, and minimum sizes) that may otherwise prohibit the collection. Collection for scientific research and display represents a small portion of the overall fishing mortality for HMS, and this mortality is counted against the quota of the species harvested, as appropriate and applicable. The terms and conditions of individual permits are unique; however, all permits will include reporting requirements, limit the number and species of HMS to be collected, and only authorize collection in Federal waters of the Atlantic Ocean, Gulf of Mexico, and Caribbean Sea.

EFPs and related permits are issued under the authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act) (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*) and/or the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act (ATCA) (16 U.S.C. 971 *et seq.*). Regulations at 50 CFR 600.745 and 635.32 govern scientific research activity, exempted fishing, chartering arrangements, and exempted public display and educational activities with respect to Atlantic HMS. Since the Magnuson-Stevens Act does not consider scientific research to be “fishing,” scientific research is exempt from this statute, and NMFS does not issue EFPs for bona fide research activities (e.g., research conducted from a research vessel and not a commercial or recreational fishing vessel) involving species that are only regulated under the Magnuson-Stevens Act (e.g., most species of sharks) and not under ATCA. NMFS generally does not consider recreational or commercial vessels bona fide research vessels. However, if the vessels have been contracted to only conduct research and not participate in any commercial or recreational fishing activities during that research, NMFS may consider those vessels as bona fide

research platforms while conducting the specified research. For example, in the past, NMFS has determined that commercial pelagic longline vessels assisting with population surveys for sharks are considered bona fide research vessels while engaged only in the specified research. NMFS requests copies of scientific research plans for these activities and acknowledges the activity by issuing an LOA to researchers to indicate that the proposed activity meets the definition of research. Examples of research conducted under LOAs include tagging and releasing of sharks during bottom longline surveys to understand the distribution and seasonal abundance of different shark species, and collecting and sampling sharks caught during trawl surveys for life history studies.

Scientific research is not exempt from regulation under ATCA. NMFS issues SRPs which authorize researchers to collect HMS from bona fide research vessels for collection of species managed under this statute (e.g., tunas, swordfish, billfish, and some species of sharks). One example of research conducted under SRPs consists of scientific surveys of HMS conducted from the NOAA research vessels. EFPs are issued to researchers collecting ATCA-managed species and conducting research from commercial or recreational fishing vessels. NMFS regulations concerning the implantation or attachment of archival tags in Atlantic HMS require scientists to report their activities associated with these tags. Examples of research conducted under EFPs include deploying pop-up satellite archival tags on billfish, sharks, and tunas to determine migration patterns of these species; conducting billfish larval tows to determine billfish habitat use, life history, and population structure; and determining catch rates and gear characteristics of the swordfish buoy gear fishery.

NMFS is also seeking public comment on its intent to issue display permits for the collection of sharks and other HMS for public display in 2014. Collection of sharks and other HMS sought for public display in aquaria often involves collection when the commercial fishing seasons are closed, collection of otherwise prohibited species, and collection of fish below the regulatory minimum size. NMFS established a 60-metric ton (mt) whole weight (ww) (approximately 3,000 sharks) quota for the public display and research of sharks (combined) in the final Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Tunas, Swordfish, and Sharks (1999 FMP). Out of this 60 mt ww quota, 1.4 mt ww is set aside to collect sandbar sharks under