

# NOTICE OF OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET ACTION

Date 03/26/2012

Department of Commerce  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
FOR CERTIFYING OFFICIAL: Simon Szykman  
FOR CLEARANCE OFFICER: Diana Hynek

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, OMB has taken action on your request received 01/26/2012

ACTION REQUESTED: Extension without change of a currently approved collection  
TYPE OF REVIEW REQUESTED: Regular  
ICR REFERENCE NUMBER: 201201-0648-006  
AGENCY ICR TRACKING NUMBER:  
TITLE: Cooperative Game Fish Tagging Report  
LIST OF INFORMATION COLLECTIONS: See next page

OMB ACTION: Approved with change  
OMB CONTROL NUMBER: 0648-0247

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: 03/31/2015

DISCONTINUE DATE:

BURDEN:	RESPONSES	HOURS	COSTS
Previous	12,000	400	0
New	10,000	333	0
Difference			
Change due to New Statute	0	0	0
Change due to Agency Discretion	0	0	0
Change due to Agency Adjustment	-2,000	-67	0
Change Due to Potential Violation of the PRA	0	0	0

TERMS OF CLEARANCE:

OMB Authorizing Official:

Kevin F. Neyland  
Deputy Administrator,  
Office Of Information And Regulatory Affairs

List of ICs

IC Title	Form No.	Form Name	CFR Citation
Cooperative Game Fish Tagging Report	NOAA 88-162	Cooperative Game Fish Tag and acknowledgement letter	

# 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> a. _____ - _____
3. Type of information collection ( <i>check one</i> ) a. <input type="checkbox"/> New Collection b. <input type="checkbox"/> Revision of a currently approved collection c. <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of a currently approved collection d. <input type="checkbox"/> Reinstatement, without change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired e. <input type="checkbox"/> Reinstatement, with change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired f. <input type="checkbox"/> Existing collection in use without an OMB control number For b-f, note Item A2 of Supporting Statement instructions	4. Type of review requested ( <i>check one</i> ) a. <input type="checkbox"/> Regular submission b. <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency - Approval requested by _____ / _____ / _____ c. <input type="checkbox"/> Delegated
7. Title	5. Small entities 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 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> ) a. ___ Individuals or households d. ___ Farms b. ___ Business or other for-profit e. ___ Federal Government c. ___ Not-for-profit institutions f. ___ State, Local or Tribal Government	12. Obligation to respond ( <i>check one</i> ) a. <input type="checkbox"/> Voluntary b. <input type="checkbox"/> Required to obtain or retain benefits c. <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory
13. Annual recordkeeping and reporting burden a. Number of respondents _____ b. Total annual responses _____ 1. Percentage of these responses collected electronically _____ % c. Total annual hours requested _____ d. Current OMB inventory _____ e. Difference _____ f. Explanation of difference 1. Program change _____ 2. Adjustment _____	14. Annual reporting and recordkeeping cost burden ( <i>in thousands of dollars</i> ) a. Total annualized capital/startup costs _____ b. Total annual costs (O&M) _____ c. Total annualized cost requested _____ d. Current OMB inventory _____ e. Difference _____ f. Explanation of difference 1. Program change _____ 2. Adjustment _____
15. Purpose of information collection ( <i>Mark primary with "P" and all others that apply with "X"</i> ) a. ___ Application for benefits e. ___ Program planning or management b. ___ Program evaluation f. ___ Research c. ___ General purpose statistics g. ___ Regulatory or compliance d. ___ Audit	16. Frequency of recordkeeping or reporting ( <i>check all that apply</i> ) a. <input type="checkbox"/> Recordkeeping b. <input type="checkbox"/> Third party disclosure c. <input type="checkbox"/> Reporting 1. <input type="checkbox"/> On occasion 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Semi-annually 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Annually 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Biennially 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe) _____
17. Statistical methods Does this information collection employ statistical methods <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	18. Agency Contact (person who can best answer questions regarding the content of this submission)  Name: _____ 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  
COOPERATIVE GAME FISH TAGGING REPORT  
OMB CONTROL NO. 0648-0247**

**A. JUSTIFICATION**

This request is for extension of the information collection.

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

The Cooperative Game Fish Tagging Program was initiated in 1971 as part of a comprehensive research program resulting from passage of P.L. 86-359, [Study of migratory game fish](#), and other legislative acts under which the National Marine Fisheries Service operates. The Cooperative Tagging Center (formerly the Cooperative Game Fish Tagging Program) attempts to determine the migratory patterns and other biological information of billfish, tunas, red drum, tarpon, amberjack, cobia, king mackerel, and swordfish by having anglers tag and release their catch.

The Fish Tag Issue Report card is a necessary part of the tagging program. Fishermen volunteer to tag and release their catch. When requested, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) provides the volunteers with fish tags for their use when they release their fish. Usually a group of five tags is sent at one time, each attached to a Report card, which is pre-printed with the first and last tag numbers received, and has spaces for the respondent's name, address, date, and club affiliation (if applicable).

When the angler releases a fish, he takes the Fish Tagging Report card with a tag attached, removes the numbered tag, applies the tag to the fish, and then mails the completed card (which has a number matching the tag number) to NMFS.

When a tagged fish is recaptured, the tag has the address of NMFS and a tag number. The person with the tagged fish can mail the tag to NMFS, where information on the fish is recorded and matched with the release data (the recapturer does not add any information, simply mails the tag and it is matched with the information provided by the original angler).

**2. Explain how, by whom, how frequently, and for what purpose the information will be used.**

Information on each species is used by NMFS to determine migratory patterns, distance traveled, stock boundaries, age, and growth. These data are necessary input for developing management criteria by regional fishery management councils, states, and NMFS. The tag report cards are necessary to provide tags to the volunteer angler, record when and where the fish was tagged, the species, its estimated length and weight, tag number, and information on the tagger for follow-ups if the tagged fish is recovered. Failure to obtain these data would make management decisions very difficult and would be contrary to the NMFS Marine Recreational Fishing policy objectives.

Anglers are made aware of our tagging program through several forms of media: newspaper and magazine articles, through both [The Billfish Foundation](#) and the [Southeast Fisheries Science Centers](#) websites, peer review papers, and by word of mouth. Anglers who wish to obtain tag

kits or report recaptured tags can contact the cooperative tagging center via phone at (800) 437-3936, or via written request sent to:

**Cooperative Tagging Center  
75 Virginia Beach Dr.  
Miami, Fl 33149**

It is anticipated that the information collected will be disseminated to the public or used to support publicly disseminated information. As explained in the preceding paragraphs, the information gathered has utility. NOAA Fisheries will retain control over the information and safeguard it from improper access, modification, and destruction, consistent with 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.**

No other satisfactory method of obtaining movement information on oceanic pelagic fish has been identified. Although more sophisticated electronic tags exist, their expense prohibits their use in this program. Automated data entry by persons tagging fish isn't practical; the information is best entered at the time of tagging on fishing vessels.

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

No duplication was evident during consultations with other conservation agencies. No similar information is available except what has been developed by this program.

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

Small entities are not involved.

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

The usefulness of this program would be compromised if the collection of data did not take place on a continual basis. It would be impossible to track trends in fish movement, stock definitions, and growth rates. In addition, any reduction in actual frequency would have an adverse effect on the voluntary participation rate.

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

This collection is consistent with OMB guidelines, except that reports may be submitted more often than quarterly - whenever tagging takes place.

**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 recordkeeping, disclosure, or reporting format (if any), and on the data elements to be recorded, disclosed, or reported.**

A Federal Register Notice, published on August 4, 2011 (76 FR 47154) solicited public comment on this renewal. No comments were received.

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

Tag release participants receive acknowledgment letters after submitting release data and a tag history letter upon the tag's recapture. Tag recapture participants receive a tag history letter and a Cooperative Tagging Center baseball cap as a reward.

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

There is no assurance of confidentiality. However, data on names and addresses are included in the [Commerce/NOAA-6, Fishermen's Statistical Data, Privacy Act system of records](#) and are protected as [Privacy Act](#) records. Handling procedures are described in various NOAA Directives.

**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.**

Estimated responses (tagging and reporting OR mailing of tag) per year: 10,000  
Mean time/response: 2 minutes  
Total hours: 333 (10,000 x 2 minutes/60 minutes).

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

There is no cost to respondents; the postage is prepaid on the tag cards.

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

Annual cost of operation of the Cooperative  
Tagging Center:  
Equipment = \$30,000

Labor = \$82,400  
Total cost = \$112,400.

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

An adjustment was made to reduce the number of respondents from 12,000 to 10,000, and thus the burden to the public has been reduced to 333 hours, to reflect a reduction in program participation.

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

A summary of tagging effort is produced annually. Data is used in scientific studies and journal articles.

**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.**

Not Applicable.

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

Not Applicable.

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

This collection does not employ statistical methods.

The following will be provided to the tagging volunteers when they are issued tags and Reports:

The Cooperative Game Fish Tagging Program is part of the fisheries research program operated by the National Marine Fisheries Service. The information supplied on the report will be used to determine migratory patterns, stock boundaries, and other aspects of the fish tagged. Your response is voluntary. The information submitted will be held as confidential under the Privacy Act. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 2 minutes per response, including the time necessary to review instructions, gather the data, and complete and review the report. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the address on the Fish Tagging Report form. Notwithstanding any other provision on the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject 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.

The following will be provided to the tagging volunteers when they are issued tags and Reports:

The Cooperative Game Fish Tagging Program is part of the fisheries research program operated by the National Marine Fisheries Service. The information supplied on the report will be used to determine migratory patterns, stock boundaries, and other aspects of the fish tagged. Your response is voluntary. The information submitted will be held as confidential under the Privacy Act. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 2 minutes per response, including the time necessary to review instructions, gather the data, and complete and review the report. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the address on the Fish Tagging Report form. Notwithstanding any other provision on the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject 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.

Cooperative Tagging Center  
 Southeast Fisheries Science Center  
 75 Virginia Beach Drive  
 Miami, FL 33149

ED DWYER  
 4440 JAMES RD.

COCOA BEACH FL 32926  
 UNITED STATES



We acknowledge receipt of your tag release information. Thank you for your participation in the Cooperative Tagging Center. We will notify you if your fish is recaptured and of further developments in the Cooperative Tagging Center.

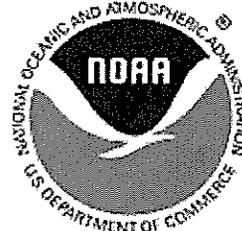
Tag Number	Species	Tag Date	Location
MIA HM053463	TUNA,YELLOWFIN	2001-06-22	28.5 -80.33

*Photo courtesy of Guy Harvey*

Cooperative Tagging Center  
 Southeast Fisheries Science Center  
 75 Virginia Beach Drive  
 Miami, FL 33149

RON CRISP  
 79 OSTROM RD.

EAST FALMOUTH MA  
 02563 UNITED STATES



Thank you for your contribution to the successful tagging experiment described below.

Large oceanic fishes are being tagged through the cooperation of scientists and fishermen to determine their migratory patterns, define their populations, and, if possible, estimate their growth rates, population sizes, and mortality rates. In addition to its general interest to fishermen and biologists, such information is needed to determine the need for, and guide the planning of conservation measures. Your continued cooperation in tagging your catches, and returning tags which you find on them with complete and accurate recapture data, will add to our knowledge and help to secure the optimum utilization of these priceless resources

With thanks for your interest and cooperation, and wishing you the best of luck in your future fishing.

Eric Orbesen  
 Fishery Biologist  
 Cooperative Tagging Center

Tag Number	Species	Tag Date	Location	Length	Weight
			25.703055555555554		
MIA HM071895	SAILFISH	2005-01-04	80.34361111111111		
			25 -		
MIA HM071895	SAILFISH	2005-01-24	80.16666666666667	70 IN	30 LB

*Photo courtesy of Guy Harvey*

# Fish Tagging Report

tagging@noaa.gov

(PLEASE PRINT)

NOAA Form 88-162 F/SEC U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (11/80)  
OMB Approved no. 0648-0247 NOAA-NMFS Expires 1/31/2012

Please complete and return card as soon as possible

Tagging Date

Species

Tag No.

HM 095001

Tagging Location (Lat. and Long. Preferred)

Length (in.)

LJFL  Meas.  
 TL  Est.



Fish Conditions/Remarks

Hook Type:

C J

Hook Offset:

- Y - N -

Hook Location:

Hooks Removed

Yes  No, leader cut

Fighting Time

\_\_\_ Hr, \_\_\_ Min

Gear Type

Weight (lbs.)

Meas.  
 Est.

Angler

Captain

Address

Address

City/State/Zip

City/State/Zip

Email

Email

Send more tags to

Captain

Angler

Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_

This report is authorized by law U.S.C.P. 1542. While you are not required to respond, your cooperation is needed to make the results of this survey comprehensive, accurate and timely. Thank you for your contribution.

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 29, 2011.

**Gwellnar Banks,**

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

[FR Doc. 2011-19757 Filed 8-3-11; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Cooperative Game Fish Tagging Report**

**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 October 3, 2011.

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

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Eric Orbesen, (305) 361-4253 or [Eric.Orbesen@noaa.gov](mailto:Eric.Orbesen@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Abstract**

The Cooperative Game Fish Tagging Program was initiated in 1971 as part of a comprehensive research program resulting from passage of Public Law 86-359, Study of Migratory Game Fish, and other legislative acts under which the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) operates. The Cooperative Tagging Center attempts to determine the migration patterns of, and other biological information for, billfish, tunas, and swordfish. The fish tagging report is provided to the angler with the tags, and he/she fills out the card with the information when a fish is tagged and mails it to NMFS. Information on each species is used by NMFS to determine migratory patterns, distance traveled, stock boundaries, age, and growth. These data are necessary input for developing management criteria by regional fishery management councils, states, and NMFS.

**II. Method of Collection**

Information is submitted by mail.

**III. Data**

*OMB Control Number:* 0648-0247.

*Form Number:* NOAA form 88-162.

*Type of Review:* Regular submission (extension of a current information collection).

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 12,000.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 2 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 400 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* \$0.

**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 29, 2011.

**Gwellnar Banks,**

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

[FR Doc. 2011-19721 Filed 8-3-11; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; California Signage Plan: Evaluation of Interpretive Signs**

**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 October 3, 2011.

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

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Seaberry Nachbar, 831-626-1023, [seaberry.nachbar@noaa.gov](mailto:seaberry.nachbar@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Abstract**

This request is for a regular submission (new collection). The California Signage Plan is an organized and systematic way to develop and install graphic signs along the California coastline and inland that interpret the natural and cultural resources of a particular location and its connection to the sanctuaries located within California. To date, a strategic approach to evaluating interpretive signs produced by the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries has not been developed; therefore, NOAA does not know if the messages trying to be conveyed to their audiences are effective. NOAA is proposing to conduct an online and onsite survey of approximately 400 visitors to the locations where signs are currently