

NOTICE OF OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET ACTION

Date 01/03/2013

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 11/08/2012

ACTION REQUESTED: Revision of a currently approved collection

TYPE OF REVIEW REQUESTED: Regular

ICR REFERENCE NUMBER: 201210-0648-013

AGENCY ICR TRACKING NUMBER:

TITLE: Highly Migratory Species Tournament Registration and Reporting

LIST OF INFORMATION COLLECTIONS: See next page

OMB ACTION: Approved without change

OMB CONTROL NUMBER: 0648-0323

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: 01/31/2016

DISCONTINUE DATE:

BURDEN:	RESPONSES	HOURS	COSTS
Previous	600	110	192
New	600	110	102
Difference			
Change due to New Statute	0	0	0
Change due to Agency Discretion	0	0	0
Change due to Agency Adjustment	0	0	-90
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
Highly Migratory Species Tournament Registration	NA	HMS Tournaments Registration	
Highly Migratory Species Tournament Reporting	NA	All Species Tournament Summary	

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.

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

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
HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION AND
REPORTING
OMB CONTROL NO. 0648-0323**

A. JUSTIFICATION

This request is for revision and extension of the information collection.

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

The United States (U.S.) Secretary of Commerce is authorized to regulate fisheries for Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (HMS) under the [Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act](#) and the [Atlantic Tunas Convention Act](#), as amended.

For all tournaments that are conducted from a port in an Atlantic coastal state, including the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico, a tournament operator must register with the National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) HMS Management Division, at least 4 weeks prior to commencement of the tournament, by submitting information on the purpose, dates, and location of the tournament to NMFS. A tournament is not registered unless the tournament operator has received a confirmation number from the NMFS' HMS Management Division. NMFS will notify the tournament operator in writing when a tournament has been selected for reporting. Tournament operators that are selected to report must maintain and submit to NMFS a record of catch and effort on forms available from NMFS. Tournament operators must submit the completed forms to NMFS, at an address designated by NMFS, postmarked no later than the 7th day after the conclusion of the tournament, and must attach a copy of the tournament rules." ([50 CFR 635.5\(d\)](#)).

NMFS proposes to extend tournament registration and reporting requirements for Atlantic HMS. Atlantic HMS tournament registration is important for the management of swordfish, billfish, tunas, and sharks, because it characterizes a portion of the recreational fishing effort on these species, including location and targeted species. HMS tournament registration enables the collection of contact information for the operators of tournaments that target HMS so that NMFS may collect reports of fishing catch and effort following the event. The information allows NMFS, in the course of developing fishery management plans, to evaluate the social (i.e., effect of tournaments on number of HMS-permitted anglers, the number of individuals to whom HMS educational outreach materials are distributed, or the regulatory impacts on fishing culture of the communities in which HMS tournaments are held) and economic impact of tournament angling in relation to other types of HMS angling (i.e., commercial, non-tournament recreational), potential impacts on tournament operations, and the relative effect of tournament angling on populations of various regulated HMS. Further, registration by HMS tournament operators opens an avenue for NMFS educational outreach specific to HMS tournament fishing activities and participants.

HMS tournament reporting is necessary for the collection of catch and effort data to calculate total annual catch for stock assessments and to meet international reporting obligations, such as

those mandated under the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act for NMFS to report annually to the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT).

This request is also for revision, as changes have been made to the forms, as described in Question 2.

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 tournament registration and reporting procedures involve: (1) mandatory registration of Atlantic HMS tournaments; and, (2) for tournaments selected by NMFS, mandatory reporting of tournament results, including the documentation of all instances of landing an Atlantic HMS during a tournament. These processes are carried out as follows:

- (1) NMFS requires that the tournament operator (the person or entity responsible for maintaining records of participants and results) register the tournament, including the date, location, and target species of the tournament, at least four weeks prior to the commencement of the tournament.
- (2) The tournament operator collects the following data on all HMS encountered from all boats: whether the fish were kept, released, or lost; condition of the fish when released (alive or dead); and the weight and length of all boated fish. This information is already routinely collected during tournament operations, which makes the reporting burden solely one of transcribing existing information onto a single form, provided by NMFS. For reporting of tournament results, NMFS is submitting a form to be used for tournaments targeting any HMS, including sharks, tunas, billfish, and swordfish. The completed reporting form is to be returned to NMFS no later than 7 days after the conclusion of the tournament.

The information obtained from each tournament operator on the HMS Tournament Registration Form includes:

- a. The name, date(s), and location(s) of the tournament;
- b. The Director/Operator's name, address, phone number, fax number, e-mail address, and signature;
- c. Whether the tournament has operated in previous years, and the most recent year;
- d. Identification of HMS for which points or prizes will be awarded, and the option to list additional target species; and
- e. The option to request a specified number of HMS outreach materials.

NMFS uses this registration information to plan for the assignment of tournament observers to assist in catch/effort data compilation and to obtain biological data and samples from landed fish (length/weight, stomach contents, injuries, parasites, hard and soft tissue samples for age determination, genetic analysis, spawning condition, fecundity, etc.). The registration information also allows NMFS, in the course of developing fishery management plans, to evaluate potential impacts of FMP requirements (e.g., quotas, permitting, catch reporting, and gear requirements) on tournament operations. Additionally, NMFS is able to use the tournament

information for angler educational outreach efforts including distribution of written informational materials, notification of public hearings, and explanation of HMS regulations. The HMS Tunas General Category permit is a commercial permit, but permit holders may recreationally fish for other HMS only when participating in a registered HMS tournament; therefore, it is important for permit holder to be able to access a list of the registration status of tournaments. A list of tournaments registered with HMS (including tournament names, date(s), location(s), and target species) is posted on the internet from this information collection every week, assisting potential tournament anglers in determining participation in upcoming events.

The reporting information obtained from each tournament operator on the HMS Tournament Summary Report includes:

- a. The name, location, and fishing club affiliation (if applicable) of the tournament;
- b. The total number of registered boats and whether the tournament is catch and release only;
- c. The daily fishing effort, including dates and hours fished, and number of boats fishing each of those days;
- d. The recorder's name, phone number, and e-mail address;
- e. The numbers of fish kept and released and their disposition when released (alive or dead) for each HMS;
- f. The size (weight and length) of each of the fish kept; and
- g. The option (empty space) to report additional non-HMS that were kept or released in the tournament.

The information requested on the reporting forms is collected during normal tournament operations by the tournament operator to determine awards of points or prizes to tournament participants. Thus, the only additional time or cost burden is encountered during transcription of reporting information on to the HMS reporting form, photocopying or scanning, and mailing the form. As mentioned above, the information is used by NMFS to assess total annual tournament catch and the relative effect of tournament angling on regulated HMS.

Several adjustments and a few changes have been made to the forms. The HMS Tournament Registration Form has been rearranged in a way that is clearer and more appropriate, separating tournament and tournament operator information, but keeping the location of these sections consistent with the layout of the HMS Tournament Reporting Form. An option has been added to select blackfin tuna and list other species for which the tournament will award points or prizes. This change was added due to a request from the data collection team, who find a broader scope of target species to be beneficial in characterizing tournament catch and effort as a whole, including which tournament target species overlap with other (non-HMS) tournaments. It is noted on the form that registration is optional for these species, so this change is not expected to propagate any growth in the number of responses due to this information request. An option for the operator to receive confirmation via e-mail has also been added, which is expected to further reduce the printing and postage burden for the Federal government and illustrate (for decisions regarding future program alterations and regulatory communications) the number of tournament operators to whom e-mail communication is most effective. Lastly, a tournament regulations summary has been added to the second page of the form. This summary has been added to provide a brief, stand-alone reference to HMS tournament regulations on the whole, as well as provide a direct link to the HMS Tournament Reporting form.

In October 2010, a change request was submitted to OMB to add roundscale spearfish to the registration and reporting forms. This change was requested due to the addition of roundscale spearfish as a separate species from white marlin in HMS regulations. Because this addition is still new, and in some cases unknown, to tournament operators and anglers, a separate category has been added to the HMS Tournament Registration and HMS Tournament Summary Report forms that includes both white marlin and roundscale spearfish. This category is available for tournament operators to select/enter data if the tournament will/did not distinguish between these two species when recording their disposition. It is important to know if the data collected reflects the true number of white marlin and roundscale spearfish that were caught and/or landed, and making this option available is the first step toward correcting previously identified areas of inaccurate data. Further, instructional materials will be made available to tournament operators wishing to distinguish between these two species. A link to the informational materials is available on the tournament reporting form, and will be fully functional by October 2012 (POC Arietta Venizelos, SEFSC, Miami, FL).

The HMS Tournament Summary Report form in this renewal is a consolidation of the previous two forms: Billfish Summary Report and the HMS Summary Report. The previous forms were very similar in structure and content, but one included all HMS (i.e., billfishes, swordfish, tunas, and sharks) and the other included only billfishes and tunas. The two forms have been merged into one form to prevent confusion about reporting requirements among tournament operators. The forms have been simplified in two ways: (1) the requested data for each species (as a whole) have been narrowed down to include the number kept, released alive, and released dead, removing the number released with and without tags; and (2) the individual fish measurements have been removed from page 1 and are now requested in a separate table on page 2. Previous versions of the form have received criticism from tournament operators for being too confusing regarding individual vs. group measurements, and this change is intended to make the form more user-friendly by separating them into two tables.

A section has been added to the form that requests the exact fishing dates, times, and number of vessels. This information was requested in previous versions of the form, but in a format that was not as clear as it is in this modification. Further, an area in which other species data may be written has been included for the additional species that were listed on the HMS Tournament Registration form. Two submission addresses have been added to the instructions; one for tournaments held in the Gulf of Mexico and one for tournaments held in the Atlantic Ocean and Caribbean. These two addresses have been accurate during the lifespan of this data collection, but only one was printed on the form in previous versions. Correcting this error now will facilitate the most efficient data collection, as the single addressee will not be responsible for distributing forms to the additional addressee.

Finally, the instructions have been edited as appropriate to explain the sections.

The information that will be collected from HMS tournaments will be disseminated to the public or used to support publicly disseminated information. See responses to Questions 10 and 16 of this Supporting Statement for more information on data dissemination and use. NMFS will retain control over the personal information such as the tournament operator's name and address and safeguard it from improper access, modification, and destruction, consistent with legal standards and NOAA policy 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.

Tournament operators are required to register tournaments and to report tournament results on a NMFS form in order to standardize the data collected. Electronically-fillable (PDF) tournament registration and reporting forms are available for public printing from the HMS tournaments Web site at <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/Tournaments/index.htm>. The forms are also available via e-mail, mail, or fax upon request. The completed registration form may be e-mailed, faxed, or mailed back to NMFS. Many tournament operators have chosen in recent years to scan and submit their completed tournament registration forms by e-mail. In the past year, this number has grown to include over half of the tournament operators that register with NMFS. NMFS continues to consider the possibility of making the tournament registration and reporting data systems available on the Internet for direct data entry by tournament operators.

NMFS provides access, through the HMS tournaments Web site linked above, to general tournament registration information (tournament name, date(s), city, state, & target species) as a service to publicize tournaments and to inform potential tournament anglers of upcoming events and their registration status.

4. Describe efforts to identify duplication.

This collection does not duplicate or overlap with any other collection of information. The list of registered HMS tournaments is searched prior to registration to avoid duplicate submissions. Mandatory reporting of recreational non-tournament Atlantic billfish and swordfish landings and recreational Atlantic bluefin tuna landings occurs under a separately approved collection (Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Recreational Landings Reports; OMB Control No. 0648-0328). Although these collections could document similar activities, NMFS is cognizant of possible duplication and actively makes efforts to avoid it. For example, tournament landings are exempt from the Atlantic billfish and swordfish recreational reporting requirement, and the non-tournament recreational reporting system requests that the angler indicate if he is reporting tournament catch, as a safeguard. In addition, two other separate approved information collections including the Large Pelagic Fishing Survey (LPS; OMB Control No. 0648-0380) and the Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP; OMB Control No. 0648-0052) complement tournament registration and reporting. The LPS and MRIP include telephone surveys and dockside interviews with recreational anglers. These surveys actively identify and attempt to segregate tournament landings from other non-tournament recreational landings.

The Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP) has used HMS tournament reporting forms for special projects, such as the 2009 report, *Evaluation of the Sampling Distribution of Tournament Versus non-Tournament Trips in the Large Pelagics Survey*, but do not select tournaments for reporting as a regular part of MRIP. MRIP data collectors coordinate with RBS

data collectors who share billfish catch reports to ensure that no tournament is selected twice during these projects.

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

Three options are available for submission of the HMS Tournament Registration and Reporting forms; FAX, mail, and e-mail. The options are available to minimize the burden of submitting forms to NMFS, assuming that the operator would select the least cumbersome of the choices, based on personal preference. The forms are available online or, if the internet is not available, via telephone request and FAX or postal mail. Based on the availability of these options, this information collection will not have a significant impact on small entities because both the registration and reporting requirements require minimal time and effort to complete.

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

If the collection of tournament information were not conducted, NMFS would have difficulty complying with international obligations, such as ICCAT landings limits and reporting requirements. NMFS must have tournament information to evaluate the relative impact of various types of angling on HMS. If NMFS is unable to obtain this information, then the agency would be unable to fully assess the costs, benefits and likely impacts of subsequent regulations and rules regarding either HMS or HMS tournament angling, as required by the Magnuson-Stevens Act. Also, fishing tournaments provide a unique opportunity for biologists to obtain an abundance of fishery information in a relatively short time period. It is both efficient and essential to gather this information, as it is already being collected by operators of HMS angling tournaments (catch and effort data, landings, etc.), so that it can be incorporated into the formulation of HMS fishery management policies. Likewise, fishing tournaments provide a unique opportunity for NMFS to distribute HMS educational and regulatory outreach materials to a large number of anglers. The frequency of this information collection directly coincides with the frequency of the tournament activities, making the most efficient and timely fisheries information available, and would therefore be inappropriate at different or less frequent times.

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

OMB guidelines state that an information collection should not require respondents to prepare a written response in fewer than thirty days after they receive the request. Since tournament operators are required to register at least four weeks in advance of the tournament, selection of tournaments for reporting (request for catch report) occurs shortly thereafter, and reporting is required within 7 days after the tournament has ended, this requirement should be met. In the event that an operator does not register with HMS at least four weeks prior to the start of the tournament, the written response may be requested with fewer than 30 days until it is due. The 7-day reporting time frame is due to international obligations of NMFS to monitor the catch of certain HMS species according to agreed-upon international quotas or agreed-upon reductions in landings, established to ensure the sustainability of such species.

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 soliciting public comment on this proposed collection of information was published on May 7, 2012 (77 FR 26743).

One comment was received, stating that HMS tournaments should be banned because HMS are overfished. The agency has not taken any action in response to this comment because this action is a renewal of a data collection requirement and it is not within the scope of this renewal to consider whether or not HMS tournaments may operate. That issue is more appropriately addressed in the context of fishery management measures. The information collected from HMS tournaments is important to the United States to meet international ICCAT reporting obligations and to aid in evaluating the biological, social, and economic impact of tournament angling, including the assessment of the fishing impact on and health of HMS stocks.

NMFS routinely consults with outside parties to obtain the public's view on the availability of fishery data, frequency of data collection, clarity of instructions and recordkeeping requests, disclosure of information, reporting format, and the data elements to be recorded, disclosed, or reported. These consultations occur in the context of HMS Advisory Panel meetings, public hearings, written correspondence, telephone conversations, and conversations with tournament anglers and tournament operators. Further, an HMS tournament operator survey (under the generic collection OMB Control No. 0648-0342) is currently being distributed to all tournament operators in 2012, the results of which will be analyzed at the end of the calendar year. This survey will collect the opinions of tournament operators, including which modes of transmission they prefer and what suggestions they have to improve the HMS tournament registration and reporting program. The survey has been composed, in part, to reduce the burden of future registration and reporting requirements on tournament operators/reporters.

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

No payment or gifts will be provided to respondents.

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

There is a Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) statement, addressing confidentiality, printed on public notification materials, including the tournament registration and reporting forms. It is NOAA policy to preserve the confidentiality of information submitted under this reporting requirement, except that NMFS may release such information in aggregate or summary form, such that individual identifiers are not disclosed ([NAO 216-100](#)). Information such as the number of registered tournaments, the species that they targeted, and the states in which they occurred is provided in the annual Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) Report, in Fishery Management Plan (FMP) regulatory amendments, and in supporting documents made

available to the public upon request. A statement is included on the tournament registration form, informing operators that tournament information (tournament name, date(s), city, state, & target species) will be posted online at <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/Tournaments> as a service to publicize tournaments and to inform potential tournament anglers of upcoming events that are in compliance with HMS regulations. All other information submitted under this reporting requirement remains confidential, or is released only in aggregate or summary form such that individual identifiers (e.g., tournament operator's name, phone number, postal address, and e-mail address) are not disclosed.

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 questions of a sensitive nature, such as sexual behavior and attitudes, religious beliefs, or other matters that are commonly considered private are included in this information collection.

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

Approximately 300 tournament operators are expected to respond to the tournament registration form. With this number of respondents, and an approximate response time of 2 minutes per tournament registration form, we expect a total of 10 burden hours.

Tournament Registration: 300 respondents x 2 minutes = 10 hours

Up to 300 tournaments may be selected for reporting. Since this information is collected as a regular part of tournament operations, the time for each response is calculated based on the time it should take to transcribe the data onto HMS tournament reporting forms. With this approximate response time of 20 minutes for each of the 300 respondents, we expect a total of 100 burden hours for tournament reporting.

Tournament Reporting: 300 respondents x 20 minutes = 100 hours

Total Burden for Registration *and* Reporting: 10 hours + 100 hours = 110 hours.

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).

The only costs associated with this collection would be for mailing or faxing the forms to NMFS. For registration, given an estimated 300 respondents and assuming that half will e-mail (\$0.01 for the cost of two sheets of paper printed to sign and scan), a quarter will mail (\$0.45 postage), and a quarter will fax (\$0.20/ minute × 1 minute) the registration forms, it is estimated that the total annual cost to the respondents for registration will be approximately \$51.

Mode of Submission	Number of Respondents	Cost (\$)	Total (\$)
E-mail	150	0.01	1.50 (2)
Mail	75	0.45	33.75 (34)
FAX	75	0.20	15
Total Cost of Registration			51

Similarly, for tournament reporting, given 300 respondents (rounding up) and assuming that half will e-mail (\$0.01 for the cost of two sheets of paper printed to sign and scan), a quarter will mail (\$0.45 postage), and a quarter will fax (\$0.20/ minute × 1 minute) the reporting forms, it is estimated that the total annual cost to the respondents for registration will be approximately \$51.

Mode of Submission	Number of Respondents	Cost (\$)	Total (\$)
E-mail	150	0.01	1.50 (2)
Mail	75	0.45	33.75(34)
FAX	75	0.20	15
Total Cost of Reporting			51

In summary, the total annual cost burden to the respondents associated with this collection is expected to be approximately \$102 (\$51 for registration + \$51 for reporting).

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

Costs for printing and supplying the forms are expected to be minimal. A blank HMS tournament registration form is mailed annually to operators who have previously registered tournaments, along with a reminder to register tournaments for the upcoming year. The registration form is also available on the Internet and may be downloaded by respondents. In addition, NMFS provides a FAXed or e-mailed copy to respondents upon request. The registration form could be photocopied by respondents as needed. No new equipment or overhead costs will be incurred by NMFS, because existing equipment and staff will be used to collect and enter the data.

Estimated average hourly wage of staff (\$22/hr) × [time to print and mail form (5 minutes) + time to collect and enter data from form (5 minutes)] = \$3.67/form
 Number of registration and reporting forms (600) × \$3.67/form = \$2,202.

For mailing the registration form to tournament operators who have previously registered tournaments, given 300 tournaments at \$0.45/postage, and \$0.01/two sheets of paper, it is estimated that the annual cost to the Federal government will be approximately \$138.00.

The Atlantic HMS Tournament Summary Report form is e-mailed (to approximately 150 respondents) and mailed (approximately 150 respondents) to tournaments that are selected for reporting and, given 150 tournaments at \$0.45/postage, and \$0.01/two sheets of paper, it is estimated that the annual cost to the Federal government will be approximately \$69.00.

The cost to the Federal government to mail registration and reporting forms to tournaments is expected to be approximately \$207.00 (\$138.00 + \$69.00). The total cost to the Federal government, including staff wages for time spent on tournament form distribution and collection, is therefore \$207 + \$2,202 = \$2,409.

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

The changes to the forms do not affect the burden estimates.

The adjustment of the annual cost burden from \$192 to \$102 is due to the decrease in the use of paper and postage associated with mailing forms and the increase in the use of more cost-effective internet technologies such as e-mail.

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

These data are not being collected for the purpose of publication in raw form. The aggregate information may be publicly distributed in scientific stock assessments for individual species, in the annually published Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) Report, in Fishery Management Plan (FMP) amendments, or on NMFS internet sites. This could include information on the aggregate number of registered tournaments, the number of tournaments by state, and total landings by species and state. As a result, tournament information should be considered as one component, among many, factoring into fishery policy and management decisions.

Tournament information (tournament name, date(s), city, state, & target species) is provided by NMFS to the public as a service to publicize tournaments and to inform potential tournament anglers of upcoming events and their registration (compliance) status with NMFS.

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

1. Describe (including a numerical estimate) the potential respondent universe and any sampling or other respondent selection method to be used. Data on the number of entities (e.g. establishments, State and local governmental units, households, or persons) in the universe and the corresponding sample are to be provided in tabular form. The tabulation must also include expected response rates for the collection as a whole. If the collection has been conducted before, provide the actual response rate achieved.

All HMS tournaments (approximately 300: 210 targeting billfish and 90 targeting only tuna and/or sharks) are required to be registered and all 300 tournaments are eligible to be selected for reporting.

2. Describe the procedures for the collection, including: the statistical methodology for stratification and sample selection; the estimation procedure; the degree of accuracy needed for the purpose described in the justification; any unusual problems requiring specialized sampling procedures; and any use of periodic (less frequent than annual) data collection cycles to reduce burden.

As stated above, all HMS tournaments are eligible for reporting selection. Selection of tournaments for reporting is based on fisheries management program-based needs. At this time, the Recreational Billfish Survey (NMFS SEFSC) selects all billfish tournaments for reporting. While all HMS tournaments are eligible for reporting selection, the existing HMS tournaments program does not have the staff or technologies to collect and store the amount of data that would be produced by requiring all tournaments (including tunas and over 40 shark species) to report. NMFS is currently examining the resources required to collect the catch reports of all HMS tournaments in order to obtain reliable, long-term fishery-dependent data in an efficient manner.

3. Describe the methods used to maximize response rates and to deal with nonresponse. The accuracy and reliability of the information collected must be shown to be adequate for the intended uses. For collections based on sampling, a special justification must be provided if they will not yield "reliable" data that can be generalized to the universe studied.

Tournaments that are selected for reporting are required by law to submit a completed tournament summary form along with a copy of tournament rules to NMFS within seven days after the completion of tournament fishing (50 CFR 635.5(d)). The reporting form and selection notice are provided to tournament operators. Tournament operators already collect this information to determine a tournament winner. Because the information is readily available to tournament operators, it is possible to complete the reporting summary form quickly and easily. The only additional time or cost burden associated with the collection would be for transcribing, photocopying and mailing/faxing. Because of the mandatory requirement and because the reporting form summarizes information that tournament operators already have, NMFS anticipates a high response rate. In recent years, response rates have varied from 82 – 94%.

To further encourage a high response rate, NMFS conducts an outreach program (brochures, mailings, e-mail network, etc.) to inform tournament operators of the registration and reporting

requirements, and to indicate the importance of reliable tournament information for stock assessment purposes and social/economic analysis of potential management measures. Information obtained on the HMS tournament registration and reporting forms is analyzed for reliability before it is incorporated into stock assessments. In order to obtain more reliable and complete data, NMFS continues to consider the option to require all HMS tournaments to submit catch summaries.

4. Describe any tests of procedures or methods to be undertaken. Tests are encouraged as effective means to refine collections, but if ten or more test respondents are involved OMB must give prior approval.

The information obtained from HMS tournament reports may be incorporated into stock assessment documents, prepared by NOAA fishery scientists, if the data is considered reliable. The stock assessment documents are then discussed and peer-reviewed by domestic and international experts before any policy-related agreements or decisions are made. The peer review process may suggest any possible modifications to the information collection, if deemed necessary.

In 2012, NMFS developed an HMS tournament operator survey (OMB Control No. 0648-0342) that is now being distributed to all operators that registered a tournament in 2012. The survey requests the opinions of tournament operators regarding their experience registering their tournaments and reporting their catch with NMFS. The survey asks if operators would prefer alternative methods of obtaining forms and information, such as online, and if they have any suggestions for improvement in the information collection and its associated procedures. The results of this survey are expected to help the HMS tournaments program develop improved services that are appropriate for use by HMS tournament operators.

5. Provide the name and telephone number of individuals consulted on the statistical aspects of the design, and the name of the agency unit, contractor(s), grantee(s), or other person(s) who will actually collect and/or analyze the information for the agency.

For HMS Tournament Registration: Katie Davis
Tournament Registration Administration and Survey
Development
NMFS/HMS Management Division
263 13th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 824-5399

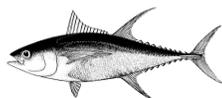
For HMS Tournament Reporting: Arietta Venizelos
Billfish Tournament Catch Reporting Data Collection
NMFS/Southeast Fisheries Science Center
75 Virginia Beach Drive
Miami, FL 33149
(305) 361-4214

Anna Avrigian
Billfish Tournament Catch Reporting Data Collection
NMFS/Southeast Fisheries Science Center
Panama City Laboratory
3500 Delwood Beach Road
Panama City, FL 32408
(850) 234-6541

Lisa Natanson
Northeast Shark Tournament Sampler/Data Collector
NMFS/Northeast Fisheries Science Center
Narragansett Laboratory
28 Tarzwell Drive
Narragansett, RI 02882
(401) 782-3320

Ron Salz
MRIP Administrator and Data Collector
NMFS/Fisheries Statistics
SSMC3
1315 East West Hwy
Silver Spring, MD 20910
(301) 427-8171

ATLANTIC HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES (HMS) TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION



TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

Name _____
 Port/City _____ State _____ Date(s) _____
 Has this event occurred before? (Y/N) _____ Most recent year _____

OPERATOR/DIRECTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Name _____
 Mailing Address _____
 Phone (____) _____ - _____ FAX (____) _____ - _____
 Email Address _____

Check the boxes next to the species for which points or prizes will be awarded:

SWORDFISH

BILLFISH

- Blue Marlin
- White Marlin*
- Roundscale Spearfish*
- White Marlin/
Roundscale Spearfish
(not differentiated)*

* These species are very similar in appearance. If the tournament will not identify the species separately, select "not differentiated."

- Sailfish
- Longbill Spearfish

SHARKS

- Large Coastal Sharks
 - Ridgeback
 - Non-ridgeback
- Small Coastal Sharks
- Pelagic Sharks

TUNAS

- Bluefin
- Bigeye
- Albacore
- Yellowfin
- Skipjack
- Blackfin**

OTHER FISH SPECIES**

** Registration is optional for these species.

- Please send _____ (#) copies of Atlantic HMS regulation booklets and other outreach materials for tournament participants.
- Please send confirmation of HMS tournament registration via email (for fastest reply).

Operator/Director Signature _____ **Date** _____

A list of registered tournaments, including tournament names, dates, cities, states, and target species, is posted for public viewing at www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/Tournaments.

Submit form via one of the following:

E-mail: HMSTournamentRegistry@noaa.gov

Mail: HMS Tournament Registry, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701

FAX: (727) 824-5398

Under Federal Regulations at 50 CFR 635.5, for all tournaments that are conducted from a port in an Atlantic coastal state, including the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico, a tournament operator must:

- (1) Register at least four (4) weeks prior to commencement of the tournament. The tournament is not registered unless the operator has received a confirmation number from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) HMS Management Division.
- (2) If selected by NMFS, operators must submit the catch and effort data from the tournament on an [HMS tournament summary reporting form](#), no later than seven (7) days after the conclusion of the tournament.

Thank you for helping NMFS track HMS recreational activities. The information collected through HMS tournament registration and reporting will be used to estimate tournament fishing effort and landings of HMS for stock assessments and national statistical reports. For more information about HMS or for current regulations, call the following phone numbers:

HMS Tournament Registration, Billfish, and Swordfish: (727) 824-5399

Sharks: (301) 427-8503

Tunas: (978) 281-9260

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT NOTICE: Collection of information through tournament registration and reporting provides essential information for the conservation and management of highly migratory species. This information will be used to estimate recreational landings of these species through tournaments and may be used to estimate fishing effort. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 2 minutes per response (tournament registration), 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 aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to NOAA Fisheries, Highly Migratory Species Management Division (F/SF1), 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Registering and, if selected, reporting, of tournaments is required under the authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act and the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act. It is NOAA policy to preserve the confidentiality of information submitted under this reporting requirement, except that NMFS may release such information in aggregate or summary form, such that individual identifiers are not disclosed (NAO-216-100). Tournament operators may voluntarily elect for NMFS to release information to the public regarding tournament name, date(s), city, state, and target species. Notwithstanding any other provision of 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.



Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Tournament Summary Report



Tournament Name							
Port Location (City, State)					Catch and Release Only? (Y/N)		
Total # Registered Boats			Fishing Club Affiliation				
	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
Fishing Date (mm/dd/yy)	/ /	/ /	/ /	/ /	/ /	/ /	/ /
Number of Boats Fishing							
Fishing Time (00:00 - 00:00)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Recorder's Name				Phone			E-mail

BILLFISHES AND SWORDFISH				TUNAS			
Species	Number Kept	Number Released Alive	Number Released Dead	Species	Number Kept	Number Released Alive	Number Released Dead
Blue Marlin				Bluefin			
White Marlin*				Bigeye			
Roundscale Spearfish*				Albacore			
White Marlin / Roundscale Spearfish (not differentiated)*				Yellowfin			
Sailfish				Skipjack			
Swordfish				Blackfin			
Longbill Spearfish							

SHARKS							
Species	Number Kept	Number Released Alive	Number Released Dead	Species	Number Kept	Number Released Alive	Number Released Dead
Blue				Nurse			
White				Lemon			
Porbeagle				Spinner			
Shortfin Mako				Tiger			
Common Thresher				Sandbar			
Smooth-Hound				Blacktip			
Atlantic Sharpnose				Bull			
Blacknose				Dusky			
Bonnethead				Great Hammerhead			
Finetooth				Scalloped Hammerhead			
Write additional shark species under OTHER SPECIES.							

OTHER SPECIES (Write-in)							
Species	Number Kept	Number Released Alive	Number Released Dead	Species	Number Kept	Number Released Alive	Number Released Dead

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**International Trade Administration****The Manufacturing Council: Work Session of the Manufacturing Council**

AGENCY: International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of an Open Work Session.

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth the schedule and agenda for an open work session of the Manufacturing Council (Council). The agenda may change to accommodate Council work. The final agenda will be posted on the Department of Commerce Web site for the Council at <http://trade.gov/manufacturingcouncil>.

DATES: May 10, 2012, 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Central Daylight Time (CDT).

ADDRESSES: The work session will be held at Freescale Austin Technology and Manufacturing Center, 3501 Ed Bluestein Boulevard, Austin, Texas. All guests are requested to register in advance. This session will be physically accessible to people with disabilities. Seating is limited and is not guaranteed. Requests for sign language interpretation, other auxiliary aids, or pre-registration, should be submitted no later than May 7, 2012, to Jennifer Pilat, the Manufacturing Council, Room 4043, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230, telephone 202–482–4501, OACIE@trade.gov. Last minute requests will be accepted, but may be impossible to fill.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jennifer Pilat, the Manufacturing Council, Room 4043, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230, telephone: 202–482–4501, email: OACIE@trade.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background: The Council was re-chartered on April 5, 2012 to advise the Secretary of Commerce on matters relating to the U.S. manufacturing industry.

Topics To Be Considered: The Council will be conducting work regarding possibly advising the Secretary regarding the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement negotiations and energy policy and hear updates on the work being conducted by the Council's subcommittees. The Council will also be briefed by the ex-officio members present representing the Secretaries of the Treasury, Labor, and Energy on their respective agency's work in the areas of past Council recommendations.

No time will be available for oral comments from members of the public attending the session. Any member of the public may submit pertinent written comments concerning the Council's affairs at any time before or after the session.

Comments may be submitted to Jennifer Pilat at the contact information indicated above. To be considered during the session, comments must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on May 7, 2012, to ensure transmission to the Council prior to the session.

Comments received after that date will be distributed to the members but may not be considered at the session.

Dated: May 2, 2012.

Jennifer Pilat,

Executive Secretary, The Manufacturing Council.

[FR Doc. 2012–10980 Filed 5–4–12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DR–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Tournament Registration and Reporting**

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 July 6, 2012.

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).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Katie Davis, (727) 824–5399 or Katie.Davis@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

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

Under the provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*), NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is responsible for management of the nation's marine fisheries. Existing regulations require operators of tournaments involving Atlantic highly migratory species (HMS), specifically Atlantic swordfish, sharks, billfish, and tunas, to register four weeks in advance of the tournament. Operators must provide contact information and the tournament's date(s), location(s), and target HMS. If selected by NMFS, operators are required to submit an HMS tournament summary report within seven days after tournament fishing has ended. Most of the catch data in the summary report is routinely collected in the course of regular tournament operations. NMFS uses the data to estimate the total annual catch of HMS and the impact of tournament operations in relation to other types of fishing activities. In addition, HMS tournament registration provides a method for tournament operators to request educational and regulatory outreach materials from NMFS.

II. Method of Collection

Operators have a choice of either electronic or paper forms. Methods of submittal include email of electronic forms, and mail and facsimile transmission of paper forms.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0648–0323.
Form Number: None.

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

Affected Public: Not-for-profit institutions; business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 300.

Estimated Time Per Response: Tournament registration, 2 minutes; tournament summary reporting, 20 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 110.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$135 in recordkeeping/reporting costs.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including

whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: May 2, 2012.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 2012-10907 Filed 5-4-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XC017

Fishing Capacity Reduction Program for the Southeast Alaska Purse Seine Salmon Fishery

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

ACTION: Notice of reduction payment tender of Southeast Alaska purse seine salmon permits.

SUMMARY: The National Marine Fisheries Service published regulations implementing a fishing capacity reduction program in the Southeast Alaska purse seine salmon fishery. The program authorizes NMFS to make payments to permit holders who voluntarily relinquish their fishing permits. The Southeast Revitalization Association (SRA) conducted a bid selection process accepting sixty-four bids to remove Southeast Alaska purse seine salmon permits. It then submitted a reduction plan to NMFS to implement the program. NMFS conducted a referendum which approved the reduction loan repayment fees of \$13,133,030 which post-reduction harvesters will repay over a 40-year period removing 64 permits. Accordingly, NMFS is preparing to tender reduction payments to the accepted bidders.

DATES: The public has until June 6, 2012 to inform NMFS of any holding, owning, or retaining claims that conflict with the representations of bids as presented by the SRA.

ADDRESSES: Send comments about this notice to Paul Marx, Chief, Financial Services Division, NMFS, Attn: SE Alaska Purse Seine Salmon Buyback, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael A. Sturtevant at (301) 427-8799, fax (301) 713-1306, or michael.a.sturtevant@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The Southeast Alaska purse seine salmon fishery is a commercial fishery in Alaska state waters and adjacent Federal waters. It encompasses the commercial taking of salmon with purse seine gear, and participation is limited to fishermen designated by the Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC).

NMFS published proposed program regulations on May 23, 2011 (76 FR 29707), and final program regulations on October 6, 2011 (76 FR 61986), to implement the reduction program. Subsequently, the Southeast Revitalization Association submitted a capacity reduction plan to NMFS. NMFS approved the plan on February 24, 2012. NMFS published the list of eligible voters on March 1, 2012 (77 FR 12568) and the notice of referendum period on March 29, 2012 (77 FR 19004). Interested persons should review these for further program details.

II. Present Status

NMFS conducted a referendum to determine the industry's willingness to repay a fishing capacity reduction loan to purchase the permits identified in the reduction plan. NMFS mailed ballots to 379 permanent permit holders in the fishery designated as S01A by CFEC who were eligible to vote in the referendum. The voting period opened on March 30, 2012, and closed on April 30, 2012. NMFS received 269 timely and valid votes. 215 of the votes approved the fees. This exceeded the majority of permit holders (190) required for industry fee system approval. Therefore, the referendum is deemed successful and permit holders are deemed to have approved the industry fee system. Accordingly, the reduction contracts are in full force and effect and NMFS is now preparing to tender and disburse reduction payments to selected bidders.

III. Purpose

NMFS publishes this notice to inform the public before tendering reduction payments to the 64 accepted bidders. Upon receiving notice from CFEC that the permit has been relinquished and is no longer valid, NMFS will tender reduction payments on or about June 6, 2012. When NMFS tenders a reduction payment to a selected bidder, the selected bidder must permanently stop all further fishing represented by each reduction permit the bidder has relinquished. The selected bidder, in accordance with section 5 of the relinquishment contract, must notify all creditors or other parties with security interests in the reduction permit, that they have entered into the relinquishment contract.

This notice provides the public (including creditors or other parties) 30 days from publication of this notice to advise NMFS in writing of any holding, owning, or retaining claims that conflict with the representations of bids as presented by the SRA.

IV. Selected Bidders and Permits

The table below lists the 64 permit holders who will receive reduction payments when NMFS receives confirmation from CFEC that the specified permits have been relinquished.

Last name	First name	Permit No.
Alfieri	Joe	S01A607911
Alfieri	Anthony	S01A55646M
Barrett	Davis	S01A58501W
Beritch	Mitchell	S01A58923M
Bill	David	S01A58338U
Blair	Andrew	S01A59085F
Botsford	Wallace	S01A63175B
Buschmann ..	Ronn	S01A55479D
Christensen ..	Dale	S01A60803V
DeGroen	Johnny	S01A58505S
Demmert	Nicholas	S01A56948W
Dontos	Larry	S01A59705K
Fanning	Christine	S01A60909J
Finney	Paul	S01A64933S
Gruenheit	Michael	S01A55083V
Haldane	Robert	S01A56620L
Haltiner	Fred	S01A55617L
Hansen	William	S01A55442A
Hanson	Jeff	S01A57976
Haynes	Bradley	S01A574950
Jensen	Douglas	S01A59714N
Johns	Justna	S01A55403
Jolibois	Timothy	S01A56018A
Jurlin	Marie	S01A58547R
Kohlase	Ernest	S01A56199V
Krieger	Kenneth	S01A59613M
Krigbaum	Michael	S01A58031W
Kvernvik	Caroyal	S01A55231R
MacDonald ...	Clifford	S01A55545L
Mann	Bruce	S01A56187
Manos	Andrew	S01A59222I
Manos	Thomas	S01A60642C
Maricich	Timothy	S01A59569W
Markusen	Kenneth	S01A55584K