

NOTICE OF OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET ACTION

Diana Hynek  
Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer  
Office of the Chief Information Officer  
14th and Constitution Ave. NW.  
Room 6625  
Washington, DC 20230

09/15/2005

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, OMB has taken the following action on your request for approval of a revision of an information collection received on 07/01/2005.

TITLE: Alaska Region Scale & Catch Weighing Requirements

AGENCY FORM NUMBER(S): None

ACTION : APPROVED WITHOUT CHANGE

OMB NO.: 0648-0330

EXPIRATION DATE: 11/30/2005

BURDEN:	RESPONSES	HOURS	COSTS(\$,000)
Previous	13,034	10,032	15
New	17,896	11,716	339
Difference	4,862	1,684	324
Program Change		1,684	324
Adjustment		0	0

TERMS OF CLEARANCE: None

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OMB Authorizing Official	Title
Donald R. Arbuckle	Deputy Administrator, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs

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# 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  
SCALE AND CATCH WEIGHING REQUIREMENTS  
OMB CONTROL NO.: 0648-0330**

**INTRODUCTION**

Under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801, *et seq.*) (Magnuson Stevens Act), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) manages the groundfish fisheries of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area (BSAI) in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) off the coast of Alaska. The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) prepared Amendment 79 to the Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area to reduce bycatch and improve utilization of groundfish harvested by catcher/processors that use trawl gear in the BSAI, that are equal to or greater than 125 ft (38.1 m) length overall (LOA), and that are not subject to the American Fisheries Act (AFA). These vessels are referred to as non-AFA trawl catcher/processors. This action is intended to promote the management objectives of the Improved Retention/Improved Utilization (IR/IU) program (50 CFR part 679.27).

This action adds 16 non-AFA, trawl catcher/processors regulated under the annual Groundfish Retention Standard (GRS) to this collection of information. The percent of groundfish retained is a percent calculated as a specified ration of the round weight equivalent of total retained groundfish to total groundfish. The GRS is enforced on an individual vessel basis as opposed to a sector basis, so that vessels that chronically fail to meet the standard could not impose a penalty on those vessels that consistently meet these requirements.

**A. JUSTIFICATION**

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

a. All regulated vessels are required to use NMFS-approved scales to determine the weight of total catch. In addition, operators of these vessels must ensure that a NMFS-approved observer for verification observes each haul that all fish are weighed. Each vessel is required to provide a single collection point for observers (observer sampling station) to collect samples for the purpose of reducing the potential of sample bias. Observer sampling of each haul is necessary to determine the percentage of the total catch that is comprised of groundfish.

The Council's analysis of groundfish retention rates in the BSAI fishery revealed that vessels in the non-AFA trawl catcher/processor sector had the lowest retained catch rates of any groundfish trawl fishery in the BSAI. The EA/RIR/IRFA for Amendment 79 reported that the non-AFA trawl catcher/processor sector had a retained groundfish catch rate of 75.1 percent in 2001. However, during the same year in the BSAI, AFA trawl catcher/processors had a retained catch rate of 99.1 percent, pot catcher/processors had a retained catch rate of 93.5 percent and longline catcher/processors had a retained catch rate of 85.4 percent. In 2001, the non-AFA trawl catcher/processor sector accounted for 67 percent of all discards in the BSAI. For these reasons, the GRS program authorized under Amendment 79 focuses on this sector for improved groundfish retention rates and reduced bycatch.

Amendment 79 implements an annual GRS for non-AFA trawl catcher/processors equal to or greater than 125 ft (38.1 m) length overall (LOA). The percent of groundfish retained is a percent calculated as a specified ratio of the round-weight equivalent of total retained groundfish to total groundfish catch. The owners or operators of these vessels are required to meet this standard on an annual basis. The use of total groundfish catch in the denominator of the calculation, instead of total catch, is meant to avoid a potential incentive to target on non-groundfish species and to recognize that retention of non-groundfish often is either impractical or prohibited. Further, the catch of groundfish that is required to be treated as prohibited species under 50 CFR 679.20(d)(2) is removed from the GRS calculation for individual vessels. By removing groundfish that are in prohibited species status, vessel operators are not held accountable for retaining catch that they are required to discard. Groundfish species closed to directed fishing are included in the calculation for percent of groundfish retained, because species taken incidental to target species may be retained up to the maximum retainable amount (MRA) (50 CFR 679.20(e)). This constraint is intended to provide an incentive to reduce incidental catch while providing flexibility to catch target species. GRS ratios are provided annually.

**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 applicable NOAA Information Quality Guidelines.**

**a. Scales**

All GRS regulated vessels are required to use NMFS-approved scales to determine the weight of total catch. In addition all vessels must obtain sufficient observer coverage to ensure each haul is observed for verification that all fish are weighed.

<b>NMFS-approved flow scales, Respondent</b>	
Number of respondents (16 – 9) 16 vessels required to have scales 9 already have scales; 7 need to purchase scales	<b>7</b>
<b>Total annual responses</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Total initial capital costs</b>	<b>\$257000</b>
NMFS-approved flow scale @ \$50,000 ea x 7 = \$350000 Equipment Installation = \$20,000 to \$100,000 = \$60,000 ea x 7 = \$770,000 Total = \$770,000/3 yr = \$257,000	
<b>Total burden hours</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total personnel costs</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total annual miscellaneous</b>	<b>0</b>

<b>NMFS-approved flow scales, Federal Government</b>	
Total burden hours	0
Total personnel cost	0
Total miscellaneous cost	0

**b. Observer sampling station**

Each vessel is required to provide a single location for observers to collect samples. Observer sampling of each haul is necessary to determine the percentage of the total catch that is

comprised of groundfish. This information is used to estimate total groundfish weight used in the denominator of the GRS calculation.

<b>Observer sampling station, Respondent</b>	
Number of respondents	7
16 vessels required to have observer sampling stations	
9 already have; 7 need to purchase observer sampling stations	
<b>Total annual responses</b>	7
<b>Total initial capital costs</b>	\$63000
Observer sampling station equipment	
\$6,000 to \$12,000 = \$9,000 ea x 7	
<b>Total burden hours</b>	0
<b>Total personnel cost</b>	0
<b>Total miscellaneous costs</b>	0

<b>Observer sampling station, Federal Government</b>	
Total burden hours	0
Total personnel cost	0
Total miscellaneous cost	0

**c. Records of daily scale tests.**

To verify that each scale used to weigh total catch meets the Maximum Permissible Error (MPE), the operator must ensure the daily test is performed on each scale or scale system in an accurate and timely manner when use of the scale is required. Each scale used to weigh total catch must be tested daily.

The observer must be notified at least 15 minutes before the time that the test will be conducted, and the test must be conducted while the observer is present.

NMFS observers, enforcement staff, and scale program staff to ensure regulatory compliance and to monitor the accuracy of the scales use information from the form.

Record on the daily scale test form:

**Records of daily scale test**

Vessel name

Month, day, and year of test

Time test started (to the nearest minute)

Platform scale weight of the fish

Collect approximately 400 kg of fish in baskets and weigh it on the platform scale.

Record the weight of each basket of fish (basket plus fish) in Section I of the form.

Record the total weight of all baskets plus fish in the first box in Section II.

Record the weight of the baskets in the second box.

Subtract the weight of the baskets from the total weight of fish plus baskets to determine the weight of the fish only; record this weight in the third box in Section II

Flow scale weight of fish

Record the weight displayed on the flow scale before and after the test fish are weighed.

Weigh the fish from the baskets on the flow scale.

Record the weight in the fourth box of Section II (B).

Percent error of flow scale

Subtract the platform scale weight (A) from the flow scale weight (B).

Record the error (C) in the fifth box of Section II.

Calculate percent error by dividing the error (C) by the known weight of the fish (A) and multiplying by 100.

Record this information in the last box of Section II.

The scale is weighing within 3 percent error if the result is between -3.0% and +3.0%.

Record Beaufort Scale sea conditions at time of test.

Signature of vessel operator and observer.

When tested, the total catch weighing scale and the observer sampling station scale must agree within 3 percent. If the scale fails the daily test, it may be re-tested at any time. However, it may not be used to weigh fish until it passes the daily test.

The daily test information may be recorded on either a “pdf.” format file or an “excel” spreadsheet, available from the Alaska Region home page. Although not submitted to NMFS, the forms must be available for inspection on board or onsite until the end of the fishing year during which the tests were conducted and retained by the owner for three years after the test occurred.

<b>Records of daily scale tests, Respondent</b>	
<b>Number of respondents</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Total annual responses</b> (16 x 135)	<b>2160</b>
Frequency of response (2 to 200 = 135)	
<b>Total burden hours</b> (2160 x 0.75)	<b>1620</b>
Time per response (45 min/60 min = 0.75)	
<b>Total personnel cost</b> (\$25 x 1620)	<b>\$40500</b>
<b>Total miscellaneous costs</b> (16 x \$35)	<b>\$560</b>
Binders, printer paper	

<b>Records of daily scale tests, Federal Government</b>	
<b>Total annual responses</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total burden hours</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total miscellaneous costs</b>	<b>0</b>

**d. Inspection Request, At-sea Scales**

All groundfish harvested and processed by catcher/processors must be weighed at-sea prior to processing. Once a scale is installed on a vessel and approved by NMFS for use to weigh catch at sea, the scale must be inspected and approved annually by a NMFS-approved scale inspector to determine if the scale meets all of the applicable performance and technical requirements. The scale inspection is required before the vessel participates in any fishery requiring the weighing of catch at sea. A scale inspection is a visual assessment and test of a scale after it is installed on the vessel, while the vessel is tied up at a dock and not under power at sea.

Each scale must be re-inspected within 12 months of the date of the most recent inspection. The owner or operator annually must submit an inspection request to NMFS for each vessel that is required to have approved scales. NMFS-authorized scale inspectors to schedule and conduct a scale inspection on scales use the request.

**Inspection Request, At-sea Scales**

General

- Company name
- Vessel name
- Mailing address
- Vessel location
- Contact person on board

Telephone and FAX numbers for contact person  
 Requested inspection date  
 Today's date  
 Telephone number on vessel where inspector may be contacted during inspection

Scales To Be Inspected

Manufacturer name and model  
 Indicate YES or NO whether repair company will be onsite at time of inspection  
 Repair company name  
 Contact person name and telephone number

<b>Inspection Request, At-sea Scales, Respondent</b>	
Number of respondents	16
<b>Total annual responses</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Total burden hours</b> (16 x 0.1 = 1.6) Hours per response = 0.1 hr	<b>2 hr</b>
<b>Total personnel cost</b> (2 x \$25)	<b>\$50</b>
<b>Total miscellaneous cost</b> (\$2.4) Photocopy (16 x 0.10 = 1.6) Electronic submittal (16 x .05 = 0.8)	<b>\$2</b>

<b>Inspection Request, At-sea Scales, Federal Government</b>	
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Total burden hours</b> (16 x .08 = 1.28) Hours per response (5/60 = 0.08)	<b>1 hr</b>
<b>Total personnel cost</b> (\$25 x 0.1)	<b>\$2.5</b>

**e. Printed output of at-sea scale weight**

NMFS staff, observers and NOAA Enforcement personnel to maintain accurate records of catch and to ensure compliance with quotas use the printed output of scale weights. The printout also forms the basis of an audit trail for each haul that can be used to resolve inconsistencies in catch reports submitted by the observer and the vessel or processor. These printouts are not submitted to NMFS, but they must be available for inspection on board the vessel or onsite during the fishing year and retained by the vessel or plant owner for three years after the test occurred.

Each scale used to weigh catch must be equipped with a printer, and a printout or printouts showing the total weight of each delivery must be generated after each delivery has been weighed. Reports must be printed at least once every 24 hours when use of the scale is required. Reports must be printed before any information stored in the scale computer memory is replaced. The printouts of the scale weight of each haul, set, or delivery must be made available upon request by the authorized scale inspector at each scale inspection and must also be printed at any time upon request of the observer, the scale inspector, NMFS staff, or an authorized officer at the time printouts are generated and thereafter upon request for the duration of the fishing year. The required information on the printout is programmed into the scale software and printing is nearly automatic.

**Printed output from the at-sea scale**

Vessel name  
 Federal fisheries permit number  
 Date and time the information was printed  
 Total amount weighed since the last printout was made  
 Total cumulative weight of all groundfish or other material weighed on the scale

<b>Printed output, Respondent</b>	
Number of respondents	16
<b>Total annual responses</b> (16 x 135)	<b>2160</b>
Frequency of response (2 to 200 = 135)	
<b>Total burden hours</b> (2160 x 0.02= 43.2)	<b>43 hr</b>
Time per response (1 min/60 min = 0.02)	
<b>Total personnel cost</b> (\$25 x 43)	<b>\$1075</b>
<b>Total miscellaneous cost</b>	<b>\$2800</b>
Miscellaneous cost (binders, paper) (16 x \$35 = 560)	
Printer cost (\$420/3 yr = \$140 x 16 = 2240)	

<b>Printed output, Federal Government</b>	
Total burden hours	0
Total personnel cost	0
Total miscellaneous cost	0

#### f. At-sea scale approval report/sticker

Annually, the NMFS scale inspector for each scale approved completes one sticker. The vessel owner or operator must ensure that a “NMFS approved scale” sticker is on each approved scale and is legible or that the scale approval report is available for inspection by NMFS staff, United States Coast Guard personnel, or NMFS observers. The sticker lists the month and year the scale was approved.

<b>Scale approval sticker, Respondent</b>	
No. of respondents	16
<b>Total annual responses</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Total Time burden</b> (0.1 x 16)	<b>2 hr</b>
<b>Total personnel cost</b> (\$25 x 2)	<b>\$50</b>
<b>Total miscellaneous cost</b>	<b>0</b>

<b>Scale approval sticker, Federal Government</b>	
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Total Time burden</b> (16 x 4)	<b>64 hr</b>
Hours per response = 4 hr	
<b>Total Personnel Cost</b> (\$25 x 64)	<b>\$1600</b>
<b>Total miscellaneous cost</b>	<b>0</b>

#### g. Observer sampling station inspection request

Observer sampling stations provide a location where observers can work safely and effectively. These sampling stations must meet specifications for size, location, and content. Each observer sampling station must be inspected and approved by NMFS annually. An observer sampling station inspection request form provides the basic information needed to schedule and conduct an inspection.

##### Observer sampling station inspection request form

For catcher/processors using trawl gear, attach a diagram drawn to scale showing  
the location(s) where all catch will be weighed,  
the location where observers will sample unsorted catch, and  
the location of the observer sampling station.

Vessel name

Federal fisheries permit number

Mailing address  
 Vessel location, including street address, pier, and city  
 Name, telephone number, and FAX number for contact person on vessel  
 Requested inspection date  
 Today's date  
 Contact person's signature  
 Indicate YES or NO whether received and passed a scale inspection  
 If YES, indicate the date of the most recent inspection

<b>Observer Sampling Station Inspection Request Form, Respondent</b>	
No. of respondents	16
<b>Total annual responses</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Total Time burden</b> (0.1 x 16)	<b>2 hr</b>
<b>Total personnel cost</b> (\$25 x 2)	<b>\$50</b>
<b>Total miscellaneous cost</b>	<b>\$50</b>
Photocopy (16 x 0.10 = 1.6)	
FAX (8 x \$6 = 48)	
Electronic submittal (8 x .05 = 0.40)	

<b>Observer Sampling Station Inspection Request Form, Federal Government</b>	
No. of respondents	16
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Total burden hours</b> (16 x .08 = 1.28)	<b>2 hr</b>
Hours per response (5/60 = 0.08)	
<b>Total personnel cost</b> (\$25 x 2)	<b>\$50</b>
<b>Total miscellaneous cost</b>	<b>0</b>

**h. Prior notice to Observers of scale tests**

Each catcher/processor operator must notify the observer 15 minutes before the time that a scale test will be conducted and must conduct the test while the observer is present. This notice consists of vessel personnel verbally informing the observer that a scale test is scheduled.

<b>Prior notice to Observers of scale tests, Respondent</b>	
Number of respondents	16
<b>Total annual responses</b> (16 x 30)	<b>480</b>
Frequency of response (fishing days) = 30	0.03 hr
<b>Total burden hours</b> (480 x 0.03 hr = 14.4)	<b>15 hr</b>
Hours per response (2/60 = 0.03)	
<b>Total personnel cost</b> (\$25 x 15 hr)	<b>\$375</b>
<b>Total miscellaneous cost</b>	<b>0</b>

<b>Prior notice to Observers of scale tests, Federal Government</b>	
Total burden hours	0
Total personnel cost	0
Total miscellaneous cost	0

It is anticipated that the information collected will be disseminated to the public or used to support publicly disseminated information. As explained in the following 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 #10 of this Supporting Statement for more information on confidentiality and privacy. The information collection is designed to yield data that meet all applicable information quality guidelines. Prior

to dissemination, the information will be subjected to quality control measures and a pre-dissemination review pursuant to Section 515 of Public Law 106-554.

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

The flow scale record of daily scale tests form is available as a Microsoft Excel template that can be installed on the vessel's computer if the operator wishes to do so. The daily scale test form also is available on NMFS Alaska Region home page at <http://www.fakr.noaa.gov> and is fillable on-screen.

The request for inspection of at-sea scales and the request for inspection of observer sampling station are available as a fillable form.

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

None of the information on any of these forms duplicates other collections. This information collection is part of a specialized and technical program that is not like any other.

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

This collection of information does not impose a significant impact on small entities.

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

Without the flow scale record of daily scale test form, NMFS is unable to effectively audit catch in the non-AFA catcher/processor trawl fisheries. Without the daily scale testing and printed output frequency, NMFS would not be as confident of the accuracy of the scales. Given that scales are used only in fisheries where there are expectations of highly accurate catch monitoring, this would not be acceptable

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

No inconsistencies occur.

**8. Provide a copy of 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.**

Comments will be solicited through a coincidental proposed rule.

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

No plans exist to provide any payment or gift to respondents.

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

The information collected under the Magnuson-Stevens Act is confidential under section 402(b). The information is also confidential under NOAA Administrative Order 216-100, which sets forth procedures to protect confidentiality of fishery statistics.

**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.**

This information collection does not involve information of a sensitive nature.

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

Total estimated respondents: 97, up from 90. Total estimated responses: 17,896, up from 13,034. Total estimated burden hours: 11,716, up from 10,032. Total estimated personnel cost: \$293,881, up from \$251,781.

**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 #12 above).**

Total initial, one-time costs: \$320,000. Total estimated miscellaneous cost: \$18,697, up from \$15,285.

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

Total estimated burden hours: 993, up from 926 hr. Total estimated personnel cost: 24,790, up from \$23,138.

**15. Explain the reasons for any program changes or adjustments reported in Items 13 or 14 of the OMB 83-I.**

Program change: 16 non-AFA, trawl catcher/processors regulated under the annual GRS are included in this collection of information; the 7 new respondents did not have, and were required to purchase, flow scales and observer sampling stations. All 16 are required to comply with recordkeeping and reporting (R&R) requirements regarding scales. \$3,412 was added for miscellaneous expense related to scales.

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

The information collected will not be published, and no statistical sampling of the information is planned.

**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.**

The expiration date is shown on all forms except scale printouts and at-sea scale approval report/sticker. These exceptions are in formats that are not conducive to printing this information.

**18. Explain each exception to the certification statement identified in Item 19 of the OMB 83-I.**

The certification statement is shown on all forms except scale printouts and at-sea scale approval report/sticker. These exceptions are in formats that are not conducive to printing this information

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

This collection does not employ statistical methods.

<b>OBSERVER                  SAMPLING STATION                  INSPECTION REQUEST FORM</b>		Fax or mail completed forms and diagrams to:  Jason Stern North Pacific Groundfish Observer Program 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Bldg 4 Seattle, WA 98115 Ph: 206-526-4518 Fax: 206-526-4066 e-mail: station.inspections@noaa.gov
Vessel Name		
Federal Fishery Permit Number	Location of vessel including street address and city	
Mailing Address		
Contact Person On Vessel	Telephone Number for Contact Person	
Requested Inspection Date	Fax Number for Contact Person	
Today's Date	Requesting Person's Signature	

1. For scale inspections, please contact Alan Kinsolving at (907) 586-7237 for scheduling.
2. Have you received and passed a scale inspection? [ ] YES [ ] NO
3. If YES, what is the date of the most recent inspection? \_\_\_\_\_

Sample station inspections will be scheduled within ten (10) working days of receiving a request. Requests for inspections in Dutch Harbor will be scheduled within ten (10) days, but may be delayed several days due to weather or logistics.

<p><b>DIAGRAMS</b></p> <p>Please include your diagrams drawn to scale with your application.</p> <p><b>For catcher/processors using trawl gear and motherships</b>, a diagram drawn to scale showing the location(s) where all catch will be weighed, the location where observers will sample unsorted catch, and the location of the observer sampling station.</p> <p><b>For all other vessels</b>, a diagram drawn to scale showing the location(s) where catch comes on board the vessel, the location where observers will sample unsorted catch, the location of the observer sampling station, including the observer sampling scale, and the name of the manufacturer and model of the observer sampling scale.</p>
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**PUBLIC REPORTING BURDEN STATEMENT**

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 2 hours per response, including the time for reviewing the 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 the burden, to NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service, Alaska Region, Attn: Assistant Regional Administrator, Sustainable Fisheries Division, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668 (Attn: Lori Durall).

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Before completing this form please note the following: 1) NMFS may not conduct or sponsor this information request, and you are not required to respond to this information request, unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number; 2) This information is being used to manage the At-Sea Scales Program; 3) Federal law and regulations require and authorize NMFS to manage commercial fishing effort; 4) Submission of this information is required for scales approved by NMFS to weigh catch at sea; 5) Responses to this information request are not confidential.

## INSPECTION REQUEST At-Sea Scales

National Marine Fisheries Service  
P.O. Box 21668  
Juneau, AK 99802-1668  
(907) 586-7228  
FAX (907) 586-7465



### GENERAL

Company name:	Vessel name:
Mailing address:	Exact location of vessel:
Contact person on board:	Telephone Number for contact person:
Requested Inspection date:	FAX Number for contact person:
Today's date:	Please give a phone number on the vessel where the inspector may be contacted during the inspection:

### SCALES TO BE INSPECTED

	Manufacturer	Model
1		
2		
Will the repair company be on site at time of inspection?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Company name:	Contact person and phone:	

At the time of scale inspection please make sure that:

- 1) the scale is installed in a rigid and level manner,
- 2) the display and printer are connected and operational,
- 3) belts leading to the scale are connected and operational (not applicable to platform and hanging scales),
- 4) test weights and test weight certification documents are available for inspection (platform scales only),
- 5) a crew member will be available to help the inspector transport test materials and conduct the testing.

For more information contact: Alan Kinsolving, At-sea scales program coordinator,  
Phone: (907)-586-7237  
Email: [alan.kinsolving@noaa.gov](mailto:alan.kinsolving@noaa.gov)

**PUBLIC REPORTING BURDEN STATEMENT**

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 6 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to Sue Salveson, Assistant Regional Administrator, Sustainable Fisheries Division, Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802 (Attn: Lori Durall).

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

Before completing this form please note the following: 1) NMFS cannot conduct or sponsor this information request, and you are not required to respond to this information request, unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number; 2) this information is being used to manage the At-Sea Scales Program; 3) Federal law and regulations require and authorize NMFS to manage commercial fishing effort; 4) Submission of this information is required for scales approved by NMFS to weigh catch at sea; 5) Responses to this information request are not confidential except as required under the Privacy Act.

# Record of Daily Flow Scale Tests

Vessel Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Time test started: \_\_\_\_\_

## I. Weigh Fish on Observer Platform Scale

Basket #	Wt Fish + Basket (kg)	Basket #	Wt Fish + Basket (kg)	Basket #	Wt Fish + Basket (kg)	Basket #	Wt Fish + Basket (kg)
1		8		15		21	
2		9		16		22	
3		10		17		23	
4		11		18		24	
5		12		19		25	
6		13		20		26	
7		14		Total weight all fish+baskets			

## II. Calculate Percent Error of Flow Scale

Scale Indicator: \_\_\_\_\_ Begin Test: ..... kg

End Test: ..... kg

Total weight fish and baskets (kg)	- Weight of Baskets	= Platform scale weight of fish	Weight of Fish on Flow Scale (kg)	Error (B) - (A)	% Error = (C)÷(A) x 100
		(A)	(B)	(C)	

## III. Sea Conditions (Beaufort Scale) at Time of Scale Test (Check One):

0    1    2    3    4    5    6    7    8    9    10    11    12

Signature of vessel operator
I observed this test and to the best of my knowledge it was conducted in accordance with 50 CFR 679.28 (b)(3)
Signature of observer

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Collect approximately 400 kg of fish in baskets and weigh the baskets of fish on the platform scale. Record the weight of each basket of fish (basket plus fish) in Section I.
2. Record the total weight of all baskets plus fish in the first box in Section II.
3. Record the weight of the baskets in the second box. Subtract the weight of the baskets from the total weight of fish plus baskets to determine the weight of the fish only, record this weight in the third box in Section II. This is the platform scale weight of the fish (A).
4. Record the weight displayed on the flow scale before and after the test fish are weighed. .
5. Weigh the fish from the baskets on the flow scale. Record the weight in the fourth box of Section II (B).
6. Calculate error of flow scale by subtracting the platform scale weight (A) from the flow scale weight (B). Record the error (C) in the fifth box of Section II.
7. Calculate percent error by dividing the error (C) by the known weight of the fish (A) and multiplying by 100. Record this information in the last box of Section II. The scale is weighing within 3 percent error if the result is between -3.0% and +3.0%.
8. Record Beaufort Scale sea conditions at time of test.
9. Have form signed by vessel operator and observer..

## Additional Information

- ✓ A daily scale test must be conducted once every 24 hours when the scale is being used to weigh catch at-sea.
- ✓ If the scale fails the daily test, it may be re-tested at any time. However, it may not be used to weigh crab until it passes the daily test.
- ✓ This form must be maintained on board the vessel until the end of the fishing year in which it was completed. It must be retained by the vessel owner for three years, and must be made available to NMFS personnel, observers or authorized officers when requested.
- ✓ Questions or comments concerning this form or the daily test can be directed to:
  - Alan Kinsolving
  - Scales Program Coordinator
  - National Marine Fisheries Service
  - P.O. Box 21668
  - Juneau, AK 99801
  - Phone: (907)-586-7237
  - Fax: (907)-586-7465
  - Email [alan.kinsolving@noaa.gov](mailto:alan.kinsolving@noaa.gov)

### **PUBLIC REPORTING BURDEN STATEMENT**

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 45 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to Sue Salveson, Assistant Regional Administrator, Sustainable Fisheries Division, Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802 (Attn: Lori Gravel).

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Before completing this form please note the following: 1) Notwithstanding any other provision of 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; 2) This information is mandatory and is required to manage commercial fishing efforts under 50 CFR part 680, under section 402(a) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act (16 U.S.C. 1801, *et seq.*) and under 16 U.S.C. 1862(j); 3) Responses to this information request are confidential under section 104(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act (16 U.S.C. 1801, *et seq.*) They are also confidential under NOAA Administrative Order 216-100, which sets forth procedures to protect confidentiality of fishery statistics

# Automatic Hopper Scale Record of Daily Scale Tests

\_\_\_\_\_ Vessel Operator Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Date</b>				<b>Time Test Started:</b>								
<b>Minimum Capacity of Scale</b>				<b>Maximum Capacity of Scale</b>								
Test Weights	Weight on Scale Indicator	Error (B) – (A)	% Error = (C) / (A) x 100	Test Weights	Weight on Scale Indicator	Error (B) – (A)	% Error = (C) / (A) x 100					
(A)	(B)	(C)		(A)	(B)	(C)						
<b>Sea Conditions (Beaufort Scale) at Time of Scale Test (Circle One):</b>												
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

<b>Date:</b>				<b>Time Test Started:</b>								
<b>Minimum Capacity of Scale</b>				<b>Maximum Capacity of Scale</b>								
Test Weights	Weight on Scale Indicator	Error (B) – (A)	% Error = (C) / (A) x 100	Test Weights	Weight on Scale Indicator	Error (B) – (A)	% Error = (C) / (A) x 100					
(A)	(B)	(C)		(A)	(B)	(C)						
<b>Sea Conditions (Beaufort Scale) at Time of Scale Test (Circle One):</b>												
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

<b>Date:</b>				<b>Time Test Started:</b>								
<b>Minimum Capacity of Scale</b>				<b>Maximum Capacity of Scale</b>								
Test Weights	Weight on Scale Indicator	Error (B) – (A)	% Error = (C) / (A) x 100	Test Weights	Weight on Scale Indicator	Error (B) – (A)	% Error = (C) / (A) x 100					
(A)	(B)	(C)		(A)	(B)	(C)						
<b>Sea Conditions (Beaufort Scale) at Time of Scale Test (Circle One):</b>												
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Record the date and time the scale test is started. Multiple days are provided on one page.
2. Record the weight of test weights equal to the minimum capacity of the scale (A).
3. Record the weight displayed on the scale indicator after the test weights are added to the bottom of the scale (B).
4. Calculate error of the scale by subtracting the weight of test weights (A) from the weight indicated on the scale (B). Record the error (C).
5. Calculate percent error by dividing the error (C) by the known weight (A) and multiplying by 100. Record this information in the last box. The scale is weighing within 2 percent error if the result is between -2.0% and +2.0%.
6. Repeat steps 1 to 5 for the maximum capacity of the scale.
7. Record Beaufort Scale sea conditions at time of test.
8. Have form signed by vessel operator.

## Additional Information

- ✓ A daily scale test must be conducted once every 24 hours when the scale is being used to weigh catch at-sea.
- ✓ If the scale fails the daily test, it may be re-tested at any time. However, it may not be used to weigh crab until it passes the daily test.
- ✓ This form must be maintained on board the vessel until the end of the fishing year in which it was completed. It must be retained by the vessel owner for three years, and must be made available to NMFS personnel, observers or authorized officers when requested.
- ✓ Questions or comments concerning this form or the daily test can be directed to:
  - Alan Kinsolving
  - Scales Program Coordinator
  - National Marine Fisheries Service
  - P.O. Box 21668
  - Juneau, AK 99801
  - Phone: (907)-586-7237
  - Fax: (907)-586-7465
  - Email [alan.kinsolving@noaa.gov](mailto:alan.kinsolving@noaa.gov)

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