

**PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT
 DOC/NOAA ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE DATA SURVEYS FOR
 WEST COAST COMMERCIAL FISHERIES CLEARANCE
 OMB CONTROL NUMBER 0648-0369**

This form should only be used if you are submitting a collection of information for approval under the DOC/NOAA Information Collection Request for Economic Performance Data surveys for the West Coast Commercial Fisheries assigned OMB control number 0648-0369. Mail this form, responses to the supplemental questions, the collection instrument, 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 D.C. 20503.** If the collection does not satisfy the requirements of the program clearance, you should follow the regular PRA clearance procedures described in 5 CFR 1320.

Title (Please be specific)

Burden Hour Estimates

Number of respondents	Total Burden Hours
Hours per response	Cumulative Burden Hours under Program Clearance

Agency Contact (*person who can best answer questions about the content of the submission*)

Name

Phone

Certification: The collection of information requested by this submission meets the requirement of the OMB approval for OMB control number 0648-0369.

 Signature of Program Official

 Date

 Signature of NOAA Paperwork Clearance Officer

 Date

 OIRA

 Date

West Coast Open Access Groundfish and Salmon Survey Responses to Supplemental Questions for PRA Clearance OMB Review of Individual Instruments

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) will submit each individual instrument for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) review. Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) will inform the agency when each instrument is cleared, after which the agency may use OMB Control No. 0648-0369. The information provided along with each instrument must address the following items:

1. The potential respondent universe and any sampling or other respondent selection method to be used and the expected response rate.

Potential Respondent Universe

The objective of the West Coast Open Access Groundfish and Salmon Cost Earnings Survey (hereafter “the survey”) is to obtain representative cost earnings data on commercial fishing vessels which participate in the federally managed West Coast open access groundfish and salmon fisheries. The survey population is all commercial fishing vessels which (1) did not have a federal limited entry permit during 2005-6, (2) earned at least \$2,000 from West Coast groundfish and salmon landings during 2005-6, and (3) earned at least 5% of their West Coast landed revenue from groundfish and salmon.

Vessels with a limited entry permit have already been surveyed through OMB approved surveys. Vessels with less than \$2,000 of ex vessel revenue from West Coast groundfish and salmon landings during 2005-6 (an annual average of \$1,000 revenue from groundfish and salmon) had too small an operation in the groundfish and salmon fisheries to provide meaningful cost earnings data. The requirement for at least 5% of revenue from groundfish and salmon is designed to omit vessels which earn large revenues in the crab and/or highly migratory species fishery, but also earn a relatively small amount of revenue in the groundfish or salmon fishery. For example, a vessel might have earned \$490,000 in the highly migratory species fishery and \$10,000 in the groundfish fishery during 2005-6. Cost earnings data from such a vessel will tell us very little about operations in the groundfish fishery, as groundfish revenue accounts for only 2% of the vessels revenue despite being \$10,000. Omitting these vessels from the survey population will also help keep from placing some vessels in the survey population for cost earnings surveys of multiple fisheries.

Fishticket data obtained through the PacFIN (Pacific Coast Fisheries Information Network) system indicates that there are 1,352 vessels in the survey population.¹ The survey population includes 321 vessels which participated in both the groundfish and salmon fisheries, 360 vessels which participated in the groundfish but not the salmon fishery, and 671 vessels which participated in the salmon but not the groundfish fishery. These statistics show that of the 1,352 vessels in the survey population, the West Coast open access groundfish fleet consists of 681 vessels and the West Coast open access salmon fleet consists of 992 vessels, with some vessels included in both fleets.

¹ This estimate is based on preliminary 2006 PacFIN data that may be revised. However, past experience indicates that these revisions will be very minor.

Sampling and Other Respondent Selection Methods

The survey will be performed on a census of the vessels in the survey population. Three different survey fielding methods – in-person interview, telephone interview, and mail questionnaire – will be used across the 1,352 vessel owners in the survey population. While cost earnings surveys of the West Coast limited entry fleet have demonstrated the effectiveness of in-person interviews in collecting data and obtaining high response rates, the large size of the open access fleet and the relatively high cost of in-person data collection makes the use this method for all members of the survey population impractical. As a result, this survey will combine the in-person data collection techniques with less expensive telephone interviews and mail survey data collection.

Implementation of an in-person or telephone interview requires having a telephone number for the vessel owner. Telephone numbers are available for 671 of the 1,352 vessel owners in the survey population. For the owners of these 671 vessels, data collection will be attempted through in-person or telephone interviews. Initial contact and recruitment protocols will follow the techniques used successfully with the limited entry fleet. Each survey recipient will receive an initial mailing package with a cover letter and a copy of the questionnaire. Within a week of receiving this initial mailing package, the survey recipient will receive a recruitment telephone call to set up an interview time for an in-person or telephone interview to collect data. Data will be collected from the 348 vessel owners with over \$20,000 of 2005-6 West Coast groundfish and salmon landings through in-person interviews. Of the 323 vessel owners with less than \$20,000 of 2005-6 West Coast groundfish and salmon landings and an available telephone number, 65 (20% of 323) will be assigned an in-person interview and 258 (80% of 323) will be assigned a telephone interview. The choice of number of in-person versus telephone interviews was made based on the desired number of survey responses (discussed in the answer to question 2) and the available survey budget.

For those 681 vessels for which the owner's telephone number is not available, data collection will be attempted through a mail survey. These vessel owners will receive an initial mailing package consisting of a cover letter and a questionnaire designed to be filled out and returned in a self-addressed stamped envelope. Nonrespondents will receive a series of follow-up mailings which utilize the techniques developed by Dillman to increase survey response rates.²

The same questionnaire will be used for in-person interviews, telephone interviews, and mail data collection. While all survey recipients will be given the name and telephone number of the agency coordinator and the principal investigator to contact with any questions, in-person interviews and telephone interviews will offer more immediate means of responding to questions from survey recipients.

The questionnaire used for this survey will be very similar to the questionnaires used in the previous OMB Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) approved surveys of the West Coast limited entry trawl fleet and the West Coast limited entry fixed gear fleet. The first three pages of the four page questionnaire will be the same for all vessels receiving the survey. The final page of the questionnaire will ask about crew compensation methods. Vessel owners will get a

² Don Dillman, *Mail and Internet Surveys: The Tailored Design Method*, John Wiley (2000).

questionnaire asking about crew compensation while operating in the groundfish fishery on page four if their groundfish landings exceeded their salmon landings during 2005-6, and will get a questionnaire asking about crew compensation while operating in the salmon fishery on page four if their salmon landings exceeded their groundfish landings during 2005-6.

Expected Response Rate

The only recent effort to collect economic data survey from the population of interest by mail was the National Employment Survey conducted by NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in 2004-5. This national survey collected employment information from commercial vessel owners via a short mail questionnaire. The National Employment Survey was sent to 805 of the 1,352 vessel owners in the survey population, and obtained a 44% response rate. While the West Coast Open Access Groundfish and Salmon Cost Earnings Survey utilizes a longer questionnaire than the National Employment Survey, it also will attempt a greater number of re-contact attempts (up to 8 total attempts) with non-respondents. The expected response rate for the Open Access Groundfish and Salmon Cost Earnings Survey is the 44% rate obtained by the National Employment Survey.

The nearly completed in-person cost earnings surveys of the West Coast limited entry trawl and fixed gear fleets has obtained a response rate of about 70%. This limited entry fleet survey combines in-person interviews with extensive follow-up with nonrespondents. Since this cost earnings survey of the open access fleet will use very similar recruitment methods and questionnaire for those vessel owners assigned an in-person interview, the response rate for vessel owners assigned to the in-person interview group is expected to be 70%.

Vessel owners surveyed through a telephone interview will receive the same initial mailing package and recruitment telephone call(s) as vessel owners targeted for in-person interviews. However, the survey population is believed to value personal contact highly, and as a result a lower response rate is expected for the less personal telephone interview than for the more personal in-person interview. A response rate of 60% is expected among vessel owners targeted for data collection through a telephone interview.

2. Data collection procedures, including the statistical methodology for stratification and sample selection, the estimation procedure, the degree of accuracy needed for the intended purpose, expected dates of survey implementation, and any unusual problems requiring specialized sampling procedures.

Stratification and Sample Selection

While all 1,352 vessel owners in the survey population will receive the survey, three different methods of survey fielding – in person, telephone, and mail – will be utilized. The 671 vessel owners for which a telephone number is available will be allocated to either the in-person interview or telephone interview group. As shown in Table 1, data will be collected from the 358 vessel owners with over \$20,000 of 2005-6 West Coast groundfish and salmon landings through in-person interviews. The 323 vessel owners with less than \$20,000 of 2005-6 West Coast landings will be assigned to the in-person interview or telephone interview pool. In-person interviews will be attempted with 20% of these vessel owners (65 of the 323), while

telephone interviews will be attempted with the other 80% of these vessel owners (258 of the 323) recording less than \$20,000 of 2005-6 West Coast groundfish and salmon landings.

For those 681 vessel owners for which a telephone number is not available, data collection will be attempted through a mail survey. These vessel owners will receive an initial mailing package consisting of a cover letter and a questionnaire designed to be filled out and returned in an enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope. Nonrespondents will receive a series of follow-up mailings which utilize the techniques developed by Dillman³ to increase survey response rates.

Desired Degree of Accuracy and Response Rate

Table 1 provides an estimate of the number of survey responses that will be received from the survey population. There are 348 vessels for which 2005-6 West Coast salmon and groundfish landings exceeded \$20,000 and the owner’s telephone number is available. These vessel owners will be assigned an in-person interview with an expected response rate of 70%. There are 323 vessels for which 2005-6 West Coast salmon and groundfish landings were less than \$20,000 and the owner’s telephone number is available. These owners will be assigned either an in-person

Table 1
Expected Response Rates for the Open Access Groundfish and Salmon Fleet

Groundfish and Salmon Fleet Vessel Category	Number of Vessels	Data Collection Method	Expected Response Rate	Expected Number of Responses
Greater than \$20,000 2005-6 groundfish and salmon landings and owner telephone number available	348	In-person	70%	244
Less than \$20,000 2005-6 groundfish and salmon landings and owner telephone number available	65	In-person	70%	45
	258	Telephone	60%	155
Greater than \$20,000 2005-6 groundfish and salmon landings and owner telephone number not available	353	Mail	44%	155
Less than \$20,000 2005-6 groundfish and salmon landings and owner telephone number not available	328	Mail	44%	144
<i>Total Open Access Groundfish and Salmon Fleet</i>	<i>1,352</i>	<i>In-person, Telephone, and Mail</i>	<i>55%</i>	<i>743</i>

³ Don Dillman, *Mail and Internet Surveys: The Tailored Design Method*, John Wiley (2000).

interview or a telephone interview, with 258 being assigned a telephone interview and 65 an in-person interview. Data will be collected by mail from the 681 vessel owners for which a telephone number is not available. The expected response rate for the mail survey is 44%, implying a total of 299 mail responses. A total of 743 responses are expected from the 1,352 vessel owners in the survey population, producing a survey response rate of 55% among the total survey population. Within the survey population of 1,352 vessels, a representative sample of both the 681 vessels participating in the groundfish fishery and 992 vessels participating in the salmon fishery is desired. Most applications of the data collected by this survey are expected to focus on either the groundfish or salmon fishery. As a result, calculations to determine whether the survey is meeting targets for the desired degree of accuracy must consider survey response among the 681 vessels in the groundfish fleet and survey response among the 992 vessels in the directed salmon fleet separately.

Most applications of data collected by this survey will seek to extrapolate survey responses to the population of vessels which participate in the groundfish fishery or the population of vessels which participate in the salmon fishery. As a result, the survey design focuses on obtaining a representative sample of both the 681 vessels which participate in the groundfish fishery and the 992 vessels which participate in the salmon fishery. Of the 681 vessels, which participate in the groundfish fishery, 360 did not participate in the salmon fishery and 321 did participate in the salmon fishery. Of the 992 vessels, which participate in the salmon fishery, 671 did not participate in the groundfish fishery and 321 did participate in the groundfish fishery.

The four page questionnaire asks all vessels the same questions about vessel characteristics, costs, and earnings on the first three pages. As a result, the same data on vessel characteristics, costs, and earnings for those 321 vessels which participate in both the salmon and groundfish fisheries may be used in both analysis of the groundfish fishery and analysis of the salmon fishery. The fourth page of the questionnaire asks about crew compensation while operating in either the groundfish or salmon fishery, and vessels that participate in both fisheries will be asked to respond for only the fishery in which they had the greater dollar value of landings (this information can be determined from PacFIN landings data prior to survey mailing). As a result, the number of vessels which participate in the groundfish fishery who provide responses to questions about crew compensation in the groundfish fishery will be less than the number of vessels which participate in the groundfish fishery and respond to the survey (because some of the survey respondents will also participate in the salmon fishery and will be asked about crew compensation in the salmon fishery). The following discussion of Tables 2 and 3 is designed to estimate the number of respondents and survey accuracy for data collected by the first three pages of the survey questionnaire, to which some vessels will be providing data which is used in both analysis of the groundfish fishery and analysis of the salmon fishery.

Table 2 provides an estimate of the number of survey responses that will be received from the 681 vessel owners who participate in the groundfish fishery. Among these 681 vessel owners, there are 197 vessels for which 2005-6 West Coast groundfish and salmon landings exceeded \$20,000 and the owner's telephone number is available. These vessel owners will be assigned to the in-person interview group with an expected response rate of 70%. There are 176 vessels for which 2005-6 West Coast groundfish and salmon landings were less than \$20,000 and the owner's telephone number is available. Among these 176 vessel owners, 35 will be assigned to the in-person interview group and 141 will be assigned to the telephone interview group. Data will be collected by mail from the 308 vessel owners for which a telephone number is not

available. A total of 384 responses are expected from the 681 vessel owners who participate in the groundfish fishery, for a response rate of 56%.

Table 2
Expected Response Rates for the Open Access Groundfish Fleet.

Groundfish Fleet Vessel Category	Number of Vessels	Data Collection Method	Expected Response Rate	Expected Number of Responses
Greater than \$20,000 2005-6 groundfish and salmon landings and owner telephone number available	197	In-person	70%	138
Less than \$20,000 2005-6 groundfish and salmon landings and owner telephone number available	35	In-person	70%	25
	141	Telephone	60%	85
Greater than \$20,000 2005-6 groundfish and salmon landings and owner telephone number not available	159	Mail	44%	70
Less than \$20,000 2005-6 groundfish and salmon landings and owner telephone number not available	149	Mail	44%	66
<i>Total Open Access Directed Groundfish Fleet</i>	<i>681</i>	<i>In-person, Telephone, and Mail</i>	<i>56%</i>	<i>384</i>

Table 3 provides information on the expected number of responses from the 992 vessel owners who participate in the salmon fishery. There are 254 vessels in the salmon fleet with greater than \$20,000 of 2005-6 groundfish and salmon landings for which the owner's telephone number is available. These vessels will be assigned to the in-person interview group with an expected response rate of 70%. For the 205 vessels with less than \$20,000 of 2005-6 groundfish and salmon landings for which the owners' telephone number is available, an in-person interview will be attempted with 41 vessel owners and a telephone interview will be attempted with 164 vessel owners. The remaining 532 salmon vessels do not have an owner telephone number available and will be assigned a mail survey. The total number of expected responses from salmon fleet members is 540, implying an overall salmon fleet response rate of 54%.

Table 3
Expected Response Rate for Open Access Directed Salmon Fleet

Salmon Fleet Vessel Category	Number of Vessels	Data Collection Method	Expected Response Rate	Expected Number of Responses
Greater than \$20,000 2005-6 groundfish and salmon landings and owner telephone number available	254	In-person	70%	178
Less than \$20,000 2005-6 groundfish and salmon landings and owner telephone number available	41	In-person (20%)	70%	29
	165	Telephone (80%)	60%	99
Greater than \$20,000 2005-6 groundfish and salmon landings and owner telephone number not available	297	Mail	44%	131
Less than \$20,000 2005-6 groundfish and salmon landings and owner telephone number not available	235	Mail	44%	103
<i>Total Open Access Salmon Fleet</i>	992	<i>In-person, Telephone, and Mail</i>	54%	540

The desired degree of accuracy, and corresponding desired response rate, depends upon the application for which the data is being used. A basic application of the survey data will be the inference of population mean values from the observed sample mean values. Table 4 shows the number of responses (and corresponding response rate) needed to get a response sample mean within 10%, 15%, and 25% of the population mean at the 95% confidence level. In this calculation, revenues associated with West Coast landings (which are known) are used as a proxy for revenues from other sources and for expenditures (which are not known and are the focus of this survey).

Table 4
Response Rates Needed for 10%, 15%, and 25% Accuracy Levels

Fleet	N Population	N 10%	N 15%	N 25%	Response Rate 10%	Response Rate 15%	Response Rate 25%
Groundfish Fleet	681	347	215	97	51%	32%	14%
Salmon Fleet	992	395	225	95	40%	23%	10%

The expected response rate of 56% for the groundfish fleet and 54% for the salmon fleet exceed the response rates required for providing a sample mean within 15% of the population mean. Exceeding these minimum acceptable response rates of 32% for the groundfish fleet and 23% for the salmon fleet is desirable for two reasons. First, data from this survey will be used to develop

a variety of economic models covering applications such as fleet efficiency and fishery participation. In these applications, error will arise not only from the accuracy of data used for model development, but also from model specification and estimation. Since it is not possible to completely avoid specification and estimation error in model development, there is good reason to desire a higher response rate and higher degree of accuracy in the data collection process. Second, future applications of the data may require further disaggregating the population into smaller groups according to factors such as state of operation or species targeted. This will be particularly true for the salmon fleet, where applications may require examining a subset of the West Coast fleet associated with a particular geographic area. Identification of all such future disaggregated data needs is not possible at the present time. A higher response rate and higher degree of accuracy in the current data collection process will facilitate such future population disaggregation. Given these considerations, the expected response rates of 50% for the directed groundfish fleet and 49% for the directed salmon fleet are deemed highly desirable, even though lower response rates will support the needs of basic statistical inference at the present time.

Survey Fielding

The Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC) and its contractors will field the survey. For vessel owners targeted for in-person or telephone interviews, the PSMFC will send a letter to the vessel owner describing the survey and its purpose. Enclosed with the letter will be a copy of the questionnaire. This will provide survey recipient with an opportunity to (i) see first-hand the data being collected by the survey prior to in-person interviews and (ii) collect the requested data prior to the in-person interview. About one week after the letter/questionnaire mailing, PSMFC will begin making telephone calls to schedule in-person/telephone interviews with survey recipients for data collection. During the following weeks, at least seven additional attempts will be made to contact each member of the survey population until an interview data is scheduled.

For vessel owners assigned to the mail survey, the PSMFC will send a letter to the vessel owner describing the survey and its purpose. Enclosed with the letter will be a copy of the questionnaire and a self-addressed stamped envelope for return of the completed questionnaire. PSMFC will conduct two rounds of follow-up mailings with non-respondents.

For purposes of survey fielding, information on the vessel owner and mailing address will be taken from federal permit and registration files.

Expected Dates of Survey Implementation

The target period for survey fielding is June through November 2007. The relatively long period of time for survey fielding reflects the large size of the survey population and the extensive use of time intensive in-person interviews.

3. The methods used to maximize response rates and address non-response. The accuracy and reliability of the information collected must be shown to be adequate for the intended uses.

Methods Used To Maximize Response Rates

A number of methods have been used to maximize survey response rate. First, the survey is short. The written version of the questionnaire (which will be sent to members of the survey population prior to the in-person interview) is only four pages long and takes only one hour to complete. Second, respondents are asked to provide information only about major cost and earnings categories, thus avoiding what may seem to survey respondents like unnecessary detail. Third, personal means of data collection such as in-person interviews, and to a lesser extent telephone interviews, are used to the extent that funds and available contact information allow. Conversations with owners of West Coast fishing vessels indicate that the survey population places a high value on personal contact. Fourth, there will be extensive follow-up telephone calls and mailings after the initial letter/questionnaire mailing in order to schedule in-person interviews and obtain responses. These follow-up telephone calls will be distributed among weekend/weekday and day/evening time periods to maximize the likelihood of reaching the contact person. Up to eight attempts will be made to reach each vessel owner assigned an in-person or telephone interview. Vessel owners assigned a mail survey will also receive extensive follow-up mailings.

Addressing Non-Response

A considerable amount of information is currently available about vessel characteristics and landings for the survey population. This information will be used to compare the survey population with survey respondents, and to make any adjustments for systematic bias in survey response.

Information on the physical characteristics of each vessel is available from state and/or Coast Guard vessel registrations. State vessel registrations provide information on the vessels length, net weight, and engine horsepower. Coast Guard vessel registration provides information on vessel length, gross tons, net tons, engine horsepower, hull material, and year built.

PacFIN provides vessel level information on West Coast (Washington, Oregon, and California) landings by date, species, and port) for all vessels in the survey population. As a result, it is possible to compare respondents and non-respondents with regard to seasonal patterns, species landed, and location of landings. In addition, some information is available from AKFIN (Alaska Fisheries Information Network) regarding landings in Alaska by population members. This information will be used to compare the activities of respondents and non-respondents in Alaskan waters. This information is important, as some members of the population are believed to earn considerable revenue in Alaskan waters. Available information on Alaska landings includes (i) whether each vessel had any landings in Alaska and (ii) whether revenue from landings in Alaska was greater or smaller than revenue from landings in Washington, Oregon, and California.

Because of the large amount of physical characteristics and landings data available on all vessels in the survey population, it will be possible to track survey response patterns as the survey is fielded. In particular, it will be possible to examine (1) if there are any differences in response rates by fishery (salmon and/or groundfish) and primary state of landings and (2) if there is any systematic difference with respect to landings and vessel physical characteristics between respondents and non-respondents. Landings data will be examined to determine if any non-respondent bias exists regarding species landed, seasonal pattern of landings, or location of

landings. Vessel physical characteristics will be examined to determine if any non-respondent bias exists regarding vessel length, net tons, engine horsepower, hull material, or age.

During the period of survey fielding from June 2007 to November 2007, the survey fielding effort will be relatively constant from week to week. A typical week will include initiating over 60 surveys and completing over 30 surveys. As a result, it will be beneficial to evaluate response patterns and potential non-respondent bias on a weekly basis during the survey fielding period. If necessary, the proportion of the population within a given fishery/state combination assigned to the in-person interview group will be increased in order to obtain a higher response rate.

Adequacy of Accuracy and Reliability of Information for Intended Uses

NMFS needs to measure the economic performance of west coast commercial fisheries in order to meet legal and regulatory requirements, support fisheries management decision making, and undertake economic research. Currently available cost earnings data is very limited and does not meet these needs. The Northwest Fisheries Science Center's Cost Earnings Program will collect the additional data that is needed to construct key economic performance measures such as profitability, capacity utilization, efficiency, productivity, and economic impacts. The data gathered and performance measures constructed will be used to address a wide range of issues.

While the data will be used to comply with legal and regulatory requirements, these requirements do not specify a level of data accuracy. Minimum target response sizes for each population stratum are based on the objective of having a sample mean within 15% of the population mean at the 95% confidence level. It is believed that this provides a sufficient level of precision for inference of population means from sample means. As explained in the response to question 2, even greater precision is highly desirable for other anticipated applications of the data

4. How the survey instrument was developed, including the steps taken to validate the questionnaire design.

This survey is the third survey to be conducted as part of the Northwest Fisheries Science Center's comprehensive Cost Earnings Program Plan. Survey development began with the formulation of the Cost Earnings Program Plan. This plan outlines the reasons for collecting cost earnings data, identifies the population(s) of interest among west coast vessel owners, and prioritizes data needs. Based on this long-term plan, objectives for this survey and survey content were developed through a series of meetings by representatives of the Northwest Fisheries Science Center (NWC), Northwest Regional Office (NWR), Southwest Fisheries Science Center (SWC), and Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC). These meetings identified key objectives as collecting data, which could be used to measure fisheries profitability, economic impacts, efficiency, and economic benefits of regulatory measures. The academic literature, both within and outside of fisheries, was reviewed in order to determine the data requirements of models which would likely be used to measure fisheries profitability, economic impacts, efficiency, and economic benefits of regulatory measures. Presentations on survey content and timing to the Pacific Fisheries Management Council Groundfish Advisory Panel (a group of fishing industry members including harvesters and processors) and the Pacific Fisheries Management Council Scientific and Statistical Committee (a group responsible for reviewing the methodology used in scientific and statistical studies) . Comments received through these discussions and presentations improved questionnaire content and format.

This process allowed prioritization of data needs and the choice of survey content for the three survey populations of interest for the federal management of West Coast groundfish --- the limited entry trawl fleet, the limited entry fixed gear fleet, and the open access groundfish and salmon fleet. The survey of the limited entry trawl fleet was completed in December 2006, and fielding of the limited entry fixed gear survey will be completed in March 2007. Survey procedures and a questionnaire for the limited entry trawl and fixed gear fleets received PRA clearance from OMB.

Because different applications of cost earnings data require analysis of different vessel populations, it is highly desirable to maintain a consistent questionnaire across fleets. For example, analysis of the federally managed groundfish fishery may require consideration of the harvesting costs of both limited entry vessels considered in previous cost earnings surveys as well as the open access vessels targeted in this survey. The draft questionnaire for the open access fleet is very similar to that used for the limited entry trawl and fixed gear fleets. This questionnaire has been discussed with members of the survey population by NOAA and PSMFC personnel.

5. The reporting and use of the results of the survey.

Use of Survey Results

NMFS needs to measure the economic performance of west coast commercial fisheries in order to meet legal and regulatory requirements, support fisheries management decision making, and undertake economic research. Currently available cost earnings data is very limited and does not meet these needs. The Northwest Fisheries Science Center's Cost Earnings Program will collect the additional data that is needed to construct key economic performance measures such as profitability, capacity utilization, efficiency, productivity, and economic impacts. The data gathered and performance measures constructed will be used to address a wide range of issues.

Reporting of Survey Results

A descriptive summary of results from the survey will be prepared and posted on the PSMFC web site. This summary will include descriptive statistics (such as mean and standard deviation) of the various cost and earnings categories being collected. This descriptive summary will also be distributed to survey respondents via paper mail.

Survey results will be reported over time through a series of studies prepared for fisheries management. It is anticipated that results will also be reported through academic publications, presentations at conferences, and technical guides. All reporting of survey results will conform to data confidentiality requirements.

Information Quality Guidelines and Confidentiality

It is anticipated that the information collected will be disseminated to the public or used to support publicly disseminated information. As explained in the previous paragraphs, the information gathered has utility. NMFS 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. In particular, the data collected will be kept confidential as required by section 402(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens and NOAA Administrative Order 216-100, Confidentiality of Fisheries Statistics, and will not be released for public use except in aggregate statistical form without identification as to its source.

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.

6. Contact information for agency coordinator and principle investigator.

Agency Coordinator:

Carl Lian
Northwest Fisheries Science Center
2725 Montlake Boulevard East
Seattle, WA 98112
206-302-2414 (voice)
206-860-6792 (fax)
carl.lian@noaa.gov (email)

Principal Investigator:

Dave Colpo
Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission
205 SE Spokane Street
Portland, OR 97202
503-595-3100 (voice)
503-595-3232 (fax)
dave_colpo@psmfc.org (email)

7. Estimated burden and number of respondents.

Reviewing the survey, collecting requested data, and the in-person interview is expected to take one hour per respondent. With the expected 743 responses, the survey is expected to impose a total of 743 burden hours on the West Coast open access groundfish and salmon fleet.

GROUND FISH MAIL QUESTIONNAIRE

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR SURVEY RESPONDENT

1. Name: _____ 2. Email: _____
 3. Date (Month/Day/Year): _____ 4. Telephone: (____) _____
 5. Mailing Address (Street, City, State, and Zip Code):

VESSEL OWNERSHIP AND CHARACTERISTICS

6. Please verify the following information on record about your vessel's characteristics. If the information on record is correct, please place a check mark in the Corrections column. If the information on record is incorrect or there is no information on record, please provide the correct information in the Corrections column.

Item	Information on Record	Corrections
a. Owner's Name	<i>Charles Smith</i>	
b. Owner's Address	<i>333 1st Street, Waldport, OR 97005</i>	
c. USCG Vessel ID	<i>33221843</i>	
d. State Vessel ID	<i>OR33214</i>	
e. Home Port	<i>Newport, OR</i>	
f. Length (feet)	<i>75</i>	
g. Fuel Capacity	<i>300</i>	
h. Engine Make and Model	<i>No Information on Record</i>	

7. What is the approximate market value of your vessel (not including associated permits) in dollars?
 \$ _____

8. Please provide your vessel’s fuel consumption, speed, and crew size (not including captain) when engaged in each of the following activities. If this vessel does not engage in an activity, please write “NA” in the appropriate columns.

Activity	Fuel Consumption (Gallons Per Hour)	Speed (Knots Per Hour)	Crew Size (Not Including Captain)
a. Longlining			
b. Trolling			
c. Crabbing			
d. Shrimping (while towing)			
e. Steaming (fully loaded)			Not Applicable
f. Steaming (empty)			Not Applicable

COSTS AND EARNINGS

Questions 9 through 12 collect information about this vessel’s costs and earnings **while operating in all fisheries** (groundfish, crab, shrimp, salmon, etc.). This survey’s primary objective is to collect data on costs and earnings for 2006. However, we recognize that conditions in the fishery change from year to year and that two years of data can provide a more complete picture than a one-year snapshot. If possible, we would appreciate receiving your cost and earnings data for both 2005 and 2006.

9. In what month does your vessel’s fiscal year begin? _____

10. For each of the earnings (income) sources listed below, please indicate the income earned during your fiscal year 2005 and fiscal year 2006. If no income was earned from a particular source during a particular year, please write NA in the appropriate box.

Earnings (Income) Source	2005 (\$)	2006 (\$)
a. Landings in Alaska		
b. Landings in Hawaii		
c. Landings outside of the United States		
d. West Coast at-sea deliveries		
e. Sale and leasing of permits associated with this vessel		
f. Other (please specify)_____		

11. Approximately what percentage of your annual household income comes from earnings associated with this vessel?

- a. less than 20%
- b. 20% to 40%
- c. 40% to 60%
- d. 60 to 80%
- e. greater than 80%

12. For each cost category below, please provide total annual expenditures during your fiscal year 2005 and fiscal year 2006. If you do not have separate data on expenditures for captain (part a) and crew (part b), please write combined expenditures in part a and write "NA" in part b. If no expenditures were incurred in a particular category during a particular year, please write NA in the appropriate box.

For location of expenditures please indicate the location of expenditures in either dollars or percentages in the following location categories: hp=home port, hs= home state but not home port city, wc=West Coast (WA, OR, or CA) state but not home state, ak= Alaska, us=United States outside of West Coast and Alaska, ot=Outside the United States. For Crew expenditures please indicate the percent of crew that reside in each location category.

Cost (Expenditure) Category	2003 (\$)	2004 (\$)	Location of Expenditures	
a. Captain (including share payments, bonuses, other forms of compensation, and payroll taxes)			hp: hs: wc:	ak: us: ot:
b. Crew (including share payments, bonuses other forms of compensation, and payroll taxes)			hp: hs: wc:	ak: us: ot:
c. Fuel and Lube			hp: hs: wc:	ak: us: ot:
d. Food and crew provisions			hp: hs: wc:	ak: us: ot:
e. Ice			hp: hs: wc:	ak: us: ot:
f. Bait			hp: hs: wc:	ak: us: ot:
g. Repair, maintenance, and improvements for vessel, gear, and equipment			hp: hs: wc:	ak: us: ot:
h. Insurance			hp: hs: wc:	ak: us: ot:
i. Interest and Financial Services			hp: hs: wc:	ak: us: ot:
j. Purchase of permits used with this vessel			N/A	N/A
k. Leasing of permits used with this vessel			N/A	N/A

CREW COMPENSATION

Questions 13 through 17 collect information about crew payments when this vessel is participating in the West Coast (Washington, Oregon, and California) groundfish fishery.

13. Does this vessel use a crew share system to pay its crew when operating in the groundfish fishery?
- a. Yes (proceed to question 14).
 - b. No (proceed to Survey Conclusion)..

14. Which of the following expenses were deducted from total revenue before calculating the crew share when this vessel operated in the groundfish fishery?

	Deducted Before Calculating Crew Share?	
a. Fuel and lube.	Yes	No
b. Food and other crew provisions.	Yes	No
c. Landing taxes.	Yes	No
d. Unloading expenses	Yes	No
e. Other. Please specify _____.	Yes	No

15. On what percentage of fishing trips does the vessel owner serve as captain? _____%

16. On trips when the vessel owner serves as captain, please indicate the share of net revenue (revenue minus the deductions listed in question 13) going to the vessel, captain, and crew. If the vessel owner does not serve as captain on any trips, please circle “NA”.

Vessel share _____% Captain share _____% Crew share _____% NA

17. On trips when the vessel owner does not serve as captain, please indicate the share of net revenue (revenue minus the deductions listed in question 13) going to the vessel, captain, and crew. If the vessel owner always serves as captain, please circle “NA”.

Vessel share _____% Captain share _____% Crew share _____% NA

Survey Conclusion and Paperwork Reduction Act Statement

Thank you for participating in this voluntary survey which requests information on costs and earnings from vessel owners participating in the West Coast groundfish fishery. This information will be used to assess the economic effects of fishery management regulations, such as the effect of regulations on harvesting costs and regional economies. 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.

The information you provide will remain strictly confidential as required by section 402(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens and NOAA Administrative Order 216-100, Confidentiality of Fisheries Statistics, and will not be released for public use except in aggregate statistical form without identification as to its source. We will combine your responses with information provided by other participants, and report it in summary form so that responses for any individual vessel can not be identified. Public reporting burden for this information collection, including time for gathering data needed and completing the survey, is estimated to average one hour per respondent. Please provide comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to:

Carl Lian	telephone: 206-302-2414
2725 Montlake Boulevard East	email: carl.lian@noaa.gov
Seattle, WA, 98112	

SALMON MAIL QUESTIONNAIRE

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR SURVEY RESPONDENT

1. Name: _____ 2. Email: _____
 3. Date (Month/Day/Year): _____ 4. Telephone: (____) _____
 5. Mailing Address (Street, City, State, and Zip Code):

VESSEL OWNERSHIP AND CHARACTERISTICS

6. Please verify the following information on record about your vessel's characteristics. If the information on record is correct, please place a check mark in the Corrections column. If the information on record is incorrect or there is no information on record, please provide the correct information in the Corrections column.

Item	Information on Record	Corrections
a. Owner's Name	<i>Charles Smith</i>	
b. Owner's Address	<i>333 1st Street, Waldport, OR 97005</i>	
c. USCG Vessel ID	<i>33221843</i>	
d. State Vessel ID	<i>OR33214</i>	
e. Home Port	<i>Newport, OR</i>	
f. Length (feet)	<i>75</i>	
g. Fuel Capacity	<i>300</i>	
h. Engine Make and Model	<i>No Information on Record</i>	

7. What is the approximate market value of your vessel (not including associated permits) in dollars?
 \$ _____

8. Please provide your vessel’s fuel consumption, speed, and crew size (not including captain) when engaged in each of the following activities. If this vessel does not engage in an activity, please write “NA” in the appropriate columns.

Activity	Fuel Consumption (Gallons Per Hour)	Speed (Knots Per Hour)	Crew Size (Not Including Captain)
a. Longlining			
b. Trolling			
c. Crabbing			
d. Shrimping (while towing)			
e. Steaming (fully loaded)			Not Applicable
f. Steaming (empty)			Not Applicable

COSTS AND EARNINGS

Questions 9 through 12 collect information about this vessel’s costs and earnings **while operating in all fisheries** (groundfish, crab, shrimp, salmon, etc.). This survey’s primary objective is to collect data on costs and earnings for 2006. However, we recognize that conditions in the fishery change from year to year and that two years of data can provide a more complete picture than a one-year snapshot. If possible, we would appreciate receiving your cost and earnings data for both 2005 and 2006.

9. In what month does your vessel’s fiscal year begin? _____

10. For each of the earnings (income) sources listed below, please indicate the income earned during your fiscal year 2005 and fiscal year 2006. If no income was earned from a particular source during a particular year, please write NA in the appropriate box.

Earnings (Income) Source	2005 (\$)	2006 (\$)
a. Landings in Alaska		
b. Landings in Hawaii		
c. Landings outside of the United States		
d. West Coast at-sea deliveries		
e. Sale and leasing of permits associated with this vessel		
f. Other (please specify)_____		

11. Approximately what percentage of your annual household income comes from earnings associated with this vessel?

- a. less than 20% b. 20% to 40% c. 40% to 60% d. 60 to 80% e. greater than 80%

12. For each cost category below, please provide total annual expenditures during your fiscal year 2005 and fiscal year 2006. If you do not have separate data on expenditures for captain (part a) and crew (part b), please write combined expenditures in part a and write "NA" in part b. If no expenditures were incurred in a particular category during a particular year, please write NA in the appropriate box.

For location of expenditures please indicate the location of expenditures in either dollars or percentages in the following location categories: hp=home port, hs= home state but not home port city, wc=West Coast (WA, OR, or CA) state but not home state, ak= Alaska, us=United States outside of West Coast and Alaska, ot=Outside the United States. For Crew expenditures please indicate the percent of crew that reside in each location category.

Cost (Expenditure) Category	2003 (\$)	2004 (\$)	Location of Expenditures	
a. Captain (including share payments, bonuses, other forms of compensation, and payroll taxes)			hp: hs: wc:	ak: us: ot:
b. Crew (including share payments, bonuses other forms of compensation, and payroll taxes)			hp: hs: wc:	ak: us: ot:
c. Fuel and Lube			hp: hs: wc:	ak: us: ot:
d. Food and crew provisions			hp: hs: wc:	ak: us: ot:
e. Ice			hp: hs: wc:	ak: us: ot:
f. Bait			hp: hs: wc:	ak: us: ot:
g. Repair, maintenance, and improvements for vessel, gear, and equipment			hp: hs: wc:	ak: us: ot:
h. Insurance			hp: hs: wc:	ak: us: ot:
i. Interest and Financial Services			hp: hs: wc:	ak: us: ot:
j. Purchase of permits used with this vessel			N/A	N/A
k. Leasing of permits used with this vessel			N/A	N/A

CREW COMPENSATION

Questions 13 through 17 collect information about crew payments when this vessel is participating in the West Coast (Washington, Oregon, and California) salmon fishery.

13. Does this vessel use a crew share system to pay its crew when operating in the salmon fishery?
- a. Yes (proceed to question 14).
 - b. No (proceed to Survey Conclusion)..

14. Which of the following expenses were deducted from total revenue before calculating the crew share when this vessel operated in the salmon fishery?

	Deducted Before Calculating Crew Share?	
a. Fuel and lube.	Yes	No
b. Food and other crew provisions.	Yes	No
c. Landing taxes.	Yes	No
d. Unloading expenses	Yes	No
e. Other. Please specify _____.	Yes	No

15. On what percentage of fishing trips does the vessel owner serve as captain? _____%

16. On trips when the vessel owner serves as captain, please indicate the share of net revenue (revenue minus the deductions listed in question 13) going to the vessel, captain, and crew. If the vessel owner does not serve as captain on any trips, please circle “NA”.

Vessel share _____% Captain share _____% Crew share _____% NA

17. On trips when the vessel owner does not serve as captain, please indicate the share of net revenue (revenue minus the deductions listed in question 13) going to the vessel, captain, and crew. If the vessel owner always serves as captain, please circle “NA”.

Vessel share _____% Captain share _____% Crew share _____% NA

Survey Conclusion and Paperwork Reduction Act Statement

Thank you for participating in this voluntary survey which requests information on costs and earnings from vessel owners participating in the West Coast groundfish fishery. This information will be used to assess the economic effects of fishery management regulations, such as the effect of regulations on harvesting costs and regional economies. 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.

The information you provide will remain strictly confidential as required by section 402(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens and NOAA Administrative Order 216-100, Confidentiality of Fisheries Statistics, and will not be released for public use except in aggregate statistical form without identification as to its source. We will combine your responses with information provided by other participants, and report it in summary form so that responses for any individual vessel can not be identified. Public reporting burden for this information collection, including time for gathering data needed and completing the survey, is estimated to average one hour per respondent. Please provide comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to:

Carl Lian 2725 Montlake Boulevard East Seattle, WA, 98112	telephone: 206-302-2414 email: carl.lian@noaa.gov
---	--