

NOTICE OF OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET ACTION

Date 08/08/2013

Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

FOR CERTIFYING OFFICIAL: Simon Szykman
FOR CLEARANCE OFFICER: Jennifer Jessup

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, OMB has taken action on your request received 06/27/2013

ACTION REQUESTED: Revision of a currently approved collection

TYPE OF REVIEW REQUESTED: Regular

ICR REFERENCE NUMBER: 201306-0648-015

AGENCY ICR TRACKING NUMBER:

TITLE: National Estuaries Restoration Inventory

LIST OF INFORMATION COLLECTIONS: See next page

OMB ACTION: Approved without change

OMB CONTROL NUMBER: 0648-0479

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

EXPIRATION DATE: 08/31/2016

DISCONTINUE DATE:

BURDEN:	RESPONSES	HOURS	COSTS
Previous	31	103	0
New	31	103	14
Difference			
Change due to New Statute	0	0	0
Change due to Agency Discretion	0	0	14
Change due to Agency Adjustment	0	0	0
Change due to PRA Violation	0	0	0

TERMS OF CLEARANCE:

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

List of ICs

IC Title	Form No.	Form Name	CFR Citation
National Estuaries Restoration Inventory - entry of new projects into database	NA	National Estuaries Restoration Inventory - Inventory Fields	
Update existing projects in database	NA	National Estuaries Restoration Inventory - Inventory Fields	

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 b. <input type="checkbox"/> None 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
NATIONAL ESTUARIES RESTORATION INVENTORY
OMB CONTROL NO. 0648-0479**

A. JUSTIFICATION

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

This request is for revision and extension of an existing information collection, for assistance in the administration of the National Estuaries Restoration Inventory (NERI).

The [Estuary Restoration Act](#) (ERA) of 2000 (Act) was signed into law in November 2000 and makes restoring our nation's estuaries a national priority. The Act promotes the restoration of one million acres of estuarine habitat by 2010 by leveraging limited federal resources with state, local, and private funding. As part of the Act, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is required to develop and maintain the NERI, a database of estuary restoration projects. The purpose of the database is to provide information to improve restoration methods, provide information for reports transmitted to Congress (Section 108(b)), and track the acres of habitat restored toward the million-acre goal. Project information collected and maintained is made available to the public through various queries and reports. The database contains project information for projects funded through the ERA as well as non-ERA project data that meet quality control requirements and data standards established under the Act. This information collection is a requirement only for those parties receiving ERA funds. The entry of project information is optional for projects that are not funded through the ERA but meet project requirements for the NERI.

The NERI was originally developed using another project tracking database housed in the NOAA Fisheries' Restoration Center. The existing Restoration and Conservation Database (RCDB) was developed to track habitat restoration projects implemented and/or funded by the NOAA Restoration Center. Many projects within the RCDB meet the project requirements for the National Estuaries Restoration Inventory. Therefore, relevant data fields from the Restoration Center database are copied into NERI on a regular basis to avoid duplication of effort and unnecessary burden to respondents.

A separate Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) request for the Restoration Center's Community-based Restoration Program (CRP) is approved under OMB Control Number 0648-0472 (expiration date: 10-31-2015). This request requires recipients of CRP funding to provide information regarding the status and success of funded projects in the form of periodic performance reports and final reports. Information collected by this request will continue to be tracked using the RCDB. Details on the CRP request are available in Item 4.

There is a change to this information collection: paper and adobe fillable forms will now be used, rather than direct entry by respondents into the database, it has been determined that the web-based system submission system is not cost-effective.

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

The purpose of the NERI is to collect information on estuary habitat restoration projects to track project success and to improve restoration methods. The information collected by the database has been used by Restoration Center staff and the ERA Work Group for reports transmitted to Congress, briefings to the ERA Council, as well as responses to other inquiries for data. Reports to Congress take place every two years, beginning in the fall of 2003. Reports to Congress consist of an overview of the status of the database including acres of habitat restored, monitoring information, and database maintenance efforts. The initial report to Congress provided only a briefing of the status of the inventory, as it was still in development. Since then, NERI data, (e.g., sum of acres restored), has been used in presentations at ERA Council meetings. Requests for information have also been made by upper level NOAA management, other federal agencies, nonprofit organizations, and members of the public.

To facilitate these requests for information, the information contained in NERI is accessible to the public via on-line query forms and reports on the NERI website (<https://neri.noaa.gov>).

Parties receiving ERA funds are required to submit information for entry into NERI. A summary of the questions asked for the database is below.

Data entry is optional for all other parties with projects eligible to be submitted to NERI. Efforts have been made to dynamically import eligible project data from existing federal databases, including NOAA's RCDB, the Department of Interior's United States Fish and Wildlife Service's (U.S.FWS) Habitat Information Tracking System (HabITS) tracking system, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Ecosystem Restoration Business Portal system.

NOAA has promoted the use of the inventory via outreach to the habitat restoration community. These efforts have consisted of: (1) presentations at various conferences, meetings, etc., (2) approaching restoration practitioners via professional list serves, phone calls, etc., (3) announcing and promoting use of published spatial data through various data catalogs and mapping services (Geospatial One-Stop, state and local mapping applications, etc.).

The information collection by NERI consists of:

(a) General Information – Basic project information such as project title, whether the project is funded by the ERA and if not, whether it meets the specific requirements to be counted as an ERA project, a topic sentence describing the project, the current status of the project including the implementation start and completion dates and the size of the project. In addition, this area identifies specific questions for ERA-funded projects such as the primary partner, lead federal agency, date of the funding agreement, and whether the project qualifies as an innovative technology project, which is defined by the Estuary Restoration Act.

(b) Abstract – a detailed description of the project with background about the site, historic impacts to the site, project information, and additional information about partners, acres restored, timeline, etc.

(c) Contact Information – basic details necessary to identify and contact project managers such as name, title, address, organization, city, state, zip code, phone and fax numbers, e-mail, and URL for Websites.

(d) Geographic Location – details on the physical location of the project site including city, county, state/territory/province (for Canadian projects), region, zip code, United States Geological Survey (USGS) Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC), longitude, latitude, USGS topographic quadrangle, congressional district, and whether a GIS layer is available for the project boundary.

(e) Project Benefits – details on expected benefits of the restoration project including descriptions of benefits, whether the benefit has been achieved, and additional comments.

(f) Habitat Types – a listing of habitat types restored as well as number of acres restored (by acres created, re-established, or rehabilitated) and benefited (acres enhanced or protected) for each habitat type, as well as stream miles (the linear extent of rivers and streams that is made accessible for diadromous and migratory fish passage), and methods used for obtaining acreage and stream mile values. The method for obtaining acreage and stream miles is an important field because it helps to determine the reliability of a reported value.

(g) Restoration Techniques – list of techniques used in the project. Descriptions of each technique and its success are also provided to highlight the benefits and pitfalls of using various restoration methods.

(h) Monitoring and Success Criteria – list of monitoring parameters used in the project. Detailed monitoring information will also be provided including monitoring frequency, methods, start and end dates, as well as success criteria used for determining project success.

(i) Restoration Plans – Title, date, lead organizations, URL, and type of restoration plan that the project contributes to.

(j) Project Budget – project support provided by Federal and non-Federal entities as well as the original proposed cost estimate for the project, and the final actual cost of the restoration. This information will allow restoration practitioners to compare the costs of project implementation and how actual costs exceed projections.

(k) Project Partners – details on support (e.g., planning, funding, technical assistance) provided by other organizations including partner name, type of partner, and URL.

(l) Project Photos – Images showing the progress of the project such as before, during and after pictures of the restoration. Each image will contain a caption, credit, and date. These pictures will be used for dynamic project Web pages that will be available on the NERI website.

The information collected by NERI is available to the public on-line through the NERI Website. Therefore, the Section 515 Information Quality Guidelines apply to this information collection and comply with all applicable information quality guidelines, (i.e., OMB, Department of Commerce, and NOAA guidelines).

The information collected by NERI undergoes a quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) process prior to being disseminated to the public for queries and reports. For manually-entered projects, each individual project is reviewed by database administrators prior to being made available to the public. For projects imported through existing tracking systems such as NOAA's RCDB or U.S. FWS's HabITS databases, the quality of project information is ensured by the source data administrator (through NOAA or U.S. FWS). Data from these sources is imported regularly, after undergoing quality assurance/quality control procedures specific to each data source's respective agency. This process is repeated whenever a project is updated.

NERI is not a comprehensive set of all restoration projects occurring in the nation. Data is currently limited to projects funded through a subset of existing Federal programs that have been incorporated into the application, as well as those to be submitted voluntarily by project proponents. Therefore, much of the data is not completely generated by NOAA, but originates from the project manager or another Federal database. A description of the data collection, information sources, QA/QC, and dissemination processes, as well as an overview of data sources and limitations will be made available upon request and is also provided on the NERI Website.

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

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

The collection of information for the National Estuaries Restoration Inventory (NERI) now involves paper or fillable adobe forms instead of web-based data entry forms, as maintaining the web-based data entry option is not cost-effective. Methods of submittal include email of electronic forms, and mail and facsimile transmission of paper forms. Restoration practitioners submit information to be entered into the NERI from Federal, State, local and tribal governments, not-for-profit institutions, and other entities across the country. Restoration practitioners may have different levels of technical expertise. The NERI Web site contains a comprehensive on-line user's guide, a data dictionary, specific instructions, and examples. Restoration practitioners use personal computers to access the data entry form and then must print it for submission. The information collected is made available for queries and reports on the NERI Web site.

To obtain project coordinate information (longitude and latitude), restoration practitioners may choose to use hand-held Global Positioning Systems (GPS) or numerous on-line mapping applications, but these options are not required for projects. Users are requested to state how acreage and stream mile measurements were obtained (e.g. GPS, land surveys, aerial photography) in the data entry form.

4. Describe efforts to identify duplication.

NOAA Fisheries' Restoration Center maintains an existing database of restoration projects that is used to track projects funded and implemented by the Restoration Center. Restoration Center staff using materials from progress reports and direct conversations with restoration practitioners populates this database. A separate Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) request for the Restoration Center's Community-based Restoration Program (CRP) is approved under Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Control Number 0648-0472 (current extension expires 10-31-2015). This request requires recipients of CRP funding to provide information regarding the status and success of funded projects in the form of periodic performance reports and final reports. The information is used to populate the Restoration Center's existing database (RCDB).

Many projects within the RCDB meet the project requirements for the National Estuaries Restoration Inventory. Therefore, relevant data fields from the Restoration Center's database are copied into NERI on regular basis to avoid duplication of effort and unnecessary burden to respondents. The NERI information request is a similar request for information but since it is a different program, it does not encompass the same projects or the same data fields as the CRP request. Therefore, a separate request is needed for NERI.

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

Respondents are small not-for-profit entities. Only projects funded through the Estuary Restoration Act are required to submit project information into NERI. A pre-formatted PDF of the data fields is provided to assist in the collection of information prior to being entered into the database. Specific instructions and definitions for data fields are also provided on the data entry form. Technical support is also available via e-mail. The information to be collected is very basic and should not be a burden for small entities receiving ERA funding to produce.

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

If the information is not collected it will be more difficult to provide accountability on the expenditure of Federal funds for estuary habitat restoration activities under the ERA or to validate performance measures, and timely responses to any Freedom of Information Act requests would be inhibited.

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

Not Applicable.

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

A Federal Register Notice published February 12, 2013 (78 FR 9887) solicited public comment on this information collection. No comments were received.

Consultations with interested and affected persons are an integral part of this information collection. We have been in coordination with national and regional restoration entities such as Restore America's Estuaries, the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment, and the Gulf of Mexico Foundation, to ensure the application meets their tracking needs. Although these entities are not required to submit their project information since they have not received ERA funding, they are all interested in using data from the application to show restoration efforts at the national and regional levels. In addition, members of the ERA Working Group which consist of other federal agencies such as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Natural Resource Conservation Service, and the Environmental Protection Agency, have provided input on how to improve the information collection and efforts have been made to incorporate the majority of these suggestions into the application. Most of these suggestions involved formatting changes to remove less critical data elements that reduce data entry burden on respondents.

Recently, NOAA contacted members of the ERA Working Group which consist of four other federal agencies including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Natural Resource Conservation Services, and the Environmental Protection Agency requesting feedback on the NERI database and information collection, with all respondents stating support for the database overall. Respondents concurred that instructions were clear and information was easily accessible and searchable on the NERI website. Data entry is voluntary for organizations which do not receive ERA funding; therefore respondents reasoned NERI offered a snapshot of information and is not a comprehensive collection of all agencies' estuarine restoration efforts. Instead, NERI serves as a collection of example restoration projects that can be used by restoration practitioners to learn from NERI's other value includes networking and educational benefits for restoration practitioners who access the database, noted one respondent. Respondents agreed with our estimation; stating the burden of time to maintain a project record in NERI to be reasonable.

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

No payments or gifts will be provided to any respondents.

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

The information collection does not request any proprietary or confidential information. No confidentiality is provided.

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

No information of a sensitive nature is collected.

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

The three-year burden for this collection is estimated to be 308 hours (annualized to 103 hours). However, it should be noted that data collected for the NERI database is intended to provide information to restoration practitioners throughout the country, including those entering the data. Therefore, the burden of data collection is expected to be offset (and in some cases exceeded) by the benefits accrued to restoration practitioners from having access to a national database for project tracking and data queries.

For the Fiscal Year 2011, \$4 million in funding was available through the ERA for estuary habitat restoration projects. NOAA expects no more than 10 restoration projects to be awarded ERA funding in FY2013. Assuming continued project funding under the ERA, NOAA expects between 1-10 new awards to be made annually. Based on recent activity, NOAA estimates that approximately 5-10 additional projects will be entered to the database annually on a voluntary basis. In addition, funded respondents will be required to return to NERI in the following year to update their entries. While updates are not required for voluntary submissions, of the 10 voluntary records submitted, 7 are expected to be updated after initial entry. Using these assumptions for both mandatory and voluntary projects and assuming that one project is entered or updated by a single respondent, NOAA estimates that in year one of the next three years, up to 20 new projects will be entered into the database. In year two, an additional 20 projects will be entered into the database and an existing 17 projects will be updated. In year three, another 20 projects will be added to the database and an existing 17 projects will be updated. Annualizing over three years (20, 20 + 17, 20 + 17), there would be 31 respondents and responses per year.

For new projects, the total response time per project is estimated at four hours: approximately three hours spent collecting project information and writing the project abstract and one hour for entering information into the database. For projects that are already in the database and are being updated, the total response time per project is estimated at two hours: 1 hour and 30 minutes for collecting new project information and 30 minutes to update the information in the database. Assuming approximately 20 new projects being entered into the database each year and 17 existing projects updated the second and third years, the total burden would be 308 hours (20 x 4 hours = 80 for each year, and 114 (80 + 17 x 2 (34)) hours for the second and third years), annualized to 103 hours per year.

These totals include the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, and gathering and maintaining project information needed to answer database questions based on

information that awardees should have readily available, and the one-time need to use a GPS or internet URL to determine latitude and longitude coordinates of project sites.

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).

No capital or start-up costs are expected to result from this collection by the respondents. Operations and maintenance costs are expected to be limited to Internet and computer access for submitting project information to the NERI database and Website. It is expected that existing computer equipment and Internet connections will be used by respondents at little to no additional cost.

It is expected that no more than 25% of the 31 annual respondents will either use facsimile transmission or mail to submit paper data entry forms. Based upon this percentage, it is estimated half of those aforementioned respondents will use mail, resulting in a \$1.84 burden (4 respondents x \$0.46 per stamp), and the remainder of those respondents will use facsimile transmission, resulting in a \$12.00 burden (4 respondents x 3 pages x \$1.00 per page). The overall annual burden to respondents is estimated to be \$13.84 (\$14).

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

One full-time employee (FTE) will devote approximately 25% of his/her time annually for oversight, reporting, QA/QC, and data imports. One contractor will devote 10% of his/her time to implement changes and maintain the application. With an annual average salary an annual salary of \$80,000 for an FTE at 25% time (\$20,000), and an annual salary for a contractor of \$75,000 at 10% time (\$7,500), the annualized cost to the Federal government to conduct this information collection is estimated to be \$27,500. No significant equipment, overhead, printing or other costs should be involved with the processing of this information collection.

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

The collection of information for the NERI involves paper or fillable adobe forms instead of web-based data entry forms, as maintaining the web-based data entry option is not cost-effective. This will result in an estimated \$14 recordkeeping/reporting cost to respondents.

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

The results of this collection will not be published.

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 PRA statement, with the OMB Control Number, expiration date, and additional information about the collection, is available for respondents on both the PDF form, as well as the NERI website.

18. Explain each exception to the certification statement.

There are no exceptions.

**SUPPORTING STATEMENT
NATIONAL ESTUARIES RESTORATION INVENTORY
OMB CONTROL NO. 0648-0479**

B. COLLECTIONS OF INFORMATION EMPLOYING STATISTICAL METHODS

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

Although this collection will not employ statistical methods, responses are being provided in this section in the event that issues are raised during the review process. The potential respondent universe of this collection consists of mandatory responses by entities receiving funding through the Estuary Restoration Act (ERA), as well as optional responses for all other parties with projects eligible to be submitted to NERI. Although the number of mandatory responses can be estimated on an annual basis, optional responses are extremely difficult to quantify. The NERI does not aim to be a complete inventory of all estuary habitat restoration projects occurring throughout the country. Instead, it aims to track project information and make it available to restoration practitioners in order to improve restoration methods, as well as to track acreage restored toward the goals of the Estuary Restoration Act.

Respondents receiving ERA-funding may include not-for-profit organizations, state, local, and tribal governments, and other Federal agencies. As of March 2013, 36 projects have been approved by the ERA Council, 26 of which have received funding. As part of the Estuary Restoration Act, each of these projects are to be tracked through the National Estuaries Restoration Inventory (NERI) once project implementation begins. The amount of funding allocated to projects each Fiscal Year will depend upon the funding available through the ERA, which will vary each year. Assuming continued level project funding under the ERA, NOAA expects approximately 10 new awards to be made annually.

The other universe of respondents consists of optional responses by restoration practitioners who are implementing projects eligible to be submitted to NERI. This set of respondents is difficult to quantify as habitat restoration projects occur at a wide scale, with efforts occurring at Federal, regional, state, and local levels. In addition, these efforts often overlap each other with projects being implemented through multiple combinations of entities. The amount of work that gets completed may also be driven by the amount of funding available, which also varies at the Federal, regional, state, and local levels. Therefore, it is extremely difficult to quantify the amount of restoration projects that would be voluntarily submitted to the NERI.

Table 1: Summary of the Universe of Respondents and Response Rate for Mandatory and Optional Responses to the National Estuaries Restoration Inventory (Annual)

Category of Responses	Universe of Respondents	Expected Response Rates	Actual Response Rates
Optional	Unable to quantify beyond number of projects currently in the database (approx. 2,500)	Unable to quantify the expected new project entries, but expect a project record update rate of 70%	5 requests for submission received but denied due to issues with data overlap.
Mandatory	1-10 projects	100%	26 projects have been selected for ERA funding. Data for many projects that have initiated implementation have been submitted to NERI, with the remainder pending once information is ready to submit.

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

Procedures for collecting information:

For mandatory projects, 26 projects have been selected for funding through the Estuary Restoration Act (ERA), 10 of which have been completed. Assuming funding levels will remain consistent, it is estimated that approximately 10 projects will be funded on an annual basis, and required, as a condition of funding to submit ongoing project information after the initial data entry by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Very few voluntary submissions have been provided, in part, because NOAA is currently focused on data for existing projects funded by Federal agencies. Currently, all of the data in the inventory (except the ERA-funded project records) is imported from existing tracking systems from NOAA and the U.S. FWS. The time required to input this data does not fit under our burden hours since Federal staff are doing the primary data collection and data entry.

Unusual problems requiring specialized sampling procedures:

NERI is not a comprehensive set of all restoration projects occurring in the nation. Although a few non-federal groups have inquired about submitting data, many projects were found to exist in NERI. In addition, to address issues with double counting of projects that may already be in the inventory, NOAA is focusing efforts on the collection of project information from existing Federal resources, described above.

Degree of accuracy:

The majority of information collected is summary information so the degree of accuracy is not critical to achieve the goals of the information collection. In addition, the information obtained from NERI is used for informational purposes to identify successful techniques and provide information to practitioners who are looking for other activities that have occurred in their region. The primary information being tracked is the acres of estuarine habitat restored toward the goal of the Estuary Restoration Act. Although this is a measure of quantity, a statistical analysis of this information is not relevant because the amount of habitat restored is influenced by many parameters, which are not consistent for all projects. These parameters may include

project cost, site conditions, techniques used, and materials/resources available. Other information tracked by NERI is summary information that is used to describe project activities, results, and lessons learned.

The quality of project information from the existing NOAA or U.S. FWS databases is ensured by the source data administrator, who applies quality assurance procedures, such as compliance to naming conventions and completion of minimum fields applicable to the status of the project, to project information submitted to NERI. In addition, NERI administrators regularly provide additional review of data as needed. Data are imported on a regular basis after undergoing quality assurance/quality control procedures specific to each agency. This process will be repeated whenever a project is updated. Any projects that are voluntarily submitted will be inspected by NERI admin prior to dissemination.

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

To increase response rates, NOAA has promoted the use of the inventory via outreach to the habitat restoration community. This consisted of: (1) presentations at various conferences, meetings, etc., (2) approaching restoration practitioners via professional listserves, phone calls, etc., (3) announcing and promoting use of published spatial data through various data catalogs and mapping services (Geospatial One-Stop, state and local mapping applications, etc.).

In addition, the database is populated using data from existing restoration project databases. Having current project information in the NERI improves the relevancy of information for restoration practitioners, and possibly encourages them to voluntarily respond to the information collection.

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

No tests of procedures or methods are to be undertaken at this time. NOAA will instead invite feedback on the utility of the NERI to track information from respondents and make adjustments as needed to refine the collection of information.

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

Marti McGuire
NOAA Restoration Center
Marti.McGuire@noaa.gov
(727) 551-5785

Mike Peccini
NOAA Restoration Center
Mike.Peccini@noaa.gov
(301) 713-0174

Ms. McGuire advises on the strategy of data collection and provides institutional knowledge on NERI. Mr. Peccini also informs the strategy of data collection as well as manages and maintains the NERI database.

National Estuaries Restoration Inventory

Inventory Fields

OMB Control No. 0648-0479

Expiration Date: 06/30/2013

Please answer the following questions for your restoration project. For assistance on any of the fields, please see the Inventory Help available at neri.noaa.gov/neri/help.
(*required field)

GENERAL INFORMATION

What is the name of this project? *

Note: Name should be a short, descriptive title that includes the specific location of the project and type of restoration being implemented.

What type of project is this? *

- Funded under the Estuary Restoration Act (ERA)
- Compensatory (required by state or federal law)
- All other restoration projects.

1. Provide a topic sentence summarizing this project. *

2. Does this project include monitoring to gauge the success of restoration efforts? *

- Yes
- No

3. Does this project's monitoring plan meet ERA Council Monitoring Standards? *

- Yes
- No

4. If monitoring data are available on the web, please provide a URL (web address).

5. What is the status of this project? * (Select One):

- Planning Stage
- Implementation Stage
- Implementation Complete
- Project Terminated

6. Provide the dates for each stage of this project as it occurs. *

Note: For projects in the planning stage, provide estimated implementation stage start date.

Actual implementation start date: _____ (MM/YYYY)
Implementation completion date: _____ (MM/YYYY)

*****Questions for ERA-funded projects only: *****

7. What is the size of the area which was/will be directly manipulated?

_____ (Acres)

8. What is the overall size of the area being monitored?

_____ (Acres)

9. How were the measurements in questions 6 & 7 obtained (e.g. aerial photography, GIS, land surveys, etc)?

10. Provide the name of project's non-federal sponsor.

11. Provide the name of the lead federal agency. Select One:

- Army Corps of Engineers (ACE)
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
- Department of Transportation (DOT)

12. Provide the date of the ERA funding agreement.

_____ (MM/YYYY)

13. Has this project qualified as an innovative technology project as defined by the Council's Strategy?

- Yes
- No

If yes, please briefly describe the innovative technology.

14. Provide the ERA project number. _____

PROJECT ABSTRACT *

Multiple horizontal lines for text entry.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Provide information for up to two primary project contacts.

NOTE: Contact information may be displayed on-line in project queries and reports. If you do not wish to share your information, please leave the field blank. If you are adding another person to the contact list, make sure they are aware that their information may be available on-line."

1. Information for Contact 1*

Form fields for Contact 1: First Name, Last Name, Position Title, Office, Address 1, Address 2, City, State/Territory/Province, Zip Code, Phone, Fax, E-mail, Agency/organization/project Web site address.

2. Information for Contact 2

Form fields for Contact 2: First Name, Last Name, Position Title, Office, Address 1, Address 2, City, State/Territory/Province, Zip Code, Phone, Fax, E-mail, Agency/organization/project Web site address.

GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

1. Where is this project located?

State/Territory/Province: * _____
 County/Parish: * _____
 City: * _____
 Tribe: _____
 Region* (see map in Help page): _____
 Zip Code (+4 if known): _____
 USGS 8-digit HUC: _____

Latitude/Longitude (center of project site in decimal degrees to a minimum of four decimal points):

X coordinate* (longitude) _____

Y coordinate* (latitude) _____

USGS Topographic Quadrangle: _____

Congressional District: * _____

2. What method was used to obtain the latitude and longitude for the project site (e.g. GPS, Topographic map, website)? If known, please also provide the datum.

3a. Is there a GIS data layer (polygon) showing the boundaries of the area (to be) restored?

Yes No

3b. If yes and GIS contact is not listed as the primary project contact, please provide:

Contact first name _____ Contact last name _____

Contact phone number _____ Contact e-mail _____

PROJECT BENEFITS

Please provide information on this project's benefits.

1. Project Benefits* (see Table 4)	2. Description of benefit	3. If implemented, has this benefit been achieved?	4. Comments
		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not yet known	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not yet known	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not yet known	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not yet known	

HABITAT TYPES AND ACREAGE RESTORED

Please provide information on the habitat types which have been restored and/or will be restored by this project. Since a given project may restore multiple habitat types, please provide information for each habitat type restored.

Habitat types and acreage restored:

1. Habitat Type Restored* (see Table 1) ¹	2. Tidal influence of habitat type:	3. Specifically describe this habitat type (e.g. comments on tidal influence, photic/aphotic, location in estuary, etc.)	4. Estimated acreage to be restored: *	For acres already restored, indicate how many acres were:					
				5. Restored*			6. Benefited (not counted toward million acre goal)		
				Created	Re-established	Rehabilitated	Enhanced ²	Protected ²	
	<input type="checkbox"/> subtidal <input type="checkbox"/> intertidal <input type="checkbox"/> supratidal/spray zone <input type="checkbox"/> not applicable								
	<input type="checkbox"/> subtidal <input type="checkbox"/> intertidal <input type="checkbox"/> supratidal/spray zone <input type="checkbox"/> not applicable								
	<input type="checkbox"/> subtidal <input type="checkbox"/> intertidal <input type="checkbox"/> supratidal/spray zone <input type="checkbox"/> not applicable								
	<input type="checkbox"/> subtidal <input type="checkbox"/> intertidal <input type="checkbox"/> supratidal/spray zone <input type="checkbox"/> not applicable								

NOTES:

¹ For projects providing fish passage, please provide acreage information for habitat actually restored (e.g. via stream channel, restructuring, placement of woody debris, best management practices, etc.), AND for entire stream area opened to fish migration (this information can be provided at the end of this section).

² Acres reported in the "Enhanced" and "Protected" categories should not duplicate acres reported in the "Restored" category. If the same project acreage has been enhanced or protected as well as restored, report those acres only in the "Restored" category.

7. What method (e.g. aerial photography, GIS, land surveys) was used to determine the number of acres reported above as created, re-established, rehabilitated, enhanced and/or protected?

*****In-Stream projects only*****

8. If this project provided fish passage, how many stream miles were opened to anadromous fish?

_____ (Miles)

9. For the stream miles reported in #8 above, please provide an estimate of the acres (based on surface area) made accessible to anadromous fish.

_____ (Acres)

RESTORATION TECHNIQUES

Please list the restoration techniques used in this project.

1. Restoration technique(s)* (see Table 2)	2. Description of Technique (e.g. materials used, plant spacing)	3. Success of this technique	4. Comments on success
		<input type="checkbox"/> Very successful <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat successful <input type="checkbox"/> Not successful <input type="checkbox"/> Not yet known	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Very successful <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat successful <input type="checkbox"/> Not successful <input type="checkbox"/> Not yet known	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Very successful <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat successful <input type="checkbox"/> Not successful <input type="checkbox"/> Not yet known	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Very successful <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat successful <input type="checkbox"/> Not successful <input type="checkbox"/> Not yet known	

MONITORING AND SUCCESS CRITERIA

Please list the parameters and success criteria that were used in monitoring this restoration project.

1. Monitoring Parameter* (see Table 3)	2. Description (e.g. methods, frequency, etc.)	3. Monitoring start date (MM/YYYY)	4. Monitoring end date (MM/YYYY)	5. Quantitative Success Criteria (e.g. water depth > x for x hours/day)	6. Have the success criteria been met?	7. Comments on success criteria
					<input type="checkbox"/> Not yet known <input type="checkbox"/> All <input type="checkbox"/> Some <input type="checkbox"/> None	
					<input type="checkbox"/> Not yet known <input type="checkbox"/> All <input type="checkbox"/> Some <input type="checkbox"/> None	
					<input type="checkbox"/> Not yet known <input type="checkbox"/> All <input type="checkbox"/> Some <input type="checkbox"/> None	
					<input type="checkbox"/> Not yet known <input type="checkbox"/> All <input type="checkbox"/> Some <input type="checkbox"/> None	

REGIONAL RESTORATION PLANS

If this project is being carried out in support of an existing regional restoration plan, please provide the following plan information:

1. Plan Name	2. Lead Organizations	3. Type of Plan (select one)	4. Date (MM/YYYY)	5. Plan URL
		<input type="checkbox"/> Business/industry <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> Local government <input type="checkbox"/> Multistate/regional <input type="checkbox"/> Nonprofit <input type="checkbox"/> State/territory/ province <input type="checkbox"/> Other		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Business/industry <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> Local government <input type="checkbox"/> Multistate/regional <input type="checkbox"/> Nonprofit <input type="checkbox"/> State/territory/ province <input type="checkbox"/> Other		

BUDGET INFORMATION

1. Provide the original proposed project cost estimate.

2. Of the total cost estimate, how much will go toward project monitoring?

3. List amount(s) for all applicable funding sources:

Federal		Non-Federal	
\$	Cash	\$	Cash
\$	In-kind	\$	In-kind
\$	Lands, easements, etc.	\$	Lands, easements, etc.

4. If desired, provide additional information on the project budget below (e.g., operations and maintenance costs, specifics on in-kind contributions, etc.):

*****Question for ERA-funded projects only: *****

5. If project implementation is complete, provide the total actual cost (planning and implementation only) for this project.

PARTNER INFORMATION

Add the following information for project partners:

1. Project Partner*	2. Type of Partner * (select one)	3. Partner web site	4. Additional information for partner
	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State/Territory/Province <input type="checkbox"/> Local Government <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal <input type="checkbox"/> Non-profit <input type="checkbox"/> Academic <input type="checkbox"/> Business/Industry <input type="checkbox"/> Private Citizen		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State/Territory/Province <input type="checkbox"/> Local Government <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal <input type="checkbox"/> Non-profit <input type="checkbox"/> Academic <input type="checkbox"/> Business/Industry <input type="checkbox"/> Private Citizen		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State/Territory/Province <input type="checkbox"/> Local Government <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal <input type="checkbox"/> Non-profit <input type="checkbox"/> Academic <input type="checkbox"/> Business/Industry <input type="checkbox"/> Private Citizen		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State/Territory/Province <input type="checkbox"/> Local Government <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal <input type="checkbox"/> Non-profit <input type="checkbox"/> Academic <input type="checkbox"/> Business/Industry <input type="checkbox"/> Private Citizen		

PROJECT PHOTOS

You may upload up to 3 pictures of your restoration project to the National Estuaries Restoration Inventory. These photos will be used in on-line project profiles that will appear on the NERI web site once your project has been approved. For each photo, please provide the following information:

1. Photo File Name	2. Photo Caption	3. Credit	4. Date of Photo (MM/YYYY)

NOTICE

Responses to this collection are required of grant recipients to support the Estuary Restoration Act. Collection of estuary habitat restoration project information will be undertaken in order to populate a restoration project inventory mandated by the Estuary Restoration Act of 2000. The inventory is intended to provide information to improve restoration methods, provide the basis for required reports to Congress, and track estuary habitat acreage restored. Estuary habitat restoration project information will be submitted by habitat restoration project managers through an interactive web site, and will be accessible to the public via Internet for data queries and project reports. Responses to this information collection are required to retain funding provided by the Estuary Restoration Act and optional for projects that are not funded through the ERA but meet project requirements for the National Estuaries Restoration Inventory. Confidentiality will not be maintained – the information will be available to the public. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average four hours for new responses and two hours to update existing responses in the inventory, 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 aspects of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the NOAA Fisheries Office of Habitat Conservation, Restoration Division, F/HC3, 1315 East West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to 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 collected will be reviewed for compliance with the NOAA Section 515 Guidelines established in response to the Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act, and certified before dissemination.

collection of data on fishing communities, as well as on individuals who fish—is a requirement under several federal laws. Laws such as the National Environmental Protection Act and the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation Act (as amended 2007) describe such requirements. The collection of this data not only helps to inform legal requirements for the existing management actions, but will inform future management actions requiring equivalent information.

Literature indicates fisheries rationalization programs have an impact on those individuals participating in the affected fishery. The Pacific Fisheries Management Council implemented a new rationalization program for the Pacific Coast Groundfish limited entry trawl fishery in January 2011. This research aims to continue to study the individuals in the affected fishery after the implementation of the rationalization program. Data collected is correlated to changes in the programs' design elements. In addition, the study will compare results to previous data collection efforts in 2010 and 2012. The data collected will provide updated and more comprehensive descriptions of the industry as well as allow for analysis of changes the rationalization program may create in the fishery. The measurement of these changes will lead to a greater understanding of the social impacts the management measure may have on the individuals in the fishery. To achieve these goals it is critical to continue data collection for comparison to data collected prior to the implementation of the rationalization program, in 2010, and after the first year of implementation in 2012. This study will continue data collection efforts to achieve the stated objectives.

II. Method of Collection

Contact and collaboration with key informants, focus groups, paper surveys, electronic surveys, and in-person interviews will be utilized in combination to obtain the greatest breadth of information as possible.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0648–0606.

Form Number: None.

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

Affected Public: Individuals or households; business or other for-profit organizations; not-for-profit institutions.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 600.

Estimated Time Per Response: 1 hour and 30 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 1,000.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$0 in recordkeeping/recording costs.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

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

Dated: February 6, 2013.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 2013–03066 Filed 2–11–13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; National Estuaries Restoration Inventory

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before April 15, 2013.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Jennifer Jessup, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6616, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW.,

Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at Jjessup@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Perry Gayaldo, (301) 427–8665 or Perry.Gayaldo@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

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

Collection of estuary habitat restoration project information (e.g., location, habitat type, goals, status, monitoring information) will be undertaken in order to populate a restoration project database mandated by the Estuary Restoration Act of 2000. The database is intended to provide information to improve restoration methods, provide the basis for required reports to Congress, and track estuary habitat acreage restored. Estuary habitat restoration project information will be submitted by habitat restoration project managers and will be accessible to the public via the Internet for data queries and project reports.

The collection method will be revised to only include paper or electronic form instead of web-based data entry forms, as maintaining the web-based data entry option is not cost-effective.

II. Method of Collection

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

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0648–0479.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission (revision and extension of a currently approved collection).

Affected Public: Non-profit institutions; State, local, or tribal government.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 32.

Estimated Time Per Response: Data entry of new projects, 4 hours; updates to existing projects, 2 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 103.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$100 in recordkeeping/reporting costs.

IV. Request for Comments

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

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

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

Dated: February 6, 2013.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 2013-03068 Filed 2-11-13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XC492

Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Ad Hoc Amendment 24 Workgroup will hold an online webinar, which is open to the public.

DATES: The Workgroup's work session will begin at 1 p.m. on Thursday, February 28 and continue until business is completed on that day.

ADDRESSES: To attend the Ad Hoc Amendment 24 Workgroup webinar, please reserve your seat by visiting <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/789088682>. If requested, enter your name, email address, and the webinar id, which is 789-088-682. Once registered, participants will receive a confirmation email message that contains detailed information about viewing the event. To only join the audio teleconference of the webinar from the U.S. or Canada, call the toll number +1 (702) 489-0007 (note: this is not a toll-free number) and use the access code 237-761-508 when prompted.

Council address: Pacific Fishery Management Council, 7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101, Portland, OR 97220-1384.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Kit Dahl, Pacific Fishery Management Council, telephone: (503) 820-2280.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Council formed the Amendment 24 Workgroup to develop proposals for modifying the process to periodically establish and adjust harvest levels and management measures for the Pacific Coast groundfish fishery. The Workgroup will review the proposed action and range of alternatives for the setting harvest specifications and management measures for the Pacific Coast groundfish fishery for a 10-year period, 2015-24. On or about February 21 a white paper describing the proposed action and range of alternatives will be available on the Council's Web site (www.pcouncil.org) as part of the briefing materials for the March 2013 Pacific Fishery Management Council meeting. The Council may adopt the alternatives for analysis in an environmental impact assessment or environmental impact statement, as required by the National Environmental Policy Act. The Workgroup is expected to prepare a report for the Council containing their comments on the proposal.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in the meeting agenda may be discussed, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this document and any issues arising after publication of this document that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of the intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Mr. Kris Kleinschmidt, (503) 820-2280, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: February 7, 2013.

Tracey L. Thompson,

Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2013-03149 Filed 2-11-13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XC489

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of a public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council will convene a meeting of the Ad Hoc Artificial Substrate Advisory Panel (AP).

DATES: The meeting will convene at 8:30 a.m. and conclude by 4 p.m. on Thursday, February 28, 2013.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 2203 N. Lois Avenue, Suite 1100, Tampa, FL 33607; telephone: (813) 348-1630.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. John Froeschke, Fishery Biologist-Statistician; Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; telephone: (813) 348-1630 x235.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Ad Hoc Artificial Substrate AP will meet to discuss artificial substrates and their potential consideration as an Essential Fish Habitat in Gulf of Mexico fisheries. Specifically, the AP will evaluate potential implications including regulatory, fishery, or habitat impacts of consideration of artificial substrates as essential fish habitat (EFH) in accordance with the regulations at 50 CFR Part 600 Subpart J. Items for consideration may include types of structures to be considered, potential conflicts with existing regulatory measures, and requirements to minimize impacts of fishing to the extent practicable. The AP will consider if new information exists that demonstrates artificial substrates, including fixed petroleum leg platforms and artificial reefs, provide habitat functions to federally-managed species in the Gulf of Mexico meeting the criteria identified and described as essential fish habitat (EFH) in accordance with the regulations at 50 CFR Part 600 Subpart J.

Copies of the agenda and other related materials can be obtained by calling (813) 348-1630.

Although other non-emergency issues not on the agenda may come before the Advisory Panel for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management