NOTICE OF OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET ACTION

Date 09/12/2013

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 08/08/2013

ACTION REQUESTED: New collection (Request for a new OMB Control Number)
TYPE OF REVIEW REQUESTED: Regular
ICR REFERENCE NUMBER: 201307-0648-006
AGENCY ICR TRACKING NUMBER:
TITLE: Survey of Charter Boat and Head Boat Angler Interactions with Sea Turtles
LIST OF INFORMATION COLLECTIONS: See next page

OMB ACTION: Approved without change
OMB CONTROL NUMBER: 0648-0680
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: 09/30/2016 DISCONTINUE DATE:

BURDEN:	RESPONSES	HOURS	COSTS
Previous	0	0	0
New	5,990	365	0
Difference			
Change due to New Statute	0	0	0
Change due to Agency Discretion	5,990	365	0
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
CharterHeadboat Survey Add-on for APAIS	NA	Question to be asked upon completion of the APAIS	
Charter Boat and Head B0at Angler Interactions with Sea Turtles	NA	Charter and Head Boat Angler Interactions with Sea Turtles	

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
DOC/NOAA/NMFS

2. OMB control number b. [✔] None
a. 0648 -

3. Type of information collection (*check one*)
a. [✔] New Collection
b. [ ] Revision of a currently approved collection
c. [ ] Extension of a currently approved collection
d. [ ] Reinstatement, without change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired
e. [ ] Reinstatement, with change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired
f. [ ] Existing collection in use without an OMB control number
For b-f, note Item A2 of Supporting Statement instructions

4. Type of review requested (*check one*)
a. [✔] Regular submission
b. [ ] Emergency - Approval requested by ____/____/____
c. [ ] Delegated

5. Small entities
Will this information collection have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities? [ ] Yes [✔] No

6. Requested expiration date
a. [✔] Three years from approval date b. [ ] Other Specify:____/____

7. Title Survey of Charter Boat and Head Boat Angler Interactions with Sea Turtles

8. Agency form number(s) (*if applicable*) N/A

9. Keywords

10. Abstract

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), United States Department of Commerce (DOC) is planning to test a survey design, and directly assess the extent of interactions between charter boat and head boat recreational anglers and sea turtles. Collection of these data on sea turtle interactions in the recreational charter boat and head boat sectors is necessary to fulfill statutory requirements of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et. seq.) Section 7 analysis, and will provide necessary data to evaluate impacts on the sea turtle populations.

11. Affected public (*Mark primary with "P" and all others that apply with "x"*)
a. P 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 (*check one*)
a. [✔] Voluntary
b. [ ] Required to obtain or retain benefits
c. [ ] Mandatory

13. Annual recordkeeping and reporting burden
a. Number of respondents 4,000
b. Total annual responses 5,990
1. Percentage of these responses collected electronically ____%
c. Total annual hours requested 365
d. Current OMB inventory 0
e. Difference ____
f. Explanation of difference
1. Program change ____
2. Adjustment ____

14. Annual reporting and recordkeeping cost burden *(in thousands of dollars)*
a. Total annualized capital/startup costs 0
b. Total annual costs (O&M) 0
c. Total annualized cost requested 0
d. Current OMB inventory 0
e. Difference ____
f. Explanation of difference
1. Program change ____
2. Adjustment ____

15. Purpose of information collection (*Mark primary with "P" and all others that apply with "X"*)
a. ___ Application for benefits e. X Program planning or management
b. ___ Program evaluation f. P Research
c. ___ General purpose statistics g. ___ Regulatory or compliance
d. ___ Audit

16. Frequency of recordkeeping or reporting *(check all that apply)*
a. [ ] Recordkeeping b. [ ] Third party disclosure
c. [✔] Reporting
1. [ ] On occasion 2. [ ] Weekly 3. [ ] Monthly
4. [ ] Quarterly 5. [ ] Semi-annually 6. [ ] Annually
7. [ ] Biennially 8. [✔] Other (describe) Once or twice, depending

17. Statistical methods
Does this information collection employ statistical methods
[✔] Yes [ ] No

18. Agency Contact (person who can best answer questions regarding the content of this submission)
Name: Sara McNulty
Phone: (301) 427-8402

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 signed by Helen Golde	Date 07/10/2013
Signature of NOAA Clearance Officer	
Signature BRABSON.SARAH.1365710488 Digitally signed by BRABSON.SARAH.1365710488 DN: c=US, o=U.S. Government, ou=DoD, ou=PKI, ou=OTHER, cn=BRABSON.SARAH.1365710488 Date: 2013.09.12 15:26:43 -04'00'	Date

SUPPORTING STATEMENT
SURVEY OF CHARTER BOAT AND HEAD BOAT ANGLER INTERACTIONS WITH SEA TURTLES
OMB CONTROL NO. 0648-XXXX

A. JUSTIFICATION

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

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), United States Department of Commerce (DOC) is planning to test a survey design, and directly assess the extent of interactions between charter boat and head boat recreational anglers and sea turtles. This survey will be conducted in North Carolina. North Carolina was chosen as the pilot location for several reasons. First, sea turtles are known to inhabit the coastal and inshore waters of North Carolina seasonally and anecdotal reports indicate that sea turtle interactions have occurred in the charter boat and head boat industry in North Carolina. Second, North Carolina is a state participating in the 2013 Access-Point Angler Intercept Survey (APAIS), OMB Control No. 0648-0659, which will provide the baseline for the survey participants. Finally, North Carolina was chosen due to the success of implementing the 2012 pilot survey, as part of OMB Control No. 0648-0052, which collected data on interactions between shore and private-boat recreational anglers and sea turtles in North Carolina with the Division of Marine Fisheries.

As mentioned above, the 2012 pilot study tested the feasibility of collecting data on interactions between shore and private-boat recreational anglers and sea turtles. This previous survey was conducted using a dual frame mail and phone survey design that sampled from state databases of licensed anglers and either residential address frames (address-based sampling or ABS) or random digit dial (RDD) household frames. While the previous survey was successful in collecting data from this sector, it did not account for interactions that may have occurred within the charter boat and head boat segment of the recreational fishing industry. Therefore, this collection is necessary to obtain information specifically on the rate of interactions between charter boat and head boat anglers and sea turtles so that NMFS can evaluate the impact this sector has on sea turtle populations. The survey will also assess the feasibility of the mail survey design, based on response rates, to determine if this is a productive method of data collection.

Collection of these data on sea turtle interactions in the recreational charter boat and head boat sectors is necessary to fulfill statutory requirements of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et. seq.) Section 7 analysis, and will provide necessary data to evaluate impacts on the sea turtle populations.

2. <u>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</u>.

The sea turtle interaction data that are collected via this collection will be used by NOAA Fisheries protected species managers to evaluate the impact of recreational fishing on sea turtle populations. The instrument has three parts. Part I of the survey asks about interactions that have occurred within a specific 2-month period. The two-month period will vary depending on when the person was originally intercepted on their charter boat or head boat fishing trip (see below for intercept process). For example, if the angler was intercepted in May or June 2013, the survey would be mailed out in approximately August 2013, and we will specifically ask about any interactions that occurred in May and June 2013. If the angler is intercepted in July or August 2013, we will specifically ask about the interactions that occurred in those months. In Part I, we ask for the total number of charter or head boat trips taken during the specific 2-month period, the number of interactions that occurred, what type of turtle was involved (either leatherback or hard-shelled turtle based on an identification guide that we provide with the survey), and several questions on the nature of the interactions. To collect information on the nature of the interactions we ask if the turtle was hooked and/or entangled, where on the body it was hooked, if the hook and line were removed, how much line was remaining on the turtle, and if it was released alive or dead. All of this information will be used by NOAA Fisheries protected species managers to estimate the total number of sea turtle interactions that occur in the charter/head boat sector, and the potential impact of those interactions on individual turtles as well as sea turtle populations.

Part II of the survey asks about interactions that have occurred within the 12-month period prior to (but not including) Part I. In this section we ask for the total number of charter boat or head boat trips they have taken during the 12 month period, the number of sea turtle interactions that occurred during that time, as well as information on the type of turtle (hard-shelled or leatherback), in what month the interaction occurred, and any details they can recall about the interaction. This information will be used by NOAA Fisheries protected species managers to estimate the number of sea turtle interactions by the charter/head boat sector during the 12 month period, and determine what impact this may have had on individual sea turtles as well as sea turtle populations.

Part III of the survey asks about any recreational fishing interactions the angler has had in their lifetime, in addition to anything previously reported in Part I and II. This information will be used by NOAA Fisheries protected species managers to determine the magnitude of interactions that occur in recreational fishing sectors and specific information on the number of interactions individual anglers have had over their lifetime.

Analysis of data collected from this survey will be used in agency documents, such as ESA Section 7 Biological Opinions and other regulatory documents.

These documents are disseminated to the public, but the raw survey results will not be disseminated to the public. 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. Although the information collected will not be disseminated directly to the public, the results will be used in scientific, management, and regulatory documents. Should NOAA Fisheries decide to disseminate the information, it will be subject to the quality control measures and 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 surveys will be conducted by mail. Survey responses for mail surveys will be automatically captured through optical character recognition (OCR), which will greatly increase the accuracy and efficiency of data collection.

All respondents will fill out paper forms which will be returned in postage paid envelopes. Electronic submission was considered as an option for collecting data in this survey; however, it was determined that one submission method would be preferred for this survey size. The mail survey data collection procedures have been extensively tested through previous Marine Recreation Information Program (MRIP) pilot studies (Andrews et al. 2010, Brick et al. 2012). The pilot surveys were administered for eight independent, two-month reference waves. The initial mailing is delivered by regular first class mail and includes a cover letter stating the purpose of the survey, a survey questionnaire, and a post-paid return envelope.

Additionally, based on survey response rates from the duel-frame phone and mail survey of private boaters discussed above, under OMB Control Number 0648-0052, it was found that while both phone and mail-based methods produced usable data, the mail surveys had a better response rate. Brick et al. 2012 also found that mail surveys to registered anglers had a higher response rate than other methods. This survey will involve anglers who were intercepted in the 2013 Access-Point Angler Intercept Survey (APAIS) in North Carolina, OMB Control Number 0648-0659, and who will be expecting the follow-up survey, and therefore we have selected mail, addressed directly to the individual angler, as the most efficient and cost effective method to reach all individuals targeted by this survey is through a mail survey.

4. Describe efforts to identify duplication.

We are not aware of any other efforts to estimate interactions between sea turtles and the charter boat and head boat fishing sectors in the state of North Carolina or other states. Any existing surveys on interactions between sea turtles and recreational fishing gear would be coordinated through the NMFS Office of Protected Resources, or the regional Protected Resources Divisions, and we have not been notified or involved in other efforts. NMFS and the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries are currently operating the 2013 Access-Point Angler Intercept

Survey (APAIS) in North Carolina, OMB Control Number 0648-0659, however this survey only collects information on the fishing experience, including the fishing gear used and the target catch, not on interactions with sea turtles.

The anglers who complete APAIS in North Carolina will be asked if they would be willing to complete a follow-up mail survey. Individuals who agree to complete the survey will be mailed a survey form; therefore, no duplication is possible.

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

No small businesses will be impacted by this collection. The survey will target only individuals who participate in the charter boat and head boat recreational sector as passengers. Vessel owners and captains will not be surveyed.

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

Failure to conduct this collection will cause a shortfall of data regarding the interactions between sea turtles and charter boat and head boat anglers. These data are critical to meet NOAA Fisheries mandates under the ESA to monitor and reduce the bycatch of sea turtles. Failure to implement the data collection will delay the Agency's effort to develop and implement the ESA Section 7 program.

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

The collection is consistent with OMB guidelines.

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

A Federal Register Notice published on March 7, 2013 (78 FR 14775) solicited public comment on this collection.

One substantive comment was received on the collection from The Ocean Conservancy. The commenter is supportive of the information collection proposed and felt that the information gathered through this collection will be essential to the proper performance of agency functions and integral to increased understanding of the issue. The commenter added that the survey is concise and should not place much burden on the respondents, although he recommended considering allowing participants to respond via internet. In response to this comment, we

considered the possibility of allowing for electronic submission, but given the small survey size (approximately 1990 responses); we felt that a paper mail survey would be most appropriate for this survey type and budget. The commenter also provided several constructive comments on the draft survey questions, including:

1) (Regarding survey question 3) The commenter suggested that we specifically ask the number of interactions reported by interaction type (hooking, entanglement or observe). In response to this comment we added more specificity into Part I of the survey, so that we could better determine the specific nature of each interaction.
2) (Regarding survey question 4f). The commenter questioned whether the anglers were qualified to determine the fate (alive or dead) of the released turtle, and suggested that qualifiers be added to the survey such as "did you observe the turtle swim away and dive". Additionally the commenter questions the reliability of the answers if fisherman was reluctant to report an interaction that may have caused a sea turtle mortality. After consideration, we decided to leave question 4f in the survey, with the understanding that the results may be impacted by angler knowledge. We understand that fisherman may be reluctant to provide information on interactions with dead sea turtles; therefore, we have ensured that the document states participation is voluntary and answers will be kept confidential.
3) (Regarding Part I and Part II): The commenter suggested linking the response periods to the waves of the ongoing MRIP surveys by asking for information on specific 12 month and 2 month periods of time. We have incorporated this suggestion into the final survey design, and have adjusted the periods of time where information is requested. Part I was originally asking about the most recent fishing trip, but is now asking about fishing trips taken during a 2 month period. Part II asks for information during a 12 month period of time.

Our responses and subsequent changes to the survey questions have been communicated to the commenter via email.

No comments specifically addressed estimated costs and burden hours.

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

No incentive will be provided. We considered providing a $1 or $5 incentive to respondents, but funding did not allow for this activity.

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

As stated on the instruments, responses are kept confidential as required by 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. Data such as personal addresses and phone numbers will remain confidential.

11. <u>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</u>.

No sensitive questions are asked.

12. <u>Provide an estimate in hours of the burden of the collection of information</u>.

The total burden for this collection will be 365 hours.

A) A total of 4,000 individuals are expected to be encountered during the APAIS survey. After the APAIS survey is completed, a separate question will be asked to determine if the anger is interested in completing a follow-up mail survey on sea turtle interactions. It is estimated that 4000 individuals will be asked this question, and approximately 2,000 will agree to the follow-up survey. If the individual agrees to complete the follow up survey, their name and address will be collected. It is estimated that this process will take an average of 30 seconds to complete for 4000 anglers, resulting in approximately 33 additional burden hours for this survey (4000 x 30 seconds = 2000 minutes/60 minutes = 33.33 (33) hours.

B) No more than 1,990 individuals will be mailed the follow-up survey due to the allocated budget for this project. Once 1,990 individuals have agreed to complete the follow-up survey, we will discontinue the effort to collect names and addresses, as we will have fulfilled our maximum sample size. If during the APAIS collection period, fewer than 1990 individuals agree to complete the follow-up survey, our sample size will decrease to correspond with the exact number of individuals (less than 1,990) who agreed to complete the follow-up survey. However, we anticipate that the APAIS effort will provide us with the full sample size of 1990 individuals. It is estimated that the survey response will take an average of 10 minutes. Each respondent will provide one response only; therefore the total burden is 332 hours (1,990 x 10 minutes = 19,900 minutes/60 = 331.66 (332) hours).

Respondents: 4,000 unduplicated: 4,000 APAIS respondents including the 1,990 sea turtle survey respondents

Responses: 4,000 + 1,990 = 5,990

Hours: 33 + 332 = 365.

13. <u>Provide an estimate of the total annual cost burden to the respondents or record-keepers resulting from the collection (excluding the value of the burden hours in Question 12 above)</u>.

These data collections will incur no cost burden on respondents beyond the costs of response time. The mailed surveys included postage-paid return envelopes.

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

Annual cost to the Federal government is approximately $60,000, which is the cost of the contract necessary for survey materials and mailing costs, as well as the staff necessary to execute the survey, including developing the survey questions, mailing the surveys and receive the results.

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

This is a new program.

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

NOAA does not plan to publish the results of this study, although the data will be used to develop agency documents.

17. If seeking approval to not display the expiration date for OMB approval of the information collection, explain the reasons why display would be inappropriate.

Not Applicable.

18. Explain each exception to the certification statement.

Not Applicable.

B.

SUPPORTING STATEMENT
SURVEY OF CHARTER BOAT AND HEAD BOAT ANGLER INTERACTIONS WITH SEA TURTLES
OMB CONTROL NO. 0648-XXXX

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.

The sample universe will be any recreational angler who completed a charter boat or head boat trip in North Carolina in 2013, who has been intercepted during the APAIS effort during Waves 3, 4, and 5, approximately during the months of June- October 2013. The number of anglers is estimated to be 4,000. It is expected that approximately 50% of those anglers will agree to complete the follow-up survey, approximately 2,000 individuals. Of that number, we will mail surveys to a maximum of 1,990 individuals due to the allocated budget for this survey. We expect approximately 60% to complete the follow-up mail survey when it arrives, therefore we expect to receive responses from approximately 1,194 individuals.

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.

The goal of the survey is to provide angler-level estimates of interactions with sea turtles over a 12 month recall period. While our initial sample universe is all recreational anglers that were intercepted through the North Carolina APAIS survey, we understand that only a subset of those anglers will agree to complete this survey and of that number only a subset will fill out and return the survey form.

NMFS has selected a sample size of 1990 units (individual recreational anglers to receive the mail survey). The 1990 individuals will be selected based on their willingness to complete the survey, and we expect approximately 60%, or 1194 individuals to complete the survey.

The 60% response rate is based upon previous MRIP pilot studies (Andrews et al. 2010, Brick et al. 2012a) that demonstrated that expected response rates for mail surveys, depending on the reliability of the addresses and other factors, ranges from 48% to 60%. We have chosen the higher response rate because the anglers that will be surveyed in this instrument will have verified their address and previously agreed to complete a follow-up survey

Additionally, because we expect sea turtle interactions to be a memorable event and because of the relatively short recall period for which we are collecting detailed data (12 months), we expect the accuracy and reliability of the information collected to be adequate for the intended uses.

As part of the mailed survey, we will be asking the number of recreational charter or head boat trips completed and the number of interactions with sea turtles during specific periods of time. This information will be used to measure avidity for weighting purposes, and sampling error will be estimated. The estimated proportion of anglers who have had interactions with sea turtles will be calculated using the appropriate ratio estimator given our sample size. Based on this information, and averaged across all responses, we will be able to estimate a rate of interaction within the specific time period and within the charter and head boat sector of recreational fishing in North Carolina.

We ask additional information on the nature and outcome of the interactions, which will help us to further quantify the impact of the fishery on sea turtles. The details of the analysis are still being finalized.

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.

We have given careful consideration to maximizing response rates when designing the contact letters and survey instrument. Because respondents will have agreed to participate in the follow up survey, we expect response rates to be higher for this survey than with randomly selected participants. To maximize the response rates, a letter will be sent with each survey to encourage participation and to provide contact information if the respondent has questions. If no response is received within 2-3 weeks, a second letter including a copy of the survey will be mailed out to encourage a response. If no response is received within 1-2 additional weeks, a reminder post card will be mailed as a last effort to encourage the individual to complete the survey.

Additionally, because we expect sea turtle interactions to be a memorable event and because of the relatively short recall period for which we are collecting detailed data (12 months), we expect the accuracy and reliability of the information collected to be adequate for the intended uses. We are not asking the anglers to identify the sea turtles to species, and so we expect the level of detail that we are asking them to produce reliable results.

We do not want to assume that a non-response is an indication that no interactions occurred, as it is equally possible that a person does not respond to this particular survey because they are afraid to report an interaction.

In our analysis of the data, we will assess nonresponse bias it two different ways. First, we will compare early and late responders with respect to reported fishing activity and sea turtle

interactions. This analysis will identify differences in respondents based upon the level of effort required to solicit a response. Previous studies (Brick et al., 2012) demonstrated that early and late responders are similar in terms of reported recreational fishing activity, and it is likely that sea turtle interaction reports will be similar.

The second approach will utilize information from sample frame to define weighting classes for post-survey weighting adjustments. Weighting classes will be defined such that response rates and fishing activity are similar within classes. Nonresponse bias will be measured by comparing unadjusted estimates to estimates that have been adjusted to account for differential nonresponse among weighting classes. This method of evaluating nonresponse bias has been used in previous studies (Andrews et al., 2010).

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 formal testing is planned, although informal review of the survey questions has been completed by NOAA staff and contractors to ensure the questions are understandable.

As mentioned above, in 2012 we completed a private boater survey to determine the level of sea turtle interactions that occur. While the format of that survey was slightly different and included both phone and mail interviews, the basis for the information collection process and the questions asked are very similar. Therefore, the success of that survey and the data collected provided a test of this data collection method, and provide us with confidence that this survey will yield usable and important data on sea turtle interactions rates.

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.

Statistical support was provided by the following:
Dr. Elena Besedin, Abt Associates' program manager, 617.349.2770
Abt Associates will mail out all survey documents, and receive/collate the responses.

Sara McNulty, NOAA Fisheries Service, Office of Protected Resources, 301-427-846 is the first point-of-contact for the Agency, and will review the survey responses.

Jennifer Lee, NOAA Fisheries Service, Southeast Regional Office, 727-824-5312, is the second point-of-contact for the Agency, and also reviews and tabulates the survey responses.

References:

Andrews, W.R., J.M. Brick, N.M. Mathiowetz, and L. Stokes (2010). Pilot Test of a Dual Frame Two-Phase Mail Survey of Anglers in North Carolina. Retrieved from http://www.countmyfish.noaa.gov/projects/downloads/Final_Report%20NC%202009%20Dual%20Frame%20Two%20Phase%20Experiment.pdf.

Brick. J.M., W.R. Andrews, and N.M. Mathiowetz (2012a). A Comparison of Recreational Fishing Effort Survey Designs. Retrieved from https://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/mdms/doc/08A_Comparison_of_Fishing_Effort_Surveys_Report_FINAL.pdf.

B.

Question to be asked upon completion of the 2013 Access-Point Angler Intercept Survey (APAIS) in North Carolina (OMB# 0648-0659)

Instructions to APAIS interviewer: Once you have completed conducting the APAIS survey, ask the following question and record the names and address for participation in the Survey of Charter Boat and Head Boat Angler Interactions with Sea Turtles. The total burden for asking this question will be included in the sea turtle interaction survey, not in the APAIS effort.

Question to be verbally asked of the APAIS respondents:

Question: Would you be interested in participating in a follow-up mail survey (mailed via USPS) on other recreational fishing experiences you have had?

If yes, collect the following:
1) Angler name: _____
2) Complete mailing address: _____
3) Phone number (optional): _____

Collection of these data is necessary to fulfill statutory requirements of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et. seq.). Data will be used to inform NMFS protected species managers and will be used in agency documents, such as ESA Section 7 Biological Opinions and other regulatory documents.

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other suggestions for reducing this burden to Jennifer Lee, NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service, Southeast Regional Office, St. Petersburg, FL.

This is a voluntary survey, and responses are kept confidential as required 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. Notwithstanding any other provisions of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subjected 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.

(Date)

(Proper Name)
(Add 1)
(Add 2)
(City), (State) (Zip)

Dear (Proper Name):

You have received this survey because you recently participated in a charter boat or head boat recreational fishing trip, and you indicated you would be willing to complete a short follow-up survey. This study is being conducted for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to learn more about how recreational fishermen interact with sea turtles. Your answers are completely confidential and will be used for statistical purposes only in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974. Your participation is voluntary.

The enclosed questionnaire will ask you about any interactions you may have had with sea turtles. This survey includes three sections. The first section is specific to charter/head boat fishing trips you have taken in the two month period of May and June 2013. The second section is specific to charter/head boat trips taken in the last 12 months with the charter boat and head boat industry. The third section asks about sea turtle interactions that have occurred in your lifetime, during any recreational fishing efforts. For the results to be meaningful, we need everybody who receives this survey to complete it and send it back to us.

If you have any questions or comments about this study, we would be happy to talk with you. Please direct any questions about this questionnaire to Jennifer Lee at 1-800-xxx or Jennifer.Lee@noaa.gov.

Thank you very much for your help with this important study. Please return your completed questionnaire in the postage paid envelope.

Yours sincerely,

Dave Van Voorhees
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring Maryland 20910
Phone: 301-713-2328

<<DATE>>

Last week we sent you the Survey of Charter and Head boat Angler Interactions with Sea Turtles on behalf of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). If you have already completed and returned the survey, please accept our sincere thanks. If not, I encourage you to do so today.

Information collected in this study will help us to better understand anglers' interactions with sea turtles and the impact of recreational fishing on natural resources. Please know that your answers are completely confidential and will be used only for this study in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974.

If you did not receive the survey or need another copy, please call to Jennifer Lee at 1-800-xxxx, or send an email Jennifer.Lee@noaa.gov .

Sincerely,

Dave Van Voorhees
Chief, Fisheries Statistics Division
NOAA Fisheries, Office of Science and Technology

Survey of Angler Interactions with Sea Turtles
55 Wheeler Street Cambridge, MA 02138

<<Name>>
Add1
Add2
City, St Zip

Charter Boat and Head Boat Angler Interactions with Sea Turtles

Collection of these data is necessary to fulfill statutory requirements of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et. seq.). Data will be used to inform NMFS protected species managers and will be used in agency documents, such as ESA Section 7 Biological Opinions and other regulatory documents.

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other suggestions for reducing this burden to Jennifer Lee, NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service, Southeast Regional Office, St. Petersburg, FL.

This is a voluntary survey, and responses are kept confidential as required 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. Notwithstanding any other provisions of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subjected 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.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: I haven't had any interactions with sea turtles during my fishing trips. Should I still respond to the survey?

A: Yes. It is important that everyone who receives this questionnaire complete it and return it. For this survey to be scientific, we need basic information from all individuals selected for the survey whether they have ever had any interactions with sea turtles or not.

Q: Who is sponsoring the survey, and how will the information be used?

A: This study is being sponsored by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). NOAA's mission is to conserve and manage coastal and marine resources to meet our Nation's needs. The data will be used to better understand anglers' interactions with sea turtles to improve our ability to provide protection to sea turtles.

Q: How much time will this survey take?

A: On average, it should take less than 10 minutes to complete, including reviewing instructions and answering the questions.

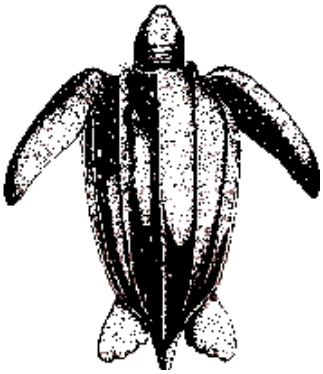
Q: I have other questions. Who can I talk to?

A: Questions about completing this questionnaire can be directed to Jennifer Lee at 1-800-XXXX or by emailing Jennifer.Lee@noaa.gov.

Sea Turtle Identification Guide

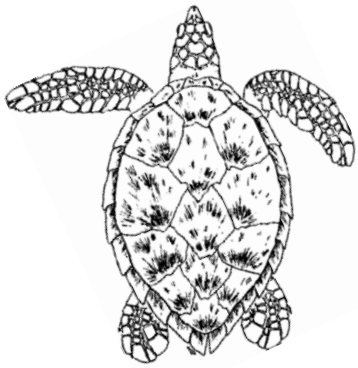
The survey questions ask you to differentiate between leatherback and hard-shelled sea turtles. Please use the diagrams and descriptive text below to help you answer those specific questions. If you didn't see the sea turtle clearly or you are not sure what type of sea turtle you saw, please reply "Not Sure," as specified for the question.

Leatherback



Leatherback turtles: Leatherback turtles are differentiated from other sea turtles by the lack of hard bony shell. Instead, their back is covered by black leathery skin with a series of 7 ridges that run from head to tail. These are the largest of all sea turtles and their shells may be up to 5 or 6 feet long.

Hard-shell



Hard-shell turtles: The body of hard-shell turtles is covered with a shell made of hard, keratinized plates called "scutes." The shell of a hard-shelled turtle may be covered in algae or barnacles, and may be orange/red, brown, gray, or black. These sea turtles may have shells up to 2 or 3 feet long.

Survey Questions

- **This survey should be completed only by the person it is addressed to.**
- **Please use a blue or black pen.**
- **Please answer each question as completely as you can. If you are unsure of an answer please check "not sure."**
- **Please see the turtle identification guide on the previous page for more information on sea turtle species**.

Part I

Please answer questions **1-4g** below about any charter or head boat fishing trips you have taken during the 2 month period between May and June 2013.

1. How many charter boat or head boat trips did you take in May and June 2013 including the trip when you were originally surveyed?

☐☐

2. Did you ***hook*** and/or ***entangle*** a sea turtle in your fishing gear on any trips in May or June 2013?

☐ Yes → **Continue to Q3**

☐ No → **Skip to Part II, Q5**

Hook: When the point of the fishing hook penetrates the body or mouth of the sea turtle, or when the hook is swallowed.

Entangle: When the fishing line becomes wrapped around the flippers, head or body of the sea turtle.

3. How many sea turtles did you hook or entangle?

☐☐

4. For each sea turtle ***interaction***, please respond to the questions **4a -4g** in the table provided on the next page by selecting the correct answer. One column should be completed for each individual sea turtle. For example, if three sea turtle interactions occurred, three columns should be completed. If you have had more than 4 sea turtle interactions, please contact Jennifer Lee at 1-800 -XXXX or by emailing Jennifer.Lee@noaa.gov and you will be provided with an additional table to fill out.

Interaction: when you hook and/or entangle a sea turtle with your fishing gear

BAR CODE

Questions	Turtle #1	Turtle #2	Turtle #3	Turtle #4
4a. Was the sea turtle a leatherback or hard-shelled sea turtle?	☐ Leatherback ☐ Hard-shelled ☐ Not Sure	☐ Leatherback ☐ Hard-shelled ☐ Not Sure	☐ Leatherback ☐ Hard-shelled ☐ Not Sure	☐ Leatherback ☐ Hard-shelled ☐ Not Sure
4b. Was the sea turtle hooked, entangled in line, or both hooked and entangled?	☐ Hooked ☐ Entangled ☐ Hooked and Entangled ☐ Not Sure	☐ Hooked ☐ Entangled ☐ Hooked and Entangled ☐ Not Sure	☐ Hooked ☐ Entangled ☐ Hooked and Entangled ☐ Not Sure	☐ Hooked ☐ Entangled ☐ Hooked and Entangled ☐ Not Sure
4c. If hooked, or both hooked and entangled, where on the sea turtle was it hooked? *See below for definitions of the bolded words.*	☐ ***External*** ☐ ***Inside Mouth*** ☐ ***Swallowed*** ☐ Not Sure ☐ Not Hooked	☐ External ☐ Inside Mouth ☐ Swallowed ☐ Not Sure ☐ Not Hooked	☐ External ☐ Inside Mouth ☐ Swallowed ☐ Not Sure ☐ Not Hooked	☐ External ☐ Inside Mouth ☐ Swallowed ☐ Not Sure ☐ Not Hooked
4d. If hooked, or hooked and entangled, was the hook removed?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Sure ☐ Not Hooked	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Sure ☐ Not Hooked	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Sure ☐ Not Hooked	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Sure ☐ Not Hooked
4e. Was all the line removed from the sea turtle?	☐ Yes ☐ No *If No: amount of line remaing (feet)*_____ ☐ Not Sure	☐ Yes ☐ No *If No: amount of line remaing (feet)*_____ ☐ Not Sure	☐ Yes ☐ No *If No: amount of line remaing (feet)*_____ ☐ Not Sure	☐ Yes ☐ No *If No: amount of line remaing (feet)*_____ ☐ Not Sure
4f. Was the sea turtle released alive or dead?	☐ Alive ☐ Dead ☐ Not Sure	☐ Alive ☐ Dead ☐ Not Sure	☐ Alive ☐ Dead ☐ Not Sure	☐ Alive ☐ Dead ☐ Not Sure

4g. Is there any additional information you would like to share about your interaction with the sea turtle(s)? If referencing a specific event, please indicate which # sea turtle you are referring to. For example, did you attempt to de-hook or disentangle the sea turtle, but were not able to?

_____

_____

_____

External: Hooked anywhere on the body, flippers, or head.

Inside Mouth: Ingested with the hook still visible.

Swallowed: Ingested deeply so that the hook is no longer visible in the mouth.

BAR CODE

Part II

Questions **5-10** below ask for your experiences during any charter and head boat recreational fishing trips you have taken in the past **12 months.** Do not include any fishing trips discussed in questions 1-4g. Please answer only on your charter boat and head boat fishing experiences, not on other recreational fishing experiences (i.e. Not pier or private boat fishing).

5. Not including the fishing trip discussed in questions 1-4g, how many recreational charter or head boat fishing trips have you taken in the past **12 months**?

6. Did you hook or entangle a sea turtle on any charter boat or head boat fishing trips in the past 12 months? Do not include any sea turtles reported in questions 1-4g.

☐ Yes → **Continue to Q7**

☐ No → **Skip to Q11**

7. How many sea turtles did you hook or entangle in the past **12 months?** Please indicate the specific number of each type of turtle in the boxes below. Do not include any sea turtles reported in in questions 1-4g. Please refer to the Sea Turtle Information Guide on page 2 to help identify the type of turtle you saw. Of the sea turtle interactions you reported above, how many were (if none write "0"):

Leatherback turtles		
Hard-shelled turtles		
Unknown (Not sure about type)		

8. Do you recall what month(s) the interaction(s) occurred?

_____

9. Please provide any details you can recall on each event (e.g., Where did the interaction occur? Was the sea turtle alive or dead? Was the sea turtle released free of gear?)

_____

_____

_____

BAR CODE

Part III

Questions 10-12 below ask about any recreational fishing experiences you have had **in your lifetime**, that are not already described in questions 1-9 (i.e., during any trips taken in your lifetime before July 2012)

10. Thinking about your history of recreational fishing, have you ever hooked or entangled a sea turtle?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

11. What type of recreational fishing were you participating in when you interacted with the sea turtle(s)? Check all options that apply below.

- ☐ Charter boat
- ☐ Head boat
- ☐ Pier
- ☐ Private boat
- ☐ Shore
- ☐ Other, please specify:_____
- ☐ Not Sure

12. Please provide any details you can recall on each event (e.g. Where and when did the interaction occur? Was the sea turtle alive or dead? Was the sea turtle released free of gear?)

_____

_____

_____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE.

Please return this form in the postage paid envelope provided or mail to: [insert name and address]

BAR CODE

(DATE)

(Proper Name
(Add 1)
(Add 2)
(City), (State) (Zip)

Dear (Proper Name):

A few weeks ago we sent a questionnaire to you about any interactions you may have had with sea turtles. If you have already returned the questionnaire, we thank you. If you have not returned it, we ask you to please complete the enclosed questionnaire and return it as soon as possible.

You have received this survey because you recently participated in a charter boat or head boat recreational fishing trip, and you indicated you would be willing to complete a short follow-up survey. This study is being conducted for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to learn more about how recreational fishermen interact with sea turtles. Your answers are completely confidential and will be used for statistical purposes only in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974. Your participation is voluntary.

The enclosed questionnaire will ask you about any interactions you may have had with sea turtles. This survey includes three sections. The first section is specific to charter/head boat fishing trips you have taken in May and June 2013. The second section is specific to charter/head boat trips taken in the last 12 months. The third section asks about sea turtle interactions that have occurred in your lifetime, during any recreational fishing efforts. For the results to be meaningful, we need everybody who receives this survey to complete it and send it back to us.

If you have any questions or comments about this study, we would be happy to talk with you. Please direct any questions about this questionnaire to Jennifer Lee at 1-800-xxx or Jennifer.Lee@noaa.gov.

Thank you very much for your help with this important study. Please return your completed questionnaire in the postage paid envelope.

Yours sincerely,

Dave Van Voorhees
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

(3b)

1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring Maryland 20910
Phone: 301-713-2328

106 E. 6th Street
Suite 400
Austin, TX 78701

Ocean Conservancy
Start a Sea Change

512.542.3331 Telephone
512.542.3332 Facsimilie
www.oceanconservancy.org

April 4, 2013

Jennifer Jessup
Department of Paperwork Clearance Office
Department of Commerce, Room 6616
14th and Constitution Ave, N.W.
Washington, DC 20230

RE: Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Survey of Charter Boat and Headboat Angler Interactions with Sea Turtles

Dear Ms. Jessup:

Ocean Conservancy[1] appreciates this opportunity to provide comments on the **Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Survey of Charter Boat and Headboat Angler Interactions with Sea Turtles** to be performed by National Marine Fisheries Service Office of Protected Resources (NMFS OPS).[2] We support the information collection instrument proposed by NMFS OPS to obtain more data on sea turtle interactions with charter and headboat anglers. The interaction rate and incidental bycatch of sea turtles is unknown in the for-hire fishery. The addition of these data will likely help managers shape regulatory actions in the future.

This survey should provide baseline information from which OPS can focus future efforts to identify sea turtle interaction and bycatch surveys in the for-hire fishery. We feel this single, focused study will act in many ways as a pilot project, from which a more detailed and expansive study can evolve. We suggest that efforts to determine sea turtle, and other protected species, interactions and bycatch in the recreational fishery be coupled with the Marine Recreational Information Project (MRIP) and Southeast Regional Headboat Survey (SEHBS) to the extent practicable. MRIP, especially, has performed 'add-on' surveys in the past for economic data and could be a method to expand this survey in a cost effective manner.

Per the Federal Register notice, comments were invited on four topics: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency,

[1] Ocean Conservancy is a non-profit organization that educates and empowers citizens to take action on behalf of the ocean. From the Arctic to the Gulf of Mexico to the halls of Congress, Ocean Conservancy brings people together to find solutions for our water planet. Informed by science, our work guides policy and engages people in protecting the ocean and its wildlife for future generations.
[2] 78 Fed. Reg. 14775 (March 7, 2013).

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.

Summary Responses and Recommendations:

- (a) This information is essential to the proper performance of agency functions and integral to increased understanding.
- (b) We choose not to comment on this point as we lack the necessary information regarding internal time management and budgetary allocations within the OPS.
- (c) We suggest several additions to the survey questions in order to clarify and/or obtain more detailed data from participants.
- (d) This survey is concise and should not place much burden on respondents to complete the survey. Americans are growing more accustomed to internet based surveys and this avenue should be considered as potential data gathering method.

Detailed Recommendations:

Item (a)
There is an overall lack of information on the interactions between the recreational fishery and protected species, such as seas turtles. We feel this survey represents progress towards an increased understanding of both temporal and spatial connections with the for-hire fishery and will lead to better management and mitigation of potential interaction effects with sea turtles.

Item (b)
No comment due to our lack of knowledge regarding internal allocations of employee time and budgetary allotments with the NMFS OPS.

Item (c)
The scope of the information to be collected has been well thought out and is both simple and concise enough that respondents should not feel overburdened to complete the survey. However, we feel the survey could be more robust with additional questions and/or specific language changes and not create any additional burden on respondents. Our comments to the questions are listed below.

Question 2: If yes, how many turtles did you encounter?
This question refers back to Question 1. In the first question, the language is specific by stating 'hook, entangle, or observe.' We suggest an addition to Question 2 in order to clarify and obtain more, specific, encounter information. A change to the question by phrasing it as, "*If yes, how many turtles did you: a) hook, b) entangle and/or c) observe,*" would allow enumeration of each encounter category and increase the precision of what the encounter was, thus increasing the usefulness of the resulting data.

Question 7: Was the turtle released alive or was it dead?
This question presumes the angler is able to determine the fate of the released turtle. While it may be likely the angler can determine this, perhaps adding qualifiers to this question, such as '*did you see the turtle released? If yes, did it swim away…?*' These additions may help to inform the angler of how they can determine the release fate of the turtle.

Question 8 & 9:

These two questions refer to "fishing trips [taken] in the past 12 months." To add more linkage to the MRIP survey, we recommend adding an additional portion to these questions that refers to trips taken in the past 2 months. The MRIP survey asks for both 12 month and 2 month fishing activity. This addition would strengthen the link to any MRIP based estimation scheme for recreational fishery turtle interactions OPS may select to pursue in the future.

Additional Comments

Ocean Conservancy believes this set of survey questions to be beneficial to the mission of NMFS OPS. The survey is simple, yet will provide an interesting set of data. While we understand the limitations of budget issues, we suggest OPS work with MRIP and the SEHBS programs to increase the size and scope of this data collection instrument in the future. MRIP has, in the past, collected detailed economic data from anglers as part of an 'add-on' survey. We believe more protected species data could be collected through a similar effort.

Item (d)

While MRIP studies have shown response rates for effort surveys using US mail,[3] we ask that NMFS OPS consider allowing survey participants to respond via the internet. This is a cost effective and efficient means to obtain the information requested in the questionnaire. We suggest NMFS OSP offer both methods and allow the participant to choose which one they believe works best for them.

Secondary to item (d) is the method by which NMFS OPS will contact those participants who do not respond with the given time frame. As has been demonstrated by other mail based surveys, such as the MRIP pilot project,[4] response rates can vary and use of a reminder mailing or phone call system may be beneficial to remind anglers to submit the completed form.

We thank NMFS OPS and the Department of Commerce for allowing Ocean Conservancy to comment on this forthcoming survey. Protected species interaction with recreational fisheries is lacking. This survey will provide needed data to better manage the resource and will allow managers to make better decisions regarding our Nation's fishery resources.

Sincerely,

Todd Phillips
Fishery Monitoring Specialist
Ocean Conservancy
106 E 6th Street, Suite 400
Austin, TX 78701

[3] Brick, J. Michael, et al. "A Comparison of Recreational Fishing Effort Survey Designs." (2012).Retrieved from: www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/mdms/public/finalReport.jsp?ReportID=362

[4] *Id.*

additional company information will be posted.

The U.S. Environmental Solutions Toolkit will refer users in foreign markets to U.S. approaches to solving environmental problems and to U.S. companies that can export related technologies. The Toolkit Web site will note that its contents and links do not constitute an official endorsement or approval by the U.S. Commerce Department or the U.S. Government of any of the companies, Web sites, products, or services listed.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Todd DeLelle, Office of Energy & Environmental Industries (OEEI), International Trade Administration, Room 4053, 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230. (Phone: 202–482–4877; Fax: 202–482–5665; email: *todd.delelle@trade.gov*).

Catherine Vial,

Team Leader, Environmental and Renewable Energy Industries, Office of Energy and Environmental Industries.

[FR Doc. 2013–05262 Filed 3–6–13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DR–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Survey of Charter Boat and Headboat Angler Interactions With Sea Turtles

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 May 6, 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 Sara McNulty, (301) 427–8402 or *sara.mcnulty@noaa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

This request is for a new collection.

The collection of recreational fishing bycatch data is necessary to fulfill statutory requirements of Section 303 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1852 *et. seq.*), Section 401 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act, and to comply with Executive Order 12962 on Recreational Fisheries. Additionally, the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) imposed prohibitions against the taking of endangered species as the sea turtle. This collection will seek to better understand the nature and overall level of sea turtle interactions with recreational anglers on charter boat and headboats. The information collected will be used to develop more reliable bycatch estimates.

II. Method of Collection

Respondents will be asked to fill out a paper form and return via mail.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: None.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission (new collection).

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,990.

Estimated Time per Response: 10 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 332.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: $0 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: March 4, 2013.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 2013–05332 Filed 3–6–13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Survey of Coastal Managers To Assess Needs for Ecological Forecasts

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 May 6, 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 Elizabeth Turner (603) 862–4680 or *Elizabeth.Turner@noaa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

This request is for a new survey of coastal managers to determine their needs and potential uses for ecological forecasts or scenarios. Coastal managers would be staff from state agencies who deal with issues such as coastal water quality and habitat management. The survey will be conducted under a cooperative agreement between the NOAA National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS) and HDR, Inc., an environmental consulting firm. NOAA has a long history of conducting operational modeling and forecasting, mostly in the National Weather Service