NOTICE OF OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET ACTION

Date 03/25/2014

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 02/14/2014

ACTION REQUESTED: New collection (Request for a new OMB Control Number)
TYPE OF REVIEW REQUESTED: Regular
ICR REFERENCE NUMBER: 201401-0648-014
AGENCY ICR TRACKING NUMBER:
TITLE: Cost-Earnings Survey of Hawaii and American Samoa Small Boat-Based Fisheries
LIST OF INFORMATION COLLECTIONS: See next page

OMB ACTION: Approved without change
OMB CONTROL NUMBER: 0648-0691
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: 03/31/2017 DISCONTINUE DATE:

BURDEN:	RESPONSES	HOURS	COSTS
Previous	0	0	0
New	1,013	507	0
Difference			
Change due to New Statute	0	0	0
Change due to Agency Discretion	1,013	507	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
Hawaii and American Small-Boat-Based Cost-Earnings Surveys	NA, NA	Hawaii Survey, American Samoa Survey	

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 Cost-Earnings Survey of Hawaii and American Samoa Small Boat-Based Fisheries

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

9. Keywords Fishing, Fish, Fisheries, Fishery, Fishers

10. Abstract

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) proposes to collect information about fishing expenses and catch distribution (such as for sale, home consumption, and give-away, etc.) in the Hawaii and American Samoa small boat-based reef fish, bottomfish, and pelagics fisheries with which to conduct economic analyses that will improve fishery management in those fisheries; satisfy NMFS' legal mandates under Executive Order 12866, the Magnuson-Steven Fishery Conservation and Management Act (U.S.C. 1801 et seq.), the Regulatory Flexibility Act, the Endangered Species Act, and the National Environmental Policy Act; and quantify achievement of the performances measures in the NMFS Strategic Operating Plans. Respondents will include small boat fishers in Hawaii and American Samoa and their participation in the economic data collection will be voluntary. These data will be used to assess how fishermen will be impacted by and respond to regulations likely to be considered by fishery managers.

11. Affected public (*Mark primary with "P" and all others that apply with "x"*)
a. x Individuals or households d. ___ Farms
b. P 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 1,013
b. Total annual responses 1,013
1. Percentage of these responses collected electronically 0 %
c. Total annual hours requested 507
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. ___ Program planning or management
b. ___ Program evaluation f. x Research
c. ___ General purpose statistics g. P 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) One time

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: Dr. MinLing Pan
Phone: (808) 944-2190

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 David Detlor for Dr. Ned Cyr	Date 1/29/2014
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: 2014.03.25 16:27:10 -04'00'	Date

SUPPORTING STATEMENT
COST-EARNINGS SURVEYS OF HAWAII AND AMERICAN SAMOA SMALL BOAT-BASED FISHERIES
OMB CONTROL NO.: 0648-XXXX

A. JUSTIFICATION

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

This request is for a new information collection.

The Magnuson-Stevens Conservation and Management Act (MSA) mandates that conservation and management measures prevent over-fishing and obtain an optimum yield on a sustained basis and the measures shall be based upon the best scientific information available. The MSA also requires that conservation and management measures take into account the importance of fishery resources to fishing communities in order to: (a) provide for the sustained participation of such communities, and (b) to the extent practicable, minimize adverse economic impacts on such communities. To promote better utilization and management of fishery resources in Hawaii and American Samoa, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) proposes the collection of cost-earnings data in these two island areas' small boat-based reef fish, bottomfish, and pelagics fisheries.

Small boat (~20-40 feet) fisheries in Hawaii and American Samoa are important to the local communities as they provide jobs for fishing participants, food for local families and communities, and preserve cultural practices. A subset of the Hawaii small boat fishery operates primarily offshore using handline gear and bigger vessels (~40 feet). The offshore handline fishery is concentrated at Cross Seamount, located southwest of the Big Island, and targets bigeye and yellowfin tuna. When the unemployment rate on the Big Island was high in the mid-1980s, many part-time fishers increased their participation in the small-boat fishery for income and/or food. As such, the small-boat fishery has the potential to become more important if Hawaii suffers an economic downturn.

In American Samoa, the primary domestic fishery is small-boat, 1-day fisheries. The fishery lands approximately 4 pounds of fresh fish per capita annually.[1] The fishing activities are usually a mix of commercial and non-commercial fishing, with slightly more than half of the fish landed being commercial landings and the rest of the fish landed being non-commercial landings (mostly for subsistence use). One segment of this fishery targets insular fish stocks by spearfishing and bottomfishing, and a different segment of this fishery targets highly migratory pelagic species by longlining and trolling. Coral reef spearfishing is the most common fishing method in the American Samoa small boat fishery. Its economic importance is also increasing due in part to the opening of the Fagatogo Fish Market in August 2011, which enables individual fishers to sell their catch directly to the public. As opposed to other small-boat fisheries in American Samoa that usually are owner-operated, spearfishing sometimes involves several spearfishers sharing the trip

[1] Fresh fish per capita in American Samoa was based on data in 1994 before the large longline fishery was developed.

costs but operating individually to sell catch.

Participation and production in the Hawaii small-boat fishery are sensitive to external factors such as increasing fuel prices and abundance of fish stocks, which directly affect the cost of fishing. In American Samoa, fish landings and the use of fishing methods are highly influenced by fishery management. For example, due to the decline in reef fish population, management measures excluded non-American Samoan fishers from scuba spearfishing in 1997 and subsequently banned all scuba spearfishing in 2001. Snorkel spearfishing is still allowed but with lower catch per unit effort as the time under water is shorter. Availability of economic data for small boat fleets in Hawaii and American Samoa are important for fishery managers to design sound policy.

Fisheries in these areas are managed under Western Pacific Region Fishery Management Council (WPRFMC). The paucity of economic data has been a significant hurdle in evaluation of economic impact and regulatory proposals in Hawaii and American Samoa. Most of the existing economic information is limited to dockside value data. Fishing cost-earnings data about small boat-based fisheries in these two island areas are limited and outdated (see Hospital, Bruce, and Pan (2011)[2] and Kasaoka (1989)[3]). Hospital, Bruce, and Pan (2011) conducted a cost-earnings study of the Hawaii small pelagic fishery in 2007 to collect economic and social characteristics of the Hawaii small boat pelagic fishery under OMB Control No. 0648-0369. However, no economic data have ever been collected for Hawaii offshore handline fishery. Kasaoka (1989) collected economic data in American Samoa, Guam, and the CNMI in 1988 with small sample size (n=36 in American Samoa) and nothing has been done on a routine basis. And no economic data have been collected for the spear fishery. Because this dated research and the lack of data for particular subsets of fisheries are inadequate to support current management actions and meet the requirements put forth by MSA, we are proposing updating our knowledge of cost-earnings data in these areas. As subsets of the study, one component will target the Hawaii offshore handline fishery and another component will target the American Samoa spear fishery.

The objectives of this study are to update baseline cost-earnings economic information for the small boat fleets of Hawaii and American Samoa and to explore the economic and cultural value of these fisheries and provide important information for fishery management in general. In addition, the study will establish a first-time baseline economic data on Hawaii offshore handline fishing and American Samoa spearfishing. The information collected will be used to 1) satisfy regulatory objectives and analytical requirements through the collection of economic data for these fleets, 2) assist the WPRFMC in selecting policies that meet conservation and management goals and minimize to the extent possible any adverse economic impacts to fishery participants. NMFS funds a nation-wide data collection project named "the Commercial Fisheries Economic Assessment Index (CFEAI)" to collect necessary economic data.

The need and the authorization to collect these economic data are found in the MSA (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*), the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA, 5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*), the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA, 42 U.S.C. 4372 *et seq.*), and Executive Order (EO) 12866. The

[2] Hospital, Justin, Skaidra Scholey Bruce, and Minling Pan. 2011. *Economic and Social Characteristics of the Hawaii Small Boat Pelagic Fishery*. Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center. Administrative Report H-11-01.
[3] Kasaoka, Laurel D. 1989. *Summary of Small Boat Economic Surveys from American Samoa, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands.* Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council. Administrative Report H-89-4C.

MSA notes that collection of reliable data is essential to the effective conservation, management, and scientific understanding of the fishery resources of the United States. The nation's fisheries should be "conserved and maintained so as to provide optimum yields on a continuing basis". Furthermore, eight of the ten National Standards under the MSA, which provide guidance to the regional fishery management councils, have implications for economic analyses. For example, under section 303 (a) (9) of the MSA, a fishery management plan must include a Fishery Impact Statement (FIS), which assesses, specifies, and describes the likely effects of the conservation and management measures on participants in the fisheries being managed, fishing communities dependent on these fisheries, and participants in fisheries in adjacent areas. Under the RFA, the Small Business Administration needs a determination of whether a proposed rule has a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities that are to be directly regulated. For RFA purposes, one of the criteria to determine significant economic impact involves an assessment of the change in short-term accounting profits for small entities. The NEPA requires a determination of whether Federal actions significantly affect the human environment. This requires a number of economic analyses including the impact on entities that are directly regulated and those that are indirectly affected. Lastly, EO 12866 mandates an economic analysis of the benefits and costs to society of each regulatory alternative considered by the fishery management councils, and a determination of whether the rule is significant.

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 information collected will provide valuable cost-earnings data and related information on social conditions for several small boat fisheries, including: Hawaii small-boat fishery, Hawaii offshore handline fishery, American Samoa small-boat fishery, and American Samoa spear fishery. The information will partially fill the data gap set forth in the Commercial Fisheries Economic Assessment Index (CFEAI) by NMFS Science & Technology. CFEAI is comprised of several elements: operating cost data is collected and net trip revenues be estimated at least every three years; and fixed cost data be collected and profitability be estimated at least every five years. Another element is revenue to be collected every year and this information is already collected by other NMFS programs. The surveys seek to collect fishing-related expenditures such as operating costs and fixed costs as primary data. Then, net trip revenue and profit can be estimated by revenue minus costs. Net revenue is a key factor for commercial fishers to determine stay or leave the fishing industry; therefore, it is a very important indicator of the dynamic of the fishing effort in short run and fishing industry development in long run. It can be used to examine any significant short-term economic impact from conservation and management measures. In addition, the cost-earnings data will allow NMFS economists to analyze the relationship between fishing effort and cost and predict the possible changes of fishing effort due to external changes like fuel cost changes and fishery management actions.

In this project, a similar survey form (questionnaires) will be used to collect costs and earnings information on the small boat-based fisheries in Hawaii and American Samoa, respectively. The proposed questionnaires have seven sections: 1) fishing experiences, 2) market participation,3)

vessel characteristics, 4) fishing trip cost, 5) annual fishing expenditures, 6) basic demographics, and 7) opinions about fisheries management.

The first section inquires about the fisher's fishing experience in the past 12 months, including number of boat and non-boat trips, gear usage, travel distance to fish, number of people on board, pounds of fish caught, and the use of Fish Aggregating Devices. This information is essential to understand fisher's distribution of fishing effort and trip characteristics over the year.

The second section asks about fisher's market participation and social aspects of fishing. Questions related to market participation include market outlet and fishing income. Questions related to social aspects of fishing mainly include catch disposition between markets and other uses (such as self-consumption). This section will provide valuable data to satisfy the MSA requirements as the MSA requires fishery management council to take into account fishes' historical and present participation, dependence on fishery, and the culture value relevant to the fishery and any affected fishing communities when developing management plan.

The third section inquires the captain about the vessel characteristics like the vessel's length, horsepower, year built, and year purchased. It also asks the vessel value that includes purchase price and market value. This information can be used to estimate the economic depreciation, a significant portion of fixed costs.

Section Four asks the fishing trip costs for the most common and the second most common gear type and the trip cost distribution. This will provide the variable costs during the operation of vessel which include boat fuel, truck fuel, oil, ice, bait, food and beverage, daily maintenance and repair, and other. The information collected in this section will be used to estimate the operating costs and net trip revenues.

Section Five asks the annual fishing expenditures, i.e. the fixed costs incurred regardless of the number of trips taken in a year like insurance, loan payment, mooring fees, gear replacement/ repair, boat repair, maintenance, and improvement, fees, financial services, etc. The information collected in this section will be used to estimate the fixed cost and profitability in annual basis.

Section Six inquires about the fisher's demographic characteristics. These include information about the fisher's age, zip code (Hawaii) or village live in (American Samoa), ethnicity, education level, and household income. These data will provide information on social and cultural characteristics of people participating in the fishing communities.

The last section gives an opportunity for fishers to voice their opinions about the management of fisheries. The results will be grouped into categories and shared with fishery management council. The survey forms for Hawaii and American Samoa small boat fisheries and other mailing materials including cover letters and postcard (Hawaii only) can be found in Appendix A.

The two survey forms for the Hawaii and American Samoa are very similar but the methods to implement the surveys are different in the two fisheries. In Hawaii, the economic data will be collected through mail methodology using the Commercial Marine License (CML) database from the State of Hawaii. Fishers who catch fish for commercial purpose are required to apply a CML from the State of Hawaii. This list will provide a population of commercial fishers in the State of

Hawaii. This cost-earnings survey will not target recreational fishers to avoid duplication of efforts, as a National Recreational Fishing Expenditure Survey that targeted recreational fishers was done in 2011, under OMB Control No. 0648-0052. The mail methodology will consist of four-wave mailings, including (a) an advance letter notifying respondents a week before the mail survey, (b) first mailing of survey booklet with cover letter and return envelope, (c) a reminder postcard of the mail survey, (d) second mailing of survey booklet with cover letter to non-respondents. For Hawaii, an online survey option will be provided to the respondents. Website and login information will be sent together with the survey booklet.

In American Samoa, the economic data will be collected through in-person interview because no existing mailing address is available for most of the active fishers and many fishers cannot speak English. The survey form will be translated into Samoan and a local speaking interviewer will be hired to conduct the in-person interviews, and a Pacific Island Fisheries Science Center (PIFSC) staff will be on site with the interviewer for training and quality control.

It is anticipated that the information collected will be disseminated to the public or used to support publicly disseminated information. NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service 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. 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 proposed data collection does not involve use of any of the above information technology techniques, other than the online option for the Hawaii survey. The data will be conducted through a voluntary, mail and in-person intercept interview methodologies.

We do plan to make copies of the OMB approved survey instrument available online for outreach and information purpose. The data collected will not be available to the public over the internet given its confidential nature. However, a report summarizing the aggregated and main results will be available online once the data collection and analysis is completed.

4. Describe efforts to identify duplication.

We contacted the local agencies: Hawaii Division of Aquatic Resources and American Samoa Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources (DMWR) to inquire about their upcoming data collection efforts; none of them planned data collection initiatives dealing with fishing expenses of boat-based fisheries in the upcoming years.

A literature review was conducted to find studies that collect boat-based cost-earnings data in the two island areas and literature on this topic are all outdated and based on a one-time survey with

small sample size (see response in Question 1 for past studies). Although PIFSC implemented a survey to collect fishing trip cost data in American Samoa in August 2009, it is restricted to a few basic fishing cost items such as fuel cost, cost of bait and chum, and cost of fishing gear lost. Therefore, we are proposing updating our knowledge of economic conditions of small boat fisheries in these areas.

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

Small boat fishing in Hawaii and American include owner or family operated small businesses. In Hawaii, the survey will be conducted through mail methodology and the participation of the survey is completely voluntary. If a fisher does not want to participate, he/she can simply disregard the survey. In American Samoa, the participation in the survey is also completely voluntary. Interviews will be conducted at times and places that are convenient to fishers. This will minimize any potential disruption to fishers' fishing practices. Interviewer is trained to request permission to do a survey. If a fisher refuses to do the survey or if the interviewer senses a fisher does not want to provide data, the interviewer will terminate the interview immediately and thank the fisher for his/her time. In addition, PIFSC will work with local agency in American Samoa to translate the survey into Samoan and local staff will be hired to conduct interviews in Samoan, to minimize the language barrier and burden on non-English speaking fishers.

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

Without the data collected through the surveys, the legal requirements put forth by the MSA, NEPA, RFA, and EO 12866 would not be adequately satisfied. These mandates require regional fishery management councils to establish conservation and management measures which take into account the importance of fishery resources to fishing communities in order to provide sustained fishing community participation and to minimize, to the extent possible, adverse economic impacts on such communities. Particularly, RFA requires a determination of any proposed rule that has a significant economic impact to small businesses. Furthermore, these requirements also mandate that regional fishery management councils establish conservation and management measures using the best available information.

The absence of detailed economic information would prevent the identification of communities that are engaged and dependent on fishing and the estimation of adverse economic impacts on these communities. Management proposals would continue to be debated without sound information. Another consequence of not having the appropriate economic data could be court challenges on the grounds of inadequate analysis. Last, the collection of detailed economic data will allow fishery managers to make timely and better-informed decisions by having the best scientific information available.

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

None.

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 Monday, November 25, 2013 (78 FR 70202) solicited public comments on the data collection. No comments were received.

Collection of fishery cost-earnings data was listed as one of the top priorities under WPRFMC Five-year Research Priorities: http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/reg_svcs/Councils/ccc_2012m/TAB%206/WPFMC_Research_Priorities.pdf. It is necessary to update the cost-earnings status for the Hawaii small boat fishery since the last study was conducted in 2007.

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 respondents.

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

As stated on the forms, respondents are being advised that any information provided will be considered private and will be treated as confidential as required by section 402(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act and NOAA Administrative Order 216-100, Protection of Confidential Fisheries Statistics. All individual surveys will be held by only a limited number of researchers at PIFSC who will enter or work with the data. After the data are entered in an electronic format, only these researchers will have password-protected access to the data. After data from the surveys have been entered into an electronic format, the hard copies will be kept in a locked cabinet. Fisher's name, vessel identification, and address will be used only for mailing and survey administration purposes. It is the Agency's policy not to release confidential data, other than in aggregate form, as the NMFS protects the confidentiality of those submitting data. Whenever data are requested by other users, the Agency will ensure that information identifying the pecuniary business activity of a particular individual is not identified. Only group averages or group totals will be presented in any reports, publications, or oral presentations of the study's results.

We will follow PIFSCS's data confidentiality policy of data aggregation: Any fishery-wide aggregations of data shall include information from three or more individual vessels. Effort information, including just the presence of fishing, can be just as sensitive as the actual catch itself. All data analysis programs should include a procedure for calculating the number of vessels within the aggregate. Wherever possible, aggregations should be large enough to include more, rather than fewer, vessels.

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 will be asked.

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

The population of small boat fishers in Hawaii is about 1850, based on the number of CML holders in 2012 provided by the Hawaii Division of Aquatic Resources. A similar cost-earnings survey for the main Hawaiian Islands bottomfish fishery using CML database and mail methodology (Hospital and Beavers (2012) [4]) was conducted in 2010. It achieved a response rate of 51%. Given the similar survey instruments, sample composition, and survey methodology between the proposed new survey and the main Hawaiian Islands bottomfish cost-earnings survey, we assume a 50% response rate and the number of respondents is estimated to be 925. With the estimated time to complete a survey being 30 minutes, the burden hours for the Hawaii small boat surveys are estimated to be 463 hours.

Based on number of unique boats interviewed by the boat-based creel survey in American Samoa between 2009 and 2013, the population of American Samoa small boats is about 39. With an expected response rate of 95% for intercept interview, the number of respondents equals 37. In addition, for the sub-segment of spear fishers who share boat and costs in a fishing trip, there are 9 fishing boats for spearfishing and 6 fishers per boat, with the assumed response rate of 95%, 51 spear fishers will be interviewed. The total number of respondents in American Samoa equals 88 (37+51). With the estimated time to complete a survey be 30 minutes, the burden hours for the American Samoa small boat surveys are estimated to be 44 hours.

The total burden hours are estimated to be 507. Table 1 below shows the details.

[4] Hospital, Justin and Courtney Beavers. 2012. *Economic and Social Characteristics of Bottomfish Fishing in the Main Hawaiian Islands*. Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center. Administrative Report H-12-01.

Table 1. Burden Hours

	Hawaii	American Samoa***	Total
Total number of boats (population)	1850*	39	
Expected response rate	50%**	95%	
Target number of surveys	925	37	962
Target spearfishing sub-segment in American Samoa (population)		54 (9x6)	
Number of spearfishing boats		9	
Average number of fishers per boat		6	
Expected response rate		95%	
Target number of surveys for sub-segment		51	51
Target number of surveys (fishers)	925	88	1013
Average response time per response (minutes)	30	30	30
Total Burden (hours)	463	44	507

*1850 CML holders in 2012, Hawaii Division of Aquatic Resources.
**Past response rates for mail methodology of economic surveys.
***Creel data from 2009-2013, NOAA PIFSC - the Western Pacific Fisheries Information Network (WPacFIN).

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

Other than 507 burden hours listed in question 12, the survey does not impose any burden (costs) to the respondents resulting from the data collection.

14. <u>Provide estimates of annualized cost to the Federal government</u>.

The total cost of this data collection project is estimated to be $32,700, which covers (a) the compensation for labor used to develop the survey and training interviewer, (b) travel cost associated with survey development and implementation, (c) labor cost for implementing the survey, (d) mailing materials printing (advance postcards, reminder postcards, cover letters, return envelops and survey instruments), (e) mailing costs, (f) data processing, quality control, data entry and supervision, and (g) report writing.

15. <u>Explain the reasons for any program changes or adjustments</u>.

This is a new program for the collection of new economic data.

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

The collection of data is expected to be implemented in spring and summer 2014. We expect to complete the analysis of the data by spring 2015. The results will be published as a PIFSC report and this will be available on PIFSC website.

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

The expiration date will be displayed on the survey form.

18. Explain each exception to the certification statement.

There are no exceptions to the certification statement.

SUPPORTING STATEMENT
COST-EARNINGS SURVEYS OF HAWAII AND AMERICAN SAMOA SMALL BOAT-BASED FISHERIES
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.

Potential Respondent Universe

The potential respondent universe in Hawaii is about 1,850, according to the Hawaii Division of Aquatic Resources' record of CML holders in 2012 who are small-boat commercial fishers. The potential universal in American Samoa is about 93 fishers. These include 39 small boats' owners/ captains that use various fishing gears. The survey will be conducted among all the boat owners. In addition, among these 39 small boats, 9 are spearfishing boats. We will target the owners of these 9 spearfishing boats as well as the sub-segment of these 9 spearfishing boat at an individual level. Each spearfishing boat contains 6 individual spear fishers who share the boat and some fishing cost so this sub-segment contains 54 spear fishers. Table 2 below shows the estimated population in the two island areas. The combined survey population (boats) is 1,943.

Table 2. Potential Respondent Universe in Hawaii and American Samoa

	Hawaii	American Samoa**	Total
Total number of boats (population)	1850*	39	1889
Target spearfishing sub-segment in American Samoa (population)			
Number of spearfishing boats		9	
Average number of fishers per boat		6	
Population for sub-segment		54 (9 x 6)	54
Potential respondent universe (fishers)	1850	93	1943

*1850 CML holders in 2012, Hawaii Division of Aquatic Resources.
**Creel data from 2009-2013, NOAA PIFSC - the Western Pacific Fisheries Information Network (WPacFIN).

Sampling and Other Respondent Selection Methods

The whole population of small boat fishers will be targeted in Hawaii and American Samoa, so no sampling or other respondent selection method will be used.

Expected Response Rate

Prior research in fishery economic performance in the Pacific islands areas achieved relatively high response rates. Previous cost-earnings study of Hawaii small boat pelagic fishery conducted by Hospital, Bruce, and Pan in 2007 achieved 75% response rate by using in-person interviewing methodology. [1] Another cost-earnings survey of the main Hawaiian Islands bottomfish fishery conducted by Hospital and Beavers in 2010 using mail methodology and CML database as the mailing list achieved a response rate of 51% (both studies were approved under OMB Control No. 0648-0369).[2] Given the similar survey instruments, sample composition (bottomfish fishery is a subset of Hawaii small boat fishery), and survey methodology between this proposed new survey and the main Hawaiian Islands bottomfish cost-earnings survey, we assume a 50% response rate and the number of respondents is estimated to be 925.

For American Samoa, the past response rate from the boat-based creel survey interviews (American Samoa Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources) as 95%. We assume the same response rate of 95% for the small boat population and the sub-segment for spear fishery and the number of respondents is estimated to be 88.

The detailed response rate and target number of surveys are shown in Table 3.

Table 3. Response Rate and Target Number of Surveys in Hawaii and American Samoa

	Hawaii	**American Samoa****	**Total**
Total number of boats (population)	1850	39	
Expected response rate	50%*	95%	
Target number of surveys	925	37	962
Target spearfishing sub-segment in American Samoa (population)			
Number of spearfishing boats		9	
Average number of fishers per boat		6	
Population for sub-segment		54	
Expected response rate		95%	
Target number of surveys for sub-segment		51	51
Target number of surveys (fishers)	925	88	1013

*Past response rates for mail methodology of economic surveys.
**Creel data from 2009-2013, NOAA PIFSC - the Western Pacific Fisheries Information Network (WPacFIN).

[1] Hospital, Justin, Skaidra Scholey Bruce, and Minling Pan. 2011. *Economic and Social Characteristics of the Hawaii Small Boat Pelagic Fishery*. Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center. Administrative Report H-11-01.
[2] Hospital, Justin and Courtney Beavers. 2012. *Economic and Social Characteristics of Bottomfish Fishing in the Main Hawaiian Islands*. Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center. Administrative Report H-12-01.

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.

One time, voluntary surveys will be used to obtain costs and earnings information. The whole population of commercial small boat fishers will be targeted in Hawaii and American Samoa, so no stratification and sample selection will be employed.

Using the population and target number of surveys in the two island areas listed in Table 3, the sampling errors at the 95% confidence level are 2.3% for Hawaii and 2.4% for American Samoa. This level of accuracy will provide good estimation of fishing expenses, revenues, and profitability in general. The data collected will be used for descriptive and economic analyses. Detailed economic analyses can be found in Part A, Question 2.

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.

One of the strategies to maximize response rate is to keep the survey short. This proposed cost-earnings survey is the shortest version compared with previous cost-earnings surveys conducted in the small boat fisheries. We try to focus on the main questions related to costs, earnings, and fishing characteristics and eliminate any unnecessary questions that appeared in the questionnaires used in previous surveys. In Hawaii, the survey will be conducted through mail methodology using a modified Dillman's Total Design Method to maximize response rates. The mail methodology will consist of four-wave mailings, including (a) an advance letter notifying the respondents a week before they receive the survey, (b) first mailing of survey booklet with personalized cover letter and pre-addressed stamped return envelope, (c) a reminder postcard of the mail survey mailed a week after the first survey mailing, and (d) second mailing of survey booklet with cover letter to non-respondents three weeks after the reminder postcard.

In American Samoa, several steps will be taken to maximize the response rates. First, we will try to hire local field worker in American Samoa to conduct interviews. Ideally, we will collaborate with the existing boat-based data collection program in American Samoa to hire local field staff that is already familiar with surveying methodologies as well as with the fishers themselves. Second, the participation of the survey is completely voluntary, if the interviewer feels the fisher does not want to participate, he will immediately terminate the survey and thank the fisher for the time. Third, interviews will be conducted at times and places that are convenient to fishers. This will minimize any potential disruption to fishers' fishing practices. Fourth, the survey form will be translated into Samoan and a local speaking interviewer will be hired to conduct the in-person interviews to minimize the language barrier and burden on non-English speaking fishers and a PIFSC staff will be on site with the interviewer for quality control. Fifth, we will pre-test the survey with 5 fishers in American Samoa to make sure the question wording is easy to understand. Finally, we intend to conduct intercept interviews with the spear fishers while their

catch is measured by the biological sampling program by the local fishery management agency the American Samoa Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources under the technical support of PIFSC Fisheries Research and Monitoring Division (FRMD). This is a proper place to locate the spear fishers.

Addressing Non-Response

To deal with non-response in Hawaii, we will use reminder postcard and second mailing of survey booklet for the mail methodology. In addition, testing for non-response bias will be based on the considerable amount of data that is available for all members of the survey population. Data on market participation (% catch sold) and gear types (handline, troll, spear, etc.) are available for both survey respondents and non-respondents from Hawaii fishermen's report, and will be used to test the representativeness of survey respondents. Based on the previous cost-earnings studies on small-boat fisheries, market participation and gear types were the two key factors that determinate the variation of the cost-earnings status among boats. Therefore, variables that will be used for non-response bias testing fall into the categories of market participation and gear types. Market participation provides an indication of whether the data collected through the survey on variable cost items such as boat fuel and bait are likely to differ for survey respondents and non-respondents.

Tests for non-response bias will also include gear types. Costs are likely to differ among gear types due to different trip length and fishing method. In addition, different gear types usually target different species and so do revenues due to price difference between species. As a result, it is possible to compare respondents and non-respondents for costs and total dollar value landed with regard to gear types.

If non-response bias appears evident in our survey responses, efforts will be made to contact groups that are under-represented to get a balance among different groups (different market participation and different fishing gear groups). If non-response bias still appears evident in our survey responses after such an effort, we will find weighted average and weighted sum based on the distribution of groups to adjust the bias.

To deal with non-response in American Samoa, interviewers will make several attempts to conduct interviews, e.g. rotate between different time of day and different days of week. In addition, we will use the similar methodology as Hawaii to test for non-response bias. Although the data for market participation is not available in American Samoa, we will use gear types information from American Samoa logbook to test the representativeness of survey respondents.

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.

We will pre-test the survey with 5 fishers in American Samoa to make the instrument easier to understand and complete.

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.

Dr. Minling Pan, economist, employed by the NMFS, was consulted on the statistical design.[3] A local fieldworker will be hired to collect the data under the supervision of NMFS economists. NMFS economists and WPRFMC staff will use the data for regulatory analysis.

[3]Dr. Minling Pan, Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center, National Marine Fisheries Service and can be reached at 808-944-2190.

Pre-notification letter

Date

Aloha {FIRST NAME}{LAST NAME},

You are receiving this letter because you hold a State of Hawaii Commercial Marine License (CML) and have reported the catch and sale of fish in 2013. Your mailing address was provided by the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources. I am writing to ask for your help in understanding the importance of small-boat fishing in Hawaii.

An upcoming survey, conducted by NOAA Fisheries, will ask for details of your small-boat fishing related expenditures and activity during 2013. This information is important in estimating the economic and cultural contribution of small-boat fishing to Hawaii and for providing feedback to fishery agencies on the costs of fishing and fishing trip characteristics. Fishery management decisions are based, in part, on minimizing adverse economic impacts to fishing communities, and this research is vital to the assessment of future ocean management plans and actions.

Your participation is needed so that we can provide estimates that accurately represent Hawaii's small-boat fishery. **It is important to us to hear the voice of every fisherman within the Hawaii small-boat fishery.**

We are mailing out the survey form soon and **you can expect to receive a survey questionnaire in the mail next week**. You will also have the option to fill out the survey online. The website and login information will be provided in the next mailing materials.

Please be assured that your responses will be kept strictly confidential according to Federal confidentiality laws. All results will be presented in summary form.

If you have any questions or concerns about this survey, please contact Dr. Minling Pan at toll-free number [1-877-xxx-xxxx] or by email at Minling.Pan@noaa.gov

Your kokua is greatly appreciated.

Dr. Minling Pan, Industry Economist
Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center, NOAA Fisheries

{insert id}

First cover letter

Date

Aloha {FIRST NAME}{LAST NAME},

I am writing to ask for your help in understanding the importance of small-boat fishing in Hawaii. You are receiving this letter because you hold a State of Hawaii Commercial Marine License (CML) and have reported the catch and sale of fish in 2013. Your mailing address was provided by the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources.

The enclosed survey, conducted by NOAA Fisheries, asks for details of your small-boat fishing related expenditures and activity during 2013. This information is important in estimating the economic and cultural contribution of small-boat fishing to Hawaii and for providing feedback to fishery agencies on the costs of fishing and fishing trip characteristics. Fishery management decisions are based, in part, on minimizing adverse economic impacts to fishing communities, and this research is vital to the assessment of future ocean management plans and actions.

Your participation is needed so that we can provide estimates that accurately represent Hawaii's small-boat fishery. **It is important to us to hear the voice of every fisherman within the Hawaii small-boat fishery.**

Please take a few moments to answer the enclosed survey. When you complete the survey, just return it in the postage-paid envelope included in this packet. Alternatively, you can fill out the survey online. The website is www.xxxxxxxxxxxxxx.com and your login name is: {xxxxxxxxx} and your password is: {xxxxxxxx}.

Please be assured that your responses will be kept strictly confidential according to Federal confidentiality laws. All results will be presented in summary form. If you would like to receive a copy of the final report for this study, please fill out the information at the end of the survey.

If you have any questions or concerns about this survey, please contact Dr. Minling Pan at toll-free number [1-877-xxx-xxxx] or by email at Minling.Pan@noaa.gov

Your kokua is greatly appreciated.

Dr. Minling Pan, Industry Economist
Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center, NOAA Fisheries

{insert id}

Second cover letter

Date

Aloha {FIRST NAME}{LAST NAME},

A few weeks ago, you should have received the enclosed survey. If you have not had the chance to complete the survey, please take a few moments to participate in this important research. **If you already submitted a survey, please disregard this letter and accept our appreciation for your time and contribution.**

The enclosed survey asks for details of your small-boat fishing related expenditures and activity during 2013. This information is important in estimating the economic and cultural contribution of small-boat fishing to Hawaii and for providing feedback to fishery agencies on the costs of fishing and fishing trip characteristics. Fishery management decisions are based, in part, on minimizing adverse economic impacts to fishing communities, and this research is vital to the assessment of future ocean management plans and actions.

Your participation is needed so that we can provide estimates that accurately represent Hawaii's small-boat fishery. **It is important to us to hear the voice of every fisherman within the Hawaii small-boat fishery.**

Please take a few moments to answer the enclosed survey. When you complete the survey, just return it in the postage-paid envelope included in this packet. Alternatively, you can fill out the survey online. The website is www.xxxxxxxxxxxxxx.com and your login name is: {xxxxxxxxx} and your password is: {xxxxxxxx}.

Please be assured that your responses will be kept strictly confidential according to Federal confidentiality laws. All results will be presented in summary form. If you would like to receive a copy of the final report for this study, please fill out the information at the end of the survey.

If you have any questions or concerns about this survey, please contact Dr. Minling Pan at toll-free number [1-877-xxx-xxxx] or by email at Minling.Pan@noaa.gov

Your kokua is greatly appreciated.

Dr. Minling Pan, Industry Economist
Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center, NOAA Fisheries

{insert id}

It is important to hear the voice of every fisherman within the Hawaii small-boat fishery!

Hawaii Small Boat Survey 2014

We need your help! We recently sent you a survey about your small-boat fishing related expenditures and activity during 2013. Your answers are important in estimating the economic and cultural contribution of small-boat fishing to Hawaii and for providing feedback to fishery agencies. Your participation is needed so that we can provide estimates that accurately represent Hawaii's small-boat fishery.

- **If you did not get the survey or lost it,** please contact Dr. Minling Pan at the toll-free number [1-877-xxx-xxxx] or email Minling.Pan@noaa.gov. We will mail you another one.
- You can also fill out the survey online. The login information will be provided in the next mailing materials or contact Dr. Minling Pan.
- Please ignore this message if you have completed the survey.

Mahalo for your support!

NOAA IRC

NMFS/PIFSC/DO/Dr. Minling Pan

1845 Wasp Blvd., Building 176

Honolulu HI 96818

OMB Control No. 0648-xxxx
Expiration Date: xx/xx/xxxx

2014 Hawaii Small Boat Fishery Cost-Earnings Survey

Hello, please help us (NOAA) to better understand the importance of small boat fishing in Hawaii. Your details of fishing experiences and expenditures are important to ensure accurate results. We want to best represent Hawaii fishermen, and we can only do that by hearing from as many fishermen as possible. While your response is voluntary, we hope that you can help us in this research.

SECTION A. YOUR FISHING EXPERIENCES

Different fishermen in Hawaii had different fishing experiences over the past 12 months. Please tell us about yours.

1. What type of fishing trips did you take in the past 12 months?

☐ I went fishing using a boat only → Go to Q2
☐ I went fishing sometimes using a boat and sometimes not using a boat → Go to Q2
☐ I went fishing not using a boat → Go to Q4

2. Approximately how many **BOAT** fishing trips did you take in the past 12 months?

☐ 0 (no boat fishing trips in the past 12 months)
☐ Fewer than 25 trips (about once every other week)
☐ 25-49 trips (about once a week)
☐ 50-99 trips (about once or twice a week)
☐ 100-200 trips (about two to three times a week)
☐ More than 200 trips (about three to four times a week or more)

3. In the past 12 months, what percent of your **BOAT** fishing trips were: (please check <u>one</u> for each gear type)

	0%	1%-25%	26%-50%	51%-75%	76%-100%
Trolling	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Handline for pelagic (shortline)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Handline for bottomfish	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Spearfishing	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Net	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Other gear, please specify _____	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

4. In the past 12 months, did you use green-stick as one of the gear types?

☐ Yes
☐ No

5. Approximately how many **NON-BOAT** fishing (shoreline) trips did you take in the past 12 months?

- ☐ 0 (no non-boat fishing trips in the past 12 months)
- ☐ Fewer than 25 trips (about once every other week)
- ☐ 25-49 trips (about once a week)
- ☐ 50-99 trips (about once or twice a week)
- ☐ 100-200 trips (about two to three times a week)
- ☐ More than 200 trips (about three to four times a week or more)

6. In the past 12 months, what percent of your **NON-BOAT** fishing (shoreline) trips were: (please check one for each gear type)

	0%	1%-25%	26%-50%	51%-75%	76%-100%
Rod and reel (pole)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Spearfishing	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Cast/throw net	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Other gear, please specify _____	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

_____

7. If you went **spearfishing** in the past 12 months, what percent of the time did you use scuba? And what percent of the time did you not use scuba?

	0%	1%-25%	26%-50%	51%-75%	76%-100%
Fishing trips with scuba	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Fishing trips without scuba	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

8. In the past 12 months, what percent of your fishing trips occurred in state and federal jurisdiction?

	0%	1%-25%	26%-50%	51%-75%	76%-100%
State waters (0-3nm)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Federal waters (greater than 3nm)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

9. How many people in total, including yourself, are on board for an average fishing trip? _____ people

10. In the past 12 months, approximately how many total pounds of pelagic fish did you catch?

- ☐ None
- ☐ 1 - 50 pounds
- ☐ 51 - 100 pounds
- ☐ 101 - 500 pounds
- ☐ 501 - 1000 pounds
- ☐ More than 1000 pounds → About how much? _____ pounds

11. In the past 12 months, approximately how many total pounds of bottomfish did you catch?

- ☐ None
- ☐ 1 - 50 pounds
- ☐ 51 - 100 pounds
- ☐ 101 - 500 pounds
- ☐ 501 - 1000 pounds
- ☐ More than 1000 pounds → About how much? _____ pounds

12. In the past 12 months, approximately how many total pounds of reef fish did you catch?

- ☐ None
- ☐ 1 - 50 pounds
- ☐ 51 - 100 pounds
- ☐ 101 - 500 pounds
- ☐ 501 - 1000 pounds
- ☐ More than 1000 pounds → About how much? _____ pounds

13. In the past 12 months, during what percent of your fishing trips did you fish at Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs):

0%	1%-25%	26%-50%	51%-75%	76%-100%
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

SECTION B. MARKET PARTICIPATION

14. How do you define yourself as a fisherman? (Check one that applies)

☐ Full-time commercial
☐ Part-time commercial
☐ Recreational expense
☐ Purely recreational
☐ Subsistence
☐ Culture
☐ Other, please specify_____

15. In the past 12 months, how were the catches distributed? (please check one and estimate percentage)

☐ I keep all the fish I catch
☐ I received _____ % of total fish caught
☐ I received _____ % of trip revenue
☐ Don't know/different every time
☐ Other, please describe: _____

16. In the past 12 months, what percent of your catch was:

	0%	1%-25%	26%-50%	51%-75%	76%-100%
Consumed at home	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Given away	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Caught and released	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Sold	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

17. In the past 12 months, did you ever sell any of the fish you caught?

☐ Yes → Q18
☐ No → Q22

If you sold any of your fish…
18. In the past 12 months, where did you sell your fish?

☐ Wholesaler/auction
☐ Restaurants/stores
☐ Roadside/farmers' market
☐ Friends/neighbors/coworkers
☐ Other, please specify _____

If you sold any of your fish…

19. In the past 12 months, what was the approximate value of all the fish you sold?

☐ $1 - $100	☐ $1,001 - $2,000	☐ $10,001 - $20,000
☐ $101 - $500	☐ $2,001 - $5,000	☐ $20,001 - $50,000
☐ $501 - $1,000	☐ $5,001 - $10,000	☐ More than $50,000, specify $_____

If you sold any of your fish…

20. In the past 12 months, what percent of the value of fish sold (question 19) came from the sale of pelagic fish, bottomfish, and reef fish?

	0%	1%-25%	26%-50%	51%-75%	76%-100%
Pelagic Fish	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Bottomfish	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Reef Fish	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

If you sold any of your fish…

21. In the past 12 months, after expenses, what percent of your personal income came from the sale of fish?

1%-25%	26%-50%	51%-75%	76%-100%
☐	☐	☐	☐

SECTION C. YOUR VESSEL

In this section, we want to better understand the vessel and gear characteristics of boat based fishing in Hawaii.

22. Do you own the boat that you fish on?

☐ Yes → Go to Question 23

☐ No → Go to Question 30

If you own the boat that you fish on:

23. In the past 12 months, what percent of time did other people (other than family members) use the boat **without** you?

0%	1%-25%	26%-50%	51%-75%	76%-100%
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

24. What is the length of your boat? _____ feet

25. What is the horsepower? _____hp

26. In what year was the boat built? _____

27. In what year did you purchase the boat you fish on? _____
(If homebuilt – when did you complete it?)

28. How much did you pay to purchase the boat you fish on? $_____
(If homebuilt – how much did it cost to build it?)

29. What is the approximate market value of your boat?
(considering age and current condition and including motor(s) and trailer) $_____

SECTION D. YOUR FISHING TRIP COSTS

We now want to understand your per trip costs for fishing.
Please remember that all your answers are strictly confidential.

30. In the past 12 months, what was the primary gear usage for your most common trip (please check one)?

- ☐ Trolling
- ☐ Handline for pelagic (shortline)
- ☐ Handline for bottomfish
- ☐ Spearfishing
- ☐ Net
- ☐ Other gear, specify _____

30a. On average, how much money did you spend on your most common (question 30) gear type trip?

Type of Expenditure	Total Trip Expenditure
Boat fuel	$_____
Truck fuel (round trip)	$_____
Oil	$_____
Ice	$_____
Bait	$_____
Food and beverage	$_____
Daily maintenance and repair	$_____
Other, please specify _____	$_____

30b. How were the trip costs distributed among your most common gear type (question 30)?
(please check one and estimate percentage)

- ☐ I paid all trip costs
- ☐ I paid a flat rate of $ _____
- ☐ I paid _____ % of the total trip costs
- ☐ Other, please describe: _____

31. In the past 12 months, what was your second most common gear usage (please check one)?

- ☐ Trolling
- ☐ Handline for pelagic (shortline)
- ☐ Handline for bottomfish
- ☐ Spearfishing
- ☐ Net
- ☐ Other gear, specify _____

31a. On average, how much money did you spend on your second most common (question 31) gear type trip?

Type of Expenditure	Total Trip Expenditure
Boat fuel	$_____
Truck fuel (round trip)	$_____
Oil	$_____
Ice	$_____
Bait	$_____
Food and beverage	$_____
Daily maintenance and repair	$_____
Other, please specify _____	$_____

31b. How were the trip costs distributed among your second most common gear type (question 31)? (please check one and estimate percentage)

- ☐ I paid all trip costs
- ☐ I paid a flat rate of $ _____
- ☐ I paid _____ % of the total trip costs
- ☐ Other, please describe: _____

SECTION E. 2013 FISHING EXPENDITURES

In an effort to better understand your economic contribution to the State of Hawaii's economy, we would like to ask about your fishing-related expenditures in 2013. In the table below please indicate how much, if any, was spent on the following items during 2013.

Enter "0" if you did not have any expenses in a category. Please do not leave blank.
Remember that all your answers are strictly confidential.

32. Cost Category	2013 Expenditure (dollars)	
Boat insurance ……	$_____	☐per month ☐per year
Loan payments ……	$_____	☐per month ☐per year
Mooring fees ……	$_____	☐per month ☐per year
Gear replacement/repair (lines, lures, gaffs, rods, electric/hydraulic reels, spears, wetsuits, coolers, safety equipment, etc.) ……	$_____	
Annual boat and trailer repair, maintenance, and improvements……	$_____	
Fees (CML, non-commercial permit ramp, registration for truck and trailer, safety, dry dock fees, etc.) ……	$_____	
Financial services ……	$_____	
Other, please specify …… _____	$_____	

SECTION F. ABOUT YOU

Different people have different fishing experiences and different motivations for fishing. The following questions help us to better understand these differences.

33. What is your gender?

☐ Male
☐ Female

34. What is your age?

☐ Less than 25 years
☐ 25 to 34 years
☐ 35 to 44 years
☐ 45 to 54 years
☐ 55 to 64 years
☐ More than 64 years

35. What is the zip code where you live? _____

36. Are you Hispanic or Latino?

☐ Yes, Hispanic or Latino
☐ No, not Hispanic or Latino

37. How would you describe your race? (check all that apply)

☐ American Indian or Alaska Native
☐ Asian
☐ Black or African American
☐ Native Hawaiian
☐ Other Pacific Islander (specify)_____
☐ White

38. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

☐ Less than 9th grade
☐ Some high school (no diploma)
☐ High school graduate (including GED)
☐ Some college (no degree)
☐ Associates degree or technical school
☐ College graduate (bachelor degree)
☐ Advanced, professional, or doctoral degree

39. What was your total household income, before taxes, in 2013, including fishing income?

☐ Less than $10,000
☐ $10,000 to $24,999
☐ $25,000 to $49,999
☐ $50,000 to $99,999
☐ $100,000 to $249,999
☐ $250,000 or more

SECTION G. WHAT DO YOU THINK?

40. Do you have any suggestions for how Hawaii's fisheries should be managed or topics that you feel need further study?

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Mahalo for participating in this survey.
Please use the enclosed postage paid return envelope to mail back your survey.

The information you have provided will improve our understanding of the importance of fishing in Hawaii.

Would you like to receive a copy of the final report for this study? (all personal information will be kept strictly confidential)

☐ Yes Name: _____ Address: _____

☐ No Email address:_____

May we contact you if we have any questions about your survey responses?

☐ Yes Phone: _____ Best time to reach you: _____

☐ No (your phone number will be kept strictly confidential)

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 30 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 NOAA IRC, NMFS/PIFSC/DO/Dr. Minling Pan, 1845 Wasp Blvd., Building 176, Honolulu HI 96818. The information you provide will remain strictly confidential as required by section 402(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens and NOAA Administrative Order 216-100, Confidentiality of Fisheries Statistics, and will not be released for public use except in aggregate statistical form without identification as to its source. We will combine your responses with information provided by other participants, and report it in summary form so that responses for any individual vessel cannot be identified. 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.

OMB Control No. 0648-xxxx
Expiration Date: xx/xx/xxxx

2014 American Samoa Small Boat Fishery Cost-Earnings Survey

Hello, please help us (NOAA) to better understand the importance of small boat fishing in American Samoa. Your details of fishing experiences and expenditures are important to ensure accurate results. We want to best represent American Samoa fishermen, and we can only do that by hearing from as many fishermen as possible. While your response is voluntary, we hope that you can help us in this research.

SECTION A. YOUR FISHING EXPERIENCES

Different fishermen in American Samoa had different fishing experiences over the past 12 months. Please tell us about yours.

1. What type of fishing trips did you take in the past 12 months?

☐ I went fishing using a boat only → Go to Q2
☐ I went fishing sometimes using a boat and sometimes not using a boat → Go to Q2
☐ I went fishing not using a boat → Go to Q4

2. Approximately how many **BOAT** fishing trips did you take in the past 12 months?

☐ 0 (no boat fishing trips in the past 12 months)
☐ Fewer than 25 trips (about once every other week)
☐ 25-49 trips (about once a week)
☐ 50-99 trips (about once or twice a week)
☐ 100-200 trips (about two to three times a week)
☐ More than 200 trips (about three to four times a week or more)

3. In the past 12 months, what percent of your **BOAT** fishing trips were: (please check one for each gear type)

	0%	1%-25%	26%-50%	51%-75%	76%-100%
Spearfishing	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Bottomfishing	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Trolling	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Net	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Other gear, please specify _____	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

4. Approximately how many **NON-BOAT** fishing (shoreline) trips did you take in the past 12 months?

☐ 0 (no non-boat fishing trips in the past 12 months)
☐ Fewer than 25 trips (about once every other week)
☐ 25-49 trips (about once a week)
☐ 50-99 trips (about once or twice a week)
☐ 100-200 trips (about two to three times a week)
☐ More than 200 trips (about three to four times a week or more)

5. In the past 12 months, what percent of your **NON-BOAT** fishing (shoreline) trips were: (please check one for each gear type)

	0%	1%-25%	26%-50%	51%-75%	76%-100%
Rod and reel (pole)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Spearfishing	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Cast/throw net	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Other gear, please specify_____	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

_____

6. In the past 12 months, what percent of your fishing trips occurred in local and federal jurisdiction?

	0%	1%-25%	26%-50%	51%-75%	76%-100%
Local waters (0-3 miles)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Federal waters (3 miles offshore)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

7. How many people in total, including yourself, are on board for an average fishing trip? _____ people

8. In the past 12 months, approximately how many total pounds of pelagic fish did you catch?

☐ None
☐ 1 - 50 pounds
☐ 51 - 100 pounds
☐ 101 - 500 pounds
☐ 501 - 1000 pounds
☐ More than 1000 pounds → About how much? _____ pounds

9. In the past 12 months, approximately how many total pounds of bottomfish did you catch?

☐ None
☐ 1 - 50 pounds
☐ 51 - 100 pounds
☐ 101 - 500 pounds
☐ 501 - 1000 pounds
☐ More than 1000 pounds → About how much? _____ pounds

10. In the past 12 months, approximately how many total pounds of reef fish did you catch?

☐ None
☐ 1 - 50 pounds
☐ 51 - 100 pounds
☐ 101 - 500 pounds
☐ 501 - 1000 pounds
☐ More than 1000 pounds → About how much? _____ pounds

11. In the past 12 months, what percent of your fishing trips were sampled by the biosampling program?

0%	1%-25%	26%-50%	51%-75%	76%-100%
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

SECTION B. MARKET PARTICIPATION

12. How do you define yourself as a fisherman? (Check one that applies)

- ☐ Full-time commercial
- ☐ Part-time commercial
- ☐ Recreational expense
- ☐ Purely recreational
- ☐ Subsistence
- ☐ Culture
- ☐ Other, please specify_____

13. In the past 12 months, how were the catches distributed? (please check one and estimate percentage)

- ☐ I keep all the fish I catch
- ☐ I received _____ % of total fish caught
- ☐ I received _____ % of trip revenue
- ☐ Don't know/different every time
- ☐ Other, please describe: _____

14. In the past 12 months, what percent of your catch was:

	0%	1%-25%	26%-50%	51%-75%	76%-100%
Consumed at home	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Given away	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Caught and released	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Sold	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

15. In the past 12 months, did you ever sell any of the fish you caught?

- ☐ Yes → Q16
- ☐ No → Q20

If you sold any of your fish…

16. In the past 12 months, where did you sell your fish?

- ☐ Fagatogo Market Place
- ☐ Restaurants/stores
- ☐ Roadside/farmers' market
- ☐ Friends/neighbors/coworkers
- ☐ Other, please specify _____

If you sold any of your fish…

17. In the past 12 months, what was the approximate value of all the fish you sold?

- ☐ $1 - $100
- ☐ $101 - $500
- ☐ $501 - $1,000
- ☐ $1,001 - $2,000
- ☐ $2,001 - $5,000
- ☐ $5,001 - $10,000
- ☐ $10,001 - $20,000
- ☐ $20,001 - $50,000
- ☐ More than $50,000, specify $_____

If you sold any of your fish…

18. In the past 12 months, what percent of the value of fish sold (question 17) came from the sale of pelagic fish, bottomfish, and reef fish?

	0%	1%-25%	26%-50%	51%-75%	76%-100%
Pelagic Fish	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Bottomfish	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Reef Fish	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

If you sold any of your fish…

19. In the past 12 months, after expenses, what percent of your personal income came from the sale of fish?

1%-25%	26%-50%	51%-75%	76%-100%
☐	☐	☐	☐

SECTION C. YOUR VESSEL

In this section, we want to better understand the vessel and gear characteristics of boat based fishing in American Samoa.

20. Do you own the boat that you fish on?

☐ Yes → Go to Question 21

☐ No → Go to Question 28

If you own the boat that you fish on:

21. In the past 12 months, what percent of time did other people (other than family members) use the boat **without** you?

0%	1%-25%	26%-50%	51%-75%	76%-100%
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

22. What is the length of your boat? _____ feet

23. What is the horsepower? _____hp

24. In what year was the boat built? _____

25. In what year did you purchase the boat you fish on? _____
(If homebuilt – when did you complete it?)

26. How much did you pay to purchase the boat you fish on? $_____
(If homebuilt – how much did it cost to build it?)

27. What is the approximate market value of your boat?
(considering age and current condition and including motor(s) and trailer) $_____

SECTION D. YOUR FISHING TRIP COSTS

We now want to understand your per trip costs for fishing.
Please remember that all your answers are strictly confidential.

28. In the past 12 months, what was the primary gear usage for your most common trip (please check one)?

- ☐ Spearfishing
- ☐ Bottomfishing
- ☐ Trolling
- ☐ Net
- ☐ Other gear, specify _____

28a. On average, how much money did you spend on your most common (question 28) gear type trip?

Type of Expenditure	Total Trip Expenditure
Boat fuel	$_____
Truck fuel (round trip)	$_____
Oil	$_____
Ice	$_____
Bait	$_____
Food and beverage	$_____
Daily maintenance and repair	$_____
Other, please specify _____	$_____

28b. How were the trip costs distributed among your most common gear type (question 28)?
(please check one and estimate percentage)

- ☐ I paid all trip costs
- ☐ I paid a flat rate of $ _____
- ☐ I paid _____ % of the total trip costs
- ☐ Other, please describe: _____

29. In the past 12 months, what was your second most common gear usage (please check one)?

- ☐ Spearfishing
- ☐ Bottomfishing
- ☐ Trolling
- ☐ Net
- ☐ Other gear, specify _____

29a. On average, how much money did you spend on your second most common (question 29) gear type trip?

Type of Expenditure	Total Trip Expenditure
Boat fuel	$_____
Truck fuel (round trip)	$_____
Oil	$_____
Ice	$_____
Bait	$_____
Food and beverage	$_____
Daily maintenance and repair	$_____
Other, please specify _____	$_____

29b. How were the trip costs distributed among your second most common gear type (question 29)? (please check one and estimate percentage)

- ☐ I paid all trip costs
- ☐ I paid a flat rate of $ _____
- ☐ I paid _____ % of the total trip costs
- ☐ Other, please describe: _____

SECTION E. 2013 FISHING EXPENDITURES

In an effort to better understand your economic contribution to American Samoa's economy, we would like to ask about your fishing-related expenditures in 2013. In the table below please indicate how much, if any, was spent on the following items during 2013.

Enter "0" if you did not have any expenses in a category. Please do not leave blank.
Remember that all your answers are strictly confidential.

30. Cost Category	2013 Expenditure (dollars)	
Boat insurance ……	$_____	☐per month ☐per year
Loan payments ……	$_____	☐per month ☐per year
Mooring fees ……	$_____	☐per month ☐per year
Gear replacement/repair (lines, lures, gaffs, rods, electric/hydraulic reels, spears, wetsuits, coolers, safety equipment, etc.) ……	$_____	
Annual boat and trailer repair, maintenance, and improvements……	$_____	
Fees (registration for truck and trailer, safety, dry dock fees, etc.) ……	$_____	
Financial services ……	$_____	
Other, please specify …… _____	$_____	

SECTION F. ABOUT YOU

Different people have different fishing experiences and different motivations for fishing. The following questions help us to better understand these differences.

31. What is your gender?

☐ Male
☐ Female

32. What is your age?

☐ Less than 25 years
☐ 25 to 34 years
☐ 35 to 44 years
☐ 45 to 54 years
☐ 55 to 64 years
☐ More than 64 years

33. What village do you live in? _____

34. Are you Hispanic or Latino?

☐ Yes, Hispanic or Latino
☐ No, not Hispanic or Latino

35. How would you describe your race? (check all that apply)

☐ Samoan
☐ American Indian or Alaska Native
☐ Asian
☐ Black or African American
☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
☐ White

36. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

☐ Less than 9th grade
☐ Some high school (no diploma)
☐ High school graduate (including GED)
☐ Some college (no degree)
☐ Associates degree or technical school
☐ College graduate (bachelor degree)
☐ Advanced, professional, or doctoral degree

37. What was your total household income, before taxes, in 2013, including fishing income?

☐ Less than $10,000
☐ $10,000 to $24,999
☐ $25,000 to $49,999
☐ $50,000 to $99,999
☐ $100,000 to $249,999
☐ $250,000 or more

SECTION G. WHAT DO YOU THINK?

38. Do you have any suggestions for how American Samoa's fisheries should be managed or topics that you feel need further study?

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Thank you for participating in this survey.
Please use the enclosed postage paid return envelope to mail back your survey.

The information you have provided will improve our understanding of the importance of fishing in American Samoa.

Would you like to receive a copy of the final report for this study? (all personal information will be kept strictly confidential)

☐ Yes Name: _____ Address: _____
☐ No Email address:_____

May we contact you if we have any questions about your survey responses?

☐ Yes Phone: _____ Best time to reach you: _____
☐ No (your phone number will be kept strictly confidential)

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 30 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 NOAA IRC, NMFS/PIFSC/DO/Dr. Minling Pan, 1845 Wasp Blvd., Building 176, Honolulu HI 96818. The information you provide will remain strictly confidential as required by section 402(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens and NOAA Administrative Order 216-100, Confidentiality of Fisheries Statistics, and will not be released for public use except in aggregate statistical form without identification as to its source. We will combine your responses with information provided by other participants, and report it in summary form so that responses for any individual vessel cannot be identified. 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.

relevant to the private sector and to civil society.

Walter Bastian,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Western Hemisphere, Global Markets, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

[FR Doc. 2013–28006 Filed 11–22–13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–HE–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Cost-Earnings Surveys of Hawaii and American Samoa Small Boat-Based Fisheries

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 January 24, 2014.

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 Minling Pan, (808) 944–2190 or *Minling.Pan@noaa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

This request is for a new information collection.

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) proposes to collect information about fishing expenses and catch distribution (such as for sale, home consumption, and give-away, etc.) in the Hawaii and American Samoa small boat-based reef fish, bottomfish, and pelagics fisheries with which to conduct economic analyses that will improve fishery management in those fisheries; satisfy NMFS' legal mandates under Executive Order 12866, the Magnuson-Steven Fishery Conservation and Management Act (U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*), the Regulatory Flexibility Act, the Endangered Species Act, and the National Environmental Policy Act; and quantify achievement of the performances measures in the NMFS Strategic Operating Plans. Respondents will include small boat fishers in Hawaii and American Samoa and their participation in the economic data collection will be voluntary. These data will be used to assess how fishermen will be impacted by and respond to regulations likely to be considered by fishery managers.

II. Method of Collection

Respondents submit paper forms by mailing.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: None.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission (request for a new information collection).

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,013.

Estimated Time per Response: 30 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 507.

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: November 19, 2013.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 2013–28163 Filed 11–22–13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648–XC993

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice; public meetings.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council's (Council) Groundfish Oversight Committee and Electronic Monitoring Working Group (EMWG) will meet to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

DATES: These meetings will be held December 9, 2013 and December 10, 2013. For specific dates and times, see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

ADDRESSES:

Meeting address: These meetings will be held at the Omni Providence Hotel, 1 West Exchange Street, Providence, RI 02048; telephone: (401) 598–8000; fax: (401) 598–8200.

Council address: New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill #2, Newburyport, MA 01950.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Thomas A. Nies, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; telephone: (978) 465–0492.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Monday, December 9, 2013 Beginning at 9 a.m.—Groundfish Oversight Committee Agenda

The Committee will review Plan Development Team (PDT) work related to the impacts of the alternatives under consideration in Framework 51 and potentially select preferred alternatives. The Committee may receive a brief update from the PDT on the development of alternatives for Amendment 18. The Committee will also address other business as necessary.

Tuesday, December 10, 2013 Beginning at 9:30 a.m.—Electronic Monitoring Working Group Agenda

The EMWG will continue its work on identifying barriers and possible solutions to implementing electronic monitoring in groundfish fishery sectors.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those