NOTICE OF OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET ACTION

Date 11/23/2015

Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, OMB has taken action on your request received 10/08/2015

ACTION REQUESTED: New collection (Request for a new OMB Control Number)
TYPE OF REVIEW REQUESTED: Regular
ICR REFERENCE NUMBER: 201509-0648-012
AGENCY ICR TRACKING NUMBER:
TITLE: Socio-Economic Survey: Manell-Geus (Guam)
LIST OF INFORMATION COLLECTIONS: See next page

OMB ACTION: Approved with change
OMB CONTROL NUMBER: 0648-0723
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: 11/30/2018 DISCONTINUE DATE:

BURDEN:	RESPONSES	HOURS	COSTS
Previous	0	0	0
New	130	142	0
Difference			
Change due to New Statute	0	0	0
Change due to Agency Discretion	130	142	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
Household questionnaire	NA, NA	Manell-Geus Household Survey Questionnaire, Manell-Geuss Household survey	
Key informant interviews	NA, NA	Key Informant interviews - fishers, Key informant interviews - stakeholders	
Focus groups	NA, NA	Focus group guide for residents that may have been affected by flooding, Focus group guide for residents that may have been affected by wildfires	

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/NOS

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

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 Socio-Economic Survey: Manell-Geus (Guam)

8. Agency form number(s) (*if applicable*)

9. Keywords "Fisheries", "Fishing", "Fishery", and "Fishing Vessels"

10. Abstract

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) created the Coral Reef Conservation Program (CRCP) to safeguard and ensure the welfare of the coral reef ecosystems along the coastlines of the Manell-Geus watershed in the village of Merizo, Guam. The administration of this program has potential economic and cultural impacts on the lives of nearby residents and citizens. In accordance with its mission goals, NOAA has designed a survey to help assess the impacts of the Coral Reef Conservation Program.
The survey is designed to be repeated every three to four years in order to provide longitudinal data at the village level regarding the impact of the Coral Reef Conservation Program.

11. Affected public (*Mark primary with "P" and all others that apply with "x"*)
a. P Individuals or households d. ___ Farms
b. x 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 390
b. Total annual responses 13
1. Percentage of these responses collected electronically 0 %
c. Total annual hours requested 142
d. Current OMB inventory 0
e. Difference 142
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 0
f. Explanation of difference
1. Program change 0
2. Adjustment ____

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

16. Frequency of recordkeeping or reporting (*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) Every 3-4 years

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: Peter Edwards
Phone: 301-563-1145 x145

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 Cheryl Marlin for Hugh Johnson	Date 09/22/2015
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: 2015.12.03 12:13:48 -05'00'	Date

SUPPORTING STATEMENT

SOCIOECONOMIC SURVEY—MANELL-GEUS (GUAM)
OMB CONTROL NO. 0648-XXXX

INTRODUCTION

This request is for a new information collection.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) created the Coral Reef Conservation Program (CRCP) to safeguard and ensure the welfare of the coral reef ecosystems, including those along the coastlines of the Manell-Geus watershed in the village of Merizo, Guam. The administration of this program has potential economic and cultural impacts on the lives of nearby residents and citizens. In accordance with its mission goals, NOAA has designed a survey to help assess the impacts of the Coral Reef Conservation Program.

The survey is designed to be repeated every three to four years in order to provide longitudinal data at the village level regarding the impact of the Coral Reef Conservation Program.

A. JUSTIFICATION

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

The purpose of this information collection is to obtain information from individuals in the village of Merizo residing within the Manell-Geus watershed in the U.S. Territory of Guam. Specifically, NOAA is seeking information on the behaviors and activities related to coral reefs, as well as information on knowledge and attitudes related to coral reefs and specific reef protection activities. The community of Merizo is small, homogenous community whose residents identify themselves as Chamorro, the indigenous peoples of Guam. Merizo is one of the few villages on Guam that perpetuates traditional fishing practices using traditional knowledge. Additionally, this is the only community who expressed interest in establishing a Marine Preserve in their village – the Achang Reef Flat Marine Preserve.

The Coral Reef Conservation Program (CRCP), developed under the authority of the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-562; 16 U.S.C. 6401 *et seq.*) is responsible for programs intended to enhance the conservation of coral reefs. Under this authority, CRCP works with local partners in Florida, US Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to reduce key threats to coral reefs, including climate change, land based sources of pollution, and impacts from fishing.

NOAA recently launched Habitat Blueprint, a framework to enhance the conservation of coral reefs and other key habitats for resilient fisheries, marine life, and coastal communities. The Manell-Geus watershed on Guam was selected as one of ten Habitat Blueprint focus areas. In the waters lying offshore the village of Merizo, is one of the island's two barrier reef systems, Cocos Lagoon. Extensive seagrass beds and cater to resident sea turtles as well as juvenile fish that are locally valuable food fish, such as emperors and goatfish. The largest aggregation of sea turtles has been

documented in Cocos Lagoon and Manell Channel based on aerial surveys conducted by the Guam Department of Agriculture. As part of the Focus Area Objectives for this site, increased community engagement in conservation programs is indicated. NOAA CRCP intends to gather and monitor a collection of socioeconomic variables, including those related to knowledge, attitudes, and perceptions of watershed and reef conditions as well as community support and involvement of reef protection activities in the Manell-Geus watershed and adjacent waters from Merizo residents. Collecting such information will help NOAA CRCP work effectively with the community to ensure Habitat Blueprint projects are improving the livelihoods by addressing community concerns of human safety from flooding as well as impacts to sustainable fisheries to continue village's strong fishing traditions for future generations. A sense of secured livelihood and support for/involvement in Habitat Blueprint conservation efforts will build community's capacity and resilience to expected impacts of climate change.

It should be noted that NOAA CRCP currently has a National Coral Reef Monitoring Program (NCRMP) which is a strategic framework for conducting sustained observations of biological, climatic, and socioeconomic indicators in U.S. states and territories. The resulting data provide a robust picture of the condition of U.S. coral reef ecosystems and the communities connected to them. However NCRMP efforts will not capture the depth of community involvement in Habitat Blueprint projects and does not include climate change as a focal point in their questionnaire. Additionally, NCRMP's sample size of 950 respondents from Guam will not truly reflect Merizo's stakeholder perceptions, attitudes, and knowledge about coral reef management. This project complements the socioeconomic component of NCRMP and will provide more detailed site level information than compared to the island wide survey for Guam. The NCRMP socioeconomic surveys have been approved under OMB Control No. 0648-0646. This Manell-Geus survey effort draws from a question bank of 138 questions that have been approved by the OMB.

CRCP intends to use the information collected through this instrument primarily for measuring and maintaining results of our reef protection programs. Because many of our efforts to protect reefs rely on education and changing attitudes toward reef protection, the information collected will allow CRCP staff to ensure that NOAA Habitat Blueprint projects are designed appropriately at the start, adapted to balance community and conservation needs, future program evaluation efforts are as successful as possible, and outreach efforts are targeting the intended recipients with useful information. The success of Habitat Blueprint's conservation projects in the Manell-Geus watershed is highly dependent on long-term community support and engagement in such projects.

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 will be collected by a household survey as well as in-depth interviews with key informants, which may include local business owners, experienced local fishers, youth, hunters, fishers, *manamko'* (community elders), and residents along the coastline and rivers who have been impacted by erosion or flooding. There will also be focus groups of a cross-section of representative community residents. The purpose of the survey is to gather longitudinal information from residents in Merizo related to their knowledge, attitudes, and perceptions of watershed and reef conditions,

their relationship with coastal and marine resources, community support/involvement in watershed/ coral reef management practices, and human health impacts related to flooding and consumed locally harvested seafood.

As part of Habitat Blueprint, NMFS and NOS, in consultation with NCRMP, local partners and stakeholders modified a set of long-term core indicators that will be measured over time in Merizo. The data gathered as part of this information collection request will assist CRCP in tracking these indicators and ensure long-term results of Habitat Blueprint projects in the Manell-Geus watershed. Tracking changes in attitude, perception, and community support/involvement in management over the duration of Habitat Blueprint initiative enables the measurement of the effectiveness of conservation efforts and provides information on whether or not these changes have benefitted the community.

A list with a description and the relevance of each indicator is shown in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Indicators for the Socioeconomic Monitoring Program for Habitat Blueprint Manell-Geus Focus Area

Indicator	Priority	Importance of Gathering Data to Measure Indicator
1. Perception of water quality	Critical	Track perception of water quality in streams and near shore sea water in Manell-Geus
2. Perception of flooding impacts	Critical	Tracking this information over time will signify any changes in perceived extent of flooding impacts
3. Perceived benefits from coral reefs rules and regulations	Critical	Determine how people are impacting coral reefs and effectiveness of regulations and enforcement efforts of Achang Reef Flat Marine Preserve Area. Understand community support/ lack of support of Achang MPA.
4. Perceived human health hazards from flooding and fires	Critical	Complement biophysical information. Key to understanding extent of fires and flooding issues in Manell-Geus impact human health
5. Perceived resource conditions	Critical	Complement biophysical information. This will track changes in perceptions of key resources targeted by Habitat Blueprint.
5. Knowledge of threats to coral reefs	Critical	Monitoring this information over time is important for tracking whether Merizo residents understand threats to Manell-Geus watershed and coral reefs. Data gathered will help inform management strategies and education and outreach efforts
6. Attitudes towards coral reef management strategies	Critical	Monitoring this information over time will be valuable to decision-makers. Information collected will assist decision-makers to evaluate and improve existing strategies and design new management approaches.

7. Participation in behaviors that may improve coral reef health	Critical	Improve existing knowledge and gain a better understanding on how human behaviors impact coral reefs positively and negatively
8. Perception on fish catch	Critical	This information will track change of perceived fish catch overtime and complement biophysical data.
9. Availability of locally sourced marine and terrestrial foods	Critical	This information is critical to monitor change in locally important food fish and crop attributed to Habitat Blueprint projects
10. Household participation in natural resources management planning or decision making	Critical	Tracking this will indicate changes in community engagement with Habitat Blueprint projects and address government transparency
11. Economic impact of dive/snorkel tourism to jurisdiction[1]	Important	Track the economic contributions of coral reefs to tourism in Manell-Geus and justify government funding of coral reef protection programs

NOAA staff involved in socioeconomic data collection efforts in Manell-Geus received guidance from NCRMP in the construction of household questionnaire for Merizo respondents. The household survey design, including questionnaire, and key informant semi-structured questions were developed by the CRCP team. The Manell-Gues questionnaire drew applicable questions from various categories within NCRMP's OMB-approved question bank. The survey instrument contains questions that address site-specific issues not addressed in NCRMP's question bank. Key issues included in the questionnaire include fires in upland areas of Manell-Geus and flooding in relation to human health and safety. Household surveys that contain NCRMP questions can be a useful data set to NCRMP and provide a synergistic model for similar socioeconomic monitoring efforts on coral reef management within jurisdictions.

Information on Merizo residents will be collected at regular intervals every three to four years. The survey enumerators will include volunteers from the Merizo community and students from the University of Guam (UoG). These volunteers will be trained in the methods and supervised throughout the entire data collecting process by the CRCP team leaders.

CRCP will work with volunteers to ensure they understand the survey objectives, the data collection strategy, select relevant questions from question bank and tailor them to the subject of the survey. CRCP is planning to use the following approach to select the questions for each jurisdiction:

For each survey after the Manell-Gues survey, a non-substantive change request will be submitted, listing the selected questions, and briefly describing the information collection venue and sampling methodology applicable to this community.

Data collected will not be disseminated to the public in a way which could potentially reveal personally identifiable information (PII). Aggregate and summary statistics will only be publicly available for the data which will allow the identities of survey respondents to remain confidential. CRCP will maintain the data in accordance with the highest standards of information security and will keep PII data only as long as is absolutely necessary to complete the survey.

CRCP fully acknowledges the possibility of experiencing potential bias during the data collection, for example, in case of non-response to certain questions or non-truthful answers (these scenarios are dealt with in Part B's detailed descriptions of methodology).

The risk associated with these potential biases skewing the analysis will be minimized by the fact that CRCP will be primarily using the information as indicative parameters to analyze the effectiveness of its Habitat Blueprint projects to improve Merizo residents' wellbeing and resilience to climate change. The information collected will not be used by CRCP to conduct comprehensive evaluations of its programs nor will the data from this survey be used in isolation be used to make decisions about these programs. Any decisions to modify existing programs and to create new coral reef initiatives will be made using information collected from a number of sources, including this survey and other tools such as formal program assessments and evaluations and CRCP's strategic plans.

NOAA 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.

We are planning on conducting face-to-face interviews due to the low density of internet and phone connections. Face-to-face interviews are also necessary in case a translator is needed during interviews (for non-English or non-Chamorro speakers). Phone or internet interview techniques will not be used to collect information.

4. Describe efforts to identify duplication.

A socioeconomic data collection effort was completed in 2009 by Romina King, PhD candidate at Cork University, as part of her dissertation. The information collected was used to assess the Merizo community's vulnerability and adaptability to impacts from climate change through understanding the community's knowledge, perceptions, and attitudes toward the Manell-Geus watershed. This study has helped Habitat Blueprint team strategically identify community issues to be further investigated by proposed socioeconomic data collection.

The planning team agreed that repeating selected questions from King's study will help detect

changes of community's knowledge, attitudes, and perceptions of their watershed and fisheries resources.

Finally, this effort is being coordinated by the NOAA Habitat Blueprint's Lead Investigator in collaboration with NOAA Fisheries Coral Reef Ecosystem Division's (CRED) Project Primary Investigator with support from the Merizo Mayor's Office, NCRMP, and jurisdiction's natural resource agency partners. All efforts will be made to ensure that this data collection takes other conservation and community efforts in Manell-Geus into consideration.

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

Key informant interviewing will be used to collect information from small entities. This method allows for targeted questions that are relevant for this group as well as forgathering in-depth information.

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

One of the main objectives of this collection is to assist the Coral Reef Conservation Program (CRCP) to fulfill its mission of enhancing the conservation of coral reefs. Under the Habitat Blueprint, increased community support and engagement in conservation is one of the main goals for Manell-Geus site. Community support and engagement are key aspects to ensure successful long-term conservation efforts in Manell-Geus. The information requested will allow Habitat Blueprint and local managers to work effectively with Merizo community to manage their natural resources. The information requested will allow CRCP to gauge the effects of existing coral reef and watershed management practices on Merizo community, adapt implemented Habitat Blueprint management projects and disseminate results in the best context to the community for further refinement of conservation efforts. In addition, the information will allow CRCP to design new programs and ensure that they are as successful as possible.

Not conducting this investigation could undermine the NOAA Habitat Blueprint initiative in Manell-Geus to effectively evaluate conservation efforts impacts on the Merizo community and to ensure that they are helping achieve long-term community support and engagement in coral reef management of their resources.

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

No special circumstances are anticipated. The information requested will be voluntary and the collection will be conducted in accordance 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 was published on May 7, 2015 (80 FR 26547). No comments were received.

The question bank and the sampling strategies for this collection were developed in consultation with key CRCP staff and partners and are modeled on the national indicators for this program.

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

No payments or gifts are 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 questionnaires, identifying information (name, address, telephone number, email address) will be collected and used only to administer the survey. This information will be viewed only by the NOAA research team compiling the data, and will be destroyed at the end of the collection and not be retrieved using personal identifying information. This process will maintain the anonymity of the responses received. Results will be aggregated, so that no responses can be attributable to individuals.

All data received from the surveys will be placed on a secure server and will be password protected. All computerized data will be maintained in a manner that is consistent with NOAA's IT Security Program. No data files will contain personal identifiers.

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

For this collection, no sensitive questions will be asked.

To address potential sensitivity issues associated with these questions, personal identifying information will not be stored and will only be used to administrate the survey; respondents will be made aware of this practice. Identifying information will be viewed only by the contractor compiling the data, and will be destroyed at the end of the information collection. This process will maintain the anonymity of the responses received.

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

A variety of instruments and platforms will be used to collect information from respondents. The annual burden hours requested (425) are based on the maximum number of collections we expect to conduct over the requested period for this clearance. This includes 350 one hour household surveys (350 hours), one-on-one interviews with 10 key informants, which may include local business owners, experienced local fishers, youth, hunters, fishers, and/or *manamko'* (community elders) at 1.5 hours per interview (15 hours) and three focus groups of ten individuals per group, who have been impacted by river erosion or flooding, at 2 hours each (60 hour). Using an average labor rate ($16.96/hour) the burden estimate results in expected labor costs is $7,203.75.

The response burden is in part based on an average number of questions asked. Other components of burden are: the survey administrator explaining the purpose and need to the respondent, demographic questions for statistical purposes, and programmatic related questions. We estimate that the survey administrator will take 1 minute to explain the purpose and the need of the survey to the respondent (if the call recipient declines the survey, this time will fall under nonresponse burden). The remaining number of questions will be determined by the NOAA research team. The questions have been divided into indicator groups. Of these groups, NOAA will shift its importance and the number of questions asked from each group to keep the total time needed within 60 minutes.

We acknowledge that not all respondents contacted will be willing to participate in the survey. For these negative responses we estimate a non-response burden of 1 minute for the survey administrator to explain the purpose and need for the survey and the respondent to decline. We expect a, 90% response rate for in-person surveys.

Table 3 Estimate of Burden Hours

Survey Type	# of units	Responses Per Type	Total # of Responses	Response Time	Total Burden (in hours)	Labor Cost ($)
Household questionnaire	350	1	350	1 hour	350	5,932.50
Key informant interviews	10	1	10	1.5 hours	15	254.25
Focus Groups	3	10	30	2	60	1,017.00
TOTALS			390*		**425***	**7,203.75**

*****annualized to 130 and 142

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

There will be no cost to respondents beyond burden hours.

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

NOAA staff time and travel will be required to participate in planning and design activities for this research project. The government will implement one round of household surveys and key informant interviews in late FY15. The cost of the government for this survey is estimated at $90,000 for the first survey (annualized to $30,000). This is in addition to time and travel for the socioeconomic monitoring trainer and social scientist leading the integrated monitoring effort for Manell-Geus and accompanied researcher cost $65,158 (per year). Partial time for the NOAA Fisheries Community Coral Reef Monitoring Coordinator to assist with the implementation of these studies is also included. As part of a cooperative agreement from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NFMS) Office of Habitat Conservation, the Nature Conservancy was subcontracted $50,000 to implement socioeconomic monitoring plan for Manell-Geus. This represents a one-time grant that will extend over the period of the survey effort (annualized to $18,333).

Annual/annualized costs: $30,000 + $65.158 + 18,333: $113,491.

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

Not applicable. This a new information collection request.

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

Data collected under this clearance will be used for research purposes, to measure and improve the results of CRCP programs, and to target outreach efforts.

Members of the research team may publish aspects of this survey in peer-reviewed academic journals. The agency may also receive requests to release some of its findings through congressional inquiries or Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Requests. NOAA CRCP will disseminate the findings when appropriate, and strictly following NOAA's guidelines, and all applicable laws and regulations.

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.

SUPPORTING STATEMENT

SOCIOECONOMIC SURVEY—MANELL-GEUS (GUAM)
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.**

Target groups:

1. **Households in Merizo for household survey**
2. **Fishers and other users of resources in Manell-Geus for key informant interviewing**
3. **Focus group meetings with community members and key stakeholders**

The potential respondent universe for this study is adults, eighteen years or older, who live near, and may use, coral reefs affected by activities related to the NOAA's Habitat Blueprint (Manell-Geus site). The total population (all individuals) of the potentially impacted area is 1,850 (390 households). Key informant interviews will be conducted with fishers, other resource users in Manell-Geus. Focus groups of representative residents will also be conducted (as per Table 3).

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.

For the village of Merizo, we plan to conduct at census survey of all households. As the household survey will be conducted in person, the survey team will return to collect data from the households that are not available in the first round. For key informant interviews, these will be arranged at the convenience of the respondents and conducted by project personnel. Key informants will be identified by Guam based NOAA project personnel based on their pre-existing relationships with the Merizo community. Key informant interviews are typically held face to face or by telephone and are run as a semi-structured interview. No more than ten (10) key informant interviews will be

conducted. Focus groups will be conducted based on recruitment of representative individuals using the community representatives and information gained from the key informant interviews.

In addition to asking the questions regarding community perception and participation in natural resource management, the surveys will collect information on socioeconomics and demographics. This additional information will be used to sort and categorize the survey results in order to control for as many variables as possible.

This survey will be conducted approximately every three to four years.

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.

The efforts will be coordinated by the research team working with staff of Manell-Geus socioeconomic monitoring efforts who will work with the Merizo Mayor's Office to get a representative sample of the community. Based on a close working relationship with the Mayor's office and utilizing locally trained enumerators it is expected that response rates will be maximized. In addition the community is engaged in the Habitat Blueprint process, and many residents would be considered stakeholders. The survey will be administered in Chamorro and English.

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.

A pretest of the household survey questionnaire will be conducted at least a few weeks prior to the actual survey. Input from the pretesting will be used to revise and finalize the questionnaire.

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.

Individuals consulted on the statistical aspects of the design:

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Merizo Household Survey

Hafa adai,

My name is _____. You have been selected to participate in this survey. We are interested in obtaining your opinions on some important issues related to coral reefs and the environment in Merizo. You were selected because you live in the village of Merizo and your opinions on the issues affecting the coral reefs of Merizo are very important to us.

Your participation is voluntary and the information you provide will be kept strictly anonymous. No personally identifiable information (name, address, telephone number, email address) will be linked to your completed survey. The information collected will be viewed only by the NOAA research team compiling the data, and will be destroyed at the end of the information collection process. This process will maintain the anonymity of the responses received. Results will be aggregated, so that no responses can be attributable to individuals. That is, all answers are anonymous.

Thank you for taking the time to assist us with this effort.

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 60 minutes for completing the survey, 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 Valerie Brown, NFMS, (valerie.brown@noaa.gov).

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.

Attitude Toward/Importance of Coral Reefs

Participation in Reef Activities

Q1. ***How often do you fish or harvest marine resources for each of the following reasons?***

		Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Frequently
1.1	**To feed myself and my family/ household**				
1.2	**To sell**				
1.3	**To give to extended family members and/or friends**				
1.4	**For fun**				
1.5	**For special occasions and cultural events**				

Q2. ***How often does your family eat fish/seafood?***

a. Every day
b. A few times a week
c. About once a week
d. 1-3 times a month
e. Less than once a month
f. Never

Q3. ***What is an estimate in percentage of your family's seafood harvested from coral reefs around Merizo? _____%***

Perceived Resource Condition

Q4. ***In your opinion, how are Guam's marine resources currently doing? Please rank from very bad to very good.***

		Very bad	Bad	Neither bad nor good	Good	Very good	Not sure
4.1	**Ocean Water Quality (clean and clear)**						
4.2	**Amount of Coral**						
4.3	**Number of Fish**						
4.4	**Number of Turtles**						

Q5. ***How would you say the condition of each of the following has changed over the last 10 years. Please rate from "it has gotten a lot worse" to "it has gotten a lot better."***

		A lot worse	Somewhat worse	No change	Somewhat better	A lot better	Not sure
5.1	**Ocean Water Quality (clean and clear)**						
5.2	**Amount of Coral**						
5.3	**Number of Fish**						
5.4	**Number of Turtles**						

Perceived threats to coral reefs and community

Q6. ***What do you think are the 3 greatest threats to the reefs in Merizo?***
(INTERVIEWER: DO NOT READ. CHECK ONLY 3 ANSWERS BASED ON THE RESPONSES. PROMPT IF NECESSARY)

		Greatest threats
6.1	**Coral bleaching from sea surface temperature increase**	
6.2	**Ocean acidification**	
6.3	**Erosion in the mountains**	
6.4	**Stream bank erosion**	
6.5	**Shoreline erosion**	
6.6	**Storm water runoff**	
6.7	**Increased development**	
6.8	**Chemical runoff (pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers)**	
6.9	**Sedimentation caused by floods**	
6.10	**Sedimentation caused by fire**	
6.11	**Fires in the mountains**	
6.12	**Sewage discharge**	
6.13	**Trash**	
6.14	**Poor water quality**	
6.15	**Ships and boats grounding on reefs**	
6.16	**Scuba divers**	
6.17	**Overuse for recreation / tourism**	
6.18	**Illegal fishing**	
6.19	**Harmful Fishing practices**	
6.20	**Overfishing**	
6.21	**Typhoons**	
6.22	**Lack of vegetation in the mountains**	
6.23	**Off-roading**	
6.24	**Other: Please list**	

Q7. ***Please rate how important the following potential threats facing the community in Merizo are?***

		Very unimportant	Unimportant	Neither important nor unimportant	Important	Very important	Not sure
7.1	**Hazards from floods on community's properties and infrastructure, e.g. roads**						
7.2	**Hazards from floods on public health, including water-borne diseases, mold, etc.**						
7.3	**Hazards from floods on personal and family's safety**						
7.4	**Impacts of floods on quality of stream and fresh water**						
7.5	**Impacts of flood on quality of seawater.**						
7.6	**Hazards from fires on community's properties and infrastructure, e.g. burning of forest and community buildings**						
7.7	**Hazards from fires on public health, including respiratory problems and burnt injuries, etc**						
7.8	**Hazards from fires on personal and family's safety**						
7.9	**Impacts of fires on quality of stream and fresh water**						
7.10	**Impacts of fires on quality of seawater**						

Attitudes and Perception with Marine Protected Area (Achang Reef Flat Marine Preserves)

Q8. ***How familiar are you with the Achang Reef Flat Marine Preserve?***

1. Very Unfamiliar
2. Unfamiliar
3. Familiar
4. Very Familiar

INTERVIEWER: IF THE RESPONDENT IS UNFAMILIAR OR VERY UNFAMILIAR WITH THE ACHANG MARINE PRESERVE, PLEASE ASK Q 9 and Q10, THEN SKIP TO Q17. IF THEY ARE FAMILIAR OR VERY FAMILIAR, PLEASE PROCEED WITH ALL QUESTIONS.

Q9. ***Do members of your household participate in each of the following activities in or near the Achang Marine Preserve or Cocos lagoon more than a few times each year?***

		Never	Cocos Lagoon	Achang Preserve	Near Cocos and Achang
9.1	**Gathering of animals for gleaning (trochus/ailingling, clams, sea cucumbers, octopus, urchins)**				
9.2	**Mangrove harvesting**				
9.3	**Seaweed harvesting**				
9.4	**Fishing (ask the fishing methods only if they fish)**				
9.5	**Spear fishing**				
9.6	**Cast net-fishing (talaya)**				
9.7	**Gillnet, surround net and drag net-fishing (tekken, chenchulu)**				
9.8	**Hook-and-line fishing**				
9.9	**Other kind of fishing: Please list**				
9.10	**Swimming/wading**				
9.11	**Snorkeling**				
9.12	**Diving (SCUBA or free diving)**				
9.13	**Paddling/kayaking**				
9.14	**Boarding (surfing, kite surfing, SUP, body-surfing, body-boarding)**				
9.15	**Jet-ski/ personal watercraft**				
9.16	**Pleasure boating**				
9.17	**Beach recreation (beach sports, picnics)**				
9.18	**Off-Roading**				
9.19	**Walking/Hiking/Running in the mountains**				
9.20	**Collecting local medicinal plants**				
9.21	**Hunting**				
9.22	**Burning**				
9.23	**Other activities: Please list**				

Q10. ***To what degree has your use of Achang Marine Preserve changed since it was established?***

1. Rarely or never used and still do not
2. Decreased significantly
3. Decreased some
4. Has not changed
5. Increased some
6. Increased Significantly
7. Not sure

Q11. ***What are the 3 most important benefits of the Achang Marine Preserve for your household?*** (INTERVIEWER: DO NOT READ. CHECK ONLY 3 ANSWERS BASED ON THE RESPONSES. PROMPT IF NECESSARY.)

1. Increasing the amount of fish
2. Conserving and protecting corals, fish, and other marine life
3. Resolving conflicts among different groups of users
4. Livelihoods of your household
5. Food security
6. Protecting a sacred place
7. Cultural heritage
8. Recreational use
9. Shoreline protection
10. Other: Please list
11. No Benefit

Q12. ***In your opinion what are the three most significant costs or adverse impacts to you or your household from the Achang Marine Preserve? (Please select no more than 3)*** (INTERVIEWER: FIRST READ THE LIST. THEN CHECK 3 ANSWERS BASED ON THE RESPONSES. PROMPT IF NECESSARY)

1. Increased price of fish
2. Restrictions on harvesting
3. Increased incidence of conflicts among different groups of users
4. Decreased earning and livelihood of your household
5. Lack of food security
6. Restricted access to a sacred place
7. Restrictions on recreational use
8. Other: Please list
9. No costs or adverse effects

Q13. ***In your opinion, which groups have most benefited from the Achang Marine Preserve? (Please select no more than 3)*** (INTERVIEWER: FIRST READ THE LIST. THEN CHECK 3 ANSWERS BASED ON THE RESPONSES. PROMPT IF NECESSARY)

1. Commercial fishers
2. Local subsistence fishers
3. Recreational/sport fishers
4. Commercial fish and dive operators
5. Local dive operators
6. Recreational (local and tourist) divers
7. Conservation groups
8. Local communities
9. Local government
10. Other: Please list

Q14. Please indicate how much you disagree or agree with each of the following statements.

		Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Not Sure
13.1	**Achang Marine preserve increases the amount of fish inside the zones**						
13.2	**Achang Marine preserve increases the amount of fish outside the zones**						
13.3	**Achang Marine Preserve protects coral reefs**						
13.4	**Guam Department of Agriculture does a good job of enforcing The Achang Marine Preserve regulations**						
13.5	**There have been economic benefits to Marizo from the establishment of the Achang Marine Preserve**						
13.6	**Achang Marine Preserve helps educate the public about marine environment**						
13.7	**Fishermen's livelihoods have been negatively impacted from the establishment of the Achang Marine Preserve**						
13.8	**Achang Marine preserve help increase tourism in Merizo**						
13.9	**Achang Marine preserve builds resiliency for future natural disasters**						
13.10	**I support Achang Marine Preserve**						
13.11	**The procedures established to deal with Achang Marine Preserve violations have been fair and just**						

		Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Not Sure
13.12	**Achang Marine preserve supports scientific research**						
13.13	**I would support adding new marine preserves in Guam if there is evidence that the ones we have are improving Guam's marine resources**						
13.14	**Guam Department of Agriculture does a good job of educating the public about its rules and regulations for the marine preserves**						
13.15	**Since the marine preserve regulations have been in effect, there has been no way that the average person to voice his/her opinion on the usefulness of the regulations**						
13.16	**There should be more marine preserves in Guam**						

Q15. ***A number of Guam governmental agencies and federal agencies have been working on environmental issues in Merizo over the last five years. These efforts have recently been recognized and included under NOAA's Habitat Blueprint program. How familiar are you with the NOAA Habitat Blueprint?***

1. Very Unfamiliar
2. Unfamiliar
3. Familiar
4. Very Familiar

Q16. ***How successful have local and federal government coral reef management activities in Merizo been for the following? (Please check all that apply)***

		Not successful at all	Hardly successful	Nether	Highly successful	Somewhat successful	Not sure
15.1	**Increasing household participation in natural resources management planning or decision making**						

		Not successful at all	Hardly successful	Nether	Highly successful	Somewhat successful	Not sure
15.2	**Increasing use of community input and scientific data in decision making of the Micronesia Challenge**						
15.3	**Protecting the whole coral reef ecosystem**						
15.4	**Improving the water quality of the area, including reducing contamination**						
15.5	**Increasing the public environmental awareness**						
15.6	**Increasing scientific research**						
15.7	**Increasing tourism**						
15.8	**Reduce violations and illegal activities related to fishing, harvesting, and use of natural resources**						
15.9	**Reducing user conflicts**						
15.10	**Protecting cultural artifacts or traditions**						
15.11	**Other: Please list**						

Q17. ***Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements: "I would support new fishing regulations in Cocos Lagoon in order to have…?"***

		Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
16.1	**More fish on the reef**					
16.1	**More living corals**					
16.2	**More sea cucumbers, octopus, lobster, clams and other invertebrates**					
16.3	**More seagrass**					
16.4	**More mangroves**					
16.5	**More large sea life (whales, dolphins, sea turtles, etc.)**					
16.6	**Cleaner water**					

		Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
16.7	**Less algae**					
16.8	**Other: Please list**					

Compliance with Rules/Regulations

Q18. ***Please rate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.***

		Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Not sure
17.1	**People fish inside the Achang Marine Preserve no-take zones**						
17.2	**Fishers who do not comply with fisheries regulations would be seen or detected by enforcement agents**						
17.3	**People from Merizo respect the Marine Preserve regulations**						
17.4	**People from outside Merizo respect the Marine Preserve regulations**						
17.5	**Commercial fishing operations respect Marine Preserve regulations**						
17.6	**Tourists are knowledgeable of Marine Preserve regulations**						
17.7	**No specific groups are singled out in enforcement of regulations**						
17.8	**Legal and trial process for violations is inadequate**						

Q19. ***Please list your top 3 reasons why some people do not follow the regulations?*** (INTERVIEWER: DO NOT READ. CHECK 3 ANSWERS BASED ON THE RESPONSES. PROMPT IF NECESSARY)

		Check 3
18.1	**They don't know it's illegal**	☐
18.2	**They don't know it can harm the environment**	☐
18.3	**They need to earn a living and feel they have no other option**	☐
18.4	**They don't care**	☐

		Check 3
18.5	**People are lazy**	☐
18.6	**They think it's fun**	☐
18.7	**They want to fish/dive in a less populated area**	☐
18.8	**Marine Preserve s have more fish/coral to see/catch**	☐
18.9	**The Marine Preserve is easier to get to than other fishing areas**	☐
18.10	**The Marine Preserve is safer than other fishing areas**	☐
18.11	**There is not enough enforcement**	☐
18.12	**Other, please specify**	☐

Coral Reef Management Processes and Support

Q20. ***Please rate the extent to which you agree/disagree with each of the following statements.***

		Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Not sure
19.1	**Coral reefs protect Guam from coastal/shoreline_erosion and natural disasters like typhoons and tsunamis**						
19.2	**Diving and snorkeling are not harmful to coral reefs.**						
19.3	**Coral reefs provide sustainable resources that support the development of our Merizo communities.**						
19.4	**Establishing size restrictions to regulate fishing is a good management practice.**						
19.5	**Coral reefs have an important role in our culture**						
19.6	**Coral reefs are important to my household's way of life**						
19.7	**Effects from climate change can severely affect coral reefs.**						
19.8	**Mangroves are not important for protecting the coast from erosion.**						
19.9	**There are no problems with water quality in the coral reef areas.**						
19.10	**Sediment runoff from land activities such as wildland fires and construction can harm coral reefs**						
19.11	**Pesticides and herbicides used in commercial and residential activities can be carried by runoff and affect**						

		Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Not sure
	coral reefs						
19.12	Eliminating some species, like sea urchins, can affect the ecological dynamics of coral reefs						

Q21. ***To what degree would you be willing to do each of the following in order to protect and maintain the coral reefs in Merizo?***

		Would Not Do	Would Consider	Would Do	Not Sure
20.1	At least once a year volunteer with an organization that is working to protect the reefs (e.g. participate in coastal clean up)				
20.2	Volunteer for community wildfire fighting team in my village				
20.3	Plant native plants or build a rain garden on my property to slow runoff into the river and reduce sedimentation that impact reefs				
20.4	Have non-residents pay a fee for reef related activities like snorkeling, diving and fishing				
20.5	Pay higher local taxes so that parts can be used for reef protection				
20.6	Report Illegal burning that causes sedimentation that impact reefs				
20.7	Change my burning habits to help prevent fires that cause sedimentation that impact reefs				

Q22. ***How often do you participate in the following activities to help protect the environment?***

		Never	A few times a year	Once a month	Weekly
21.1	Coastal Cleanup (beach clean up)				
21.2	Community fire watch				
21.3	Reporting Fires				

		Never	A few times a year	Once a month	Weekly
21.4	**Planting trees or native plants to prevention erosion**				
21.5	**Volunteering with a environmental non-governmental organization**				
21.6	**Attending local education/awareness initiatives**				
21.7	**Removing abandon fishing gear**				
21.8	**Reporting marine preserve violations**				
21.9	**Other: Please list**				

Q23. ***How involved are you in making decisions related to the management of coral reefs in Guam?***

1. Not at all involved
2. Slightly involved
3. Moderately involved
4. Involved
5. Very involved
6. Not sure

Q24. ***How effective do you think current management efforts are for each of the following in Merizo?***

Management of:		Very ineffective	Ineffective	Neither effective nor ineffective	Effective	Very effective	Don't know
16.2	**Fisheries Management**						
16.3	**Beach access**						
16.4	**Littering or dumping**						
16.5	**Illegal burning**						
16.6	**Pollution, runoff, and sediment**						
16.7	**Coastal development**						
16.8	**Tourist activities**						
16.9	**Other: Please list**						

Q25. ***In your opinion, who is primarily responsible for management activities to protect coral reefs (and associated marine life)? (check one)***

1. Village residents
2. Village leadership
3. Guam residents

4. The local government
5. The federal government
6. Other, please specify_____

Q26. ***How familiar are you with each of the following local, national, and international coral reef conservation programs?***

		Unfamiliar	Somewhat Familiar	Very familiar
25.1	**Guam Coral Reef Initiative**			
25.2	**NOAA/National Coral Reef Conservation Program**			
25.3	**Micronesia Challenge**			
25.4	**International Coral Reef Initiative**			
25.5	**NOAA Habitat Blueprint**			
25.6	**Guam Nature Alliance (formerly Guam Environmental Education Committee)**			

Q27. ***To what extent would you oppose or support changes to existing management processes in Merizo?***

Fishing and Harvesting Practices		Strongly oppose	Oppose	Neither support nor	Support	Strongly Support	Not sure
26.1	**Regulate commercial fishing**						
26.2	**Create area for only traditional fishing**						
26.3	**Prohibit SCUBA-spear fishing**						
26.4	**Prohibit gill nets (tekken) and drag nets (chenchulu)**						
26.5	**Create more no-catch zones for only fish that eat algae (ex. Laggua, sesyon, tataga, and kichu) [could still catch mafute, gadao, tarakitu, etc)**						
26.6	**Minimum size limits on fish that can be taken**						
26.7	**Species restrictions**						
26.8	**No taking of sea cucumbers and sea urchins inside Cocos Lagoon**						
26.9	**Allow shore-based hook-and-line fishing regulation in Achang Preserve**						

Other Rules/Regulations	Strongly oppose	Oppose	Neither support nor oppose	Support	Strongly support	Don't know
26.10 **Increase community participation in preserve management**						
26.11 **Stricter controls on sediment and runoff from land to the ocean**						
26.12 **Restrictions on coastal development**						
26.13 **Limiting tourist activities in Merizo**						
26.14 **Require permits and certification requirements for water sports tour operators**						
26.15 **Other: Please list**						

Your Sources of Information about Coral Reefs

Q28. ***Which of the following sources would you consider to be your primary sources of information about coral reefs in Merizo? (Please check up to 5).***

1. Newspaper
2. Radio
3. Television
4. Internet
5. Informational signs
6. Community leaders
7. Community/club Meeting
8. Work
9. Friends
10. Family
11. Teachers
12. Religious Leaders
13. Workshop
14. Word of mouth
15. Social Media
16. Federal government agencies (NOAA, EPA)
17. Guam governmental agencies (BSP, DAWR)
18. People who participate in coral reef related activities
19. Magazines
20. Government agency publications
21. Conservation organization publications
22. NOAA sponsored Publications or websites
23. Other: Please list

24. None

Q29. ***Which of the above sources would you consider to be the 3 most trustworthy sources of information about coral reefs in Merizo? (INTERVIEWER, PLEAE WRITE 1 FOR THE MOST TRUSTWORTHY SOURCE. 2 FOR SECOND MOST TRUSTWORTHY AND 3 FOR THIRD TURSTWORTHY AFTER THE SOURCES ABOVE)***

Demographic Questions

I just have a few more questions that will help us to interpret our results. As a reminder, the information you provide is completely confidential.

Q30. ***How many family members live in this household (including yourself)?***

Q31. ***What is your age?***

Q32. ***What is your sex?***
(Check the answer without asking.)

1. Male
2. Female

Q33. ***What is the highest level of education you have completed?***
(Do not read out the choices. Check one choice that applies to the answer.)

1. 8th Grade or Less
2. 9th to 11th Grade
3. 12th Grade, High School Grad, GED
4. 13 to 15 Years (some community college or vocational training)
5. College Graduate
6. Graduate School, Law School, Medical School
7. No Response

Q34. ***What is your current employment status?***

1. Unemployed
2. Employed full-time
3. Employed part-time
4. Retired
5. None of the above (Please specify)_____

Q35. ***In which sector are you employed?***

(Ask only for those who check employed full or part time. (Do not read out the choices. Check all choices that apply to the answer.)

1. Management, professional etc.
2. Service & Tourism
3. Retail Sales
4. Fishing/ Aquaculture
5. Construction & Maintenance
6. Transportation
7. Government (Federal)
8. Government (Local)
9. Agriculture
10. Education
11. Law Enforcement
12. Health / Medical
13. Communications
14. Other: Please specify_____

Q36. ***Is your occupation affiliated with the marine environment/industry in Merizo?***

1. Yes
2. No
3. Not sure

Q37. ***If YES, please circle the industry that best fits your primary profession.***

1. Commercial fishing
2. Charter fishing
3. Dive/snorkel operation
4. Marina/boat operation
5. Other watersports
6. Eco-tour operation
7. Ecological research
8. Ocean/coastal management
9. Artisan
10. Education
11. Other: _____

Q38. ***What is your annual household income?***

1. Under $10,000
2. $10,000 to $19,999
3. $20,000 to $29,999
4. $30,000 to $39,999
5. $40,000 to $49,999
6. $50,000 to $59,999

7. $60,000 to $74,999
8. $75,000 to $99,999
9. $100,000 to $149,999
10. $150,000 or More
11. No Response

Q39. ***How many years have you lived at this location? _____ Years***

Q40. ***What race or ethnicity do you consider yourself? (Please select all that apply)***

1. Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
2. Asian
3. Black or African American
4. White
5. American Indian or Alaska Native
6. Hispanic or Latino
7. Chamorro
8. Carolinian
9. Chuukese
10. Filipino
11. Japanese
12. Yapese
13. Korean
14. Marshallese
15. Palauan
16. Pohnepeian
17. Vietnamese
18. Other/Mixed _____

Q41. ***What is the primary language(s) spoken in your household?***
(Do not read out the choices. Check all choices that apply to the answer.)

1. English
2. Chamorro
3. Tagalog
4. Japanese
5. Other: Please list
6. No Response

Q42. ***Please check each group of which you a member?***

1. Chamber of Commerce
2. Environmental Group. Which one? _____

3. Local religious or community organization. Which one? _____
4. Other, please specify
5. Is not a member of any group

Q43. ***Do you own a boat?***

1. Yes
2. No

THANK YOU (in various languages)

Manell-Geus Habitat Focus Area
KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEWS
Stakeholder Interview Guide

Name: _____ Day: _____

Village: _____ Time: _____

Hafa adai! Thank you for agreeing to do this interview. My name is _____. I am part of a team that is collecting data on behalf of the National Marine Fisheries Service for the Habitat Blueprint. You have been selected to participate in this interview due to your experience [insert activity] in Merizo. The purpose of the interview today is to learn more about your experiences with [insert activity], coral reefs and the environment in Merizo. This interview will last for about one hour and a half. The information you provide will help us understand [insert activity] practices in Merizo, changes in [insert activity] practices and reef condition over time, and the impact of fishing regulations on the community.

Your participation is voluntary. You may be assured of complete anonymity. To protect your privacy, nothing you tell me will be personally attributed to you in any written documents that result from this session. Any specific location information you provide will be generalized. At any time during our conversation, please feel free to let me know if you have any questions or if you would rather not answer any specific question. You can also stop the interview at any time for any reason. Please remember that we want to know what you think and feel and that there are no right or wrong answers.

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 90 minutes for completing the survey, 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 Valerie Brown, NFMS, (Valerie.Brown@noaa.gov).

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

Is it OK if I record this interview today? We are recording the session because we don't want to miss any of your comments. The recording and all raw data will be destroyed at the end of this project.

Do you have any questions before we begin?

Thank you for taking the time to assist us with this effort. Do you have any questions before we begin?

Introductory Questions:

1.) How long have you been [insert activity] in Merizo? [Who taught you or how did you learn? Memorable [insert activity] experiences?]
2.) What is your favorite thing about this activity?

Activities over Time:

3.) How often do people [insert activity] in Merizo? Has this changed over time? Why?
4.) What areas do you [insert activity] in? (Broad zones – not specific. Use map of Manell-Geus areas to point out.) Follow up: Are there places that you no longer [insert activity] in, but that you used to use? Why don't you [insert activity] in these areas now?
5.) How has the condition of the resource in these areas changed over time?

Observations and Recommendations:

6.) Can [insert activity] impact coral reefs? How can users avoid these impacts? Do you feel that rules or regulations are necessary to avoid impacts to reefs from [insert activity]? If yes, what type? What are some approaches to minimize impacts without issuing rules or regulations?

7.} What other types of activities have you observed in the areas you use for [insert activity]? (Probe further: Which are currently used? Have people stopped doing xyz now?)

8.) Have you ever experienced or noticed interactions between people engaged in [insert activity] and other user groups? Can you describe how the presence of these other users affects your [insert activity]?

Reflection:

9.) Are you teaching kids in your family to [insert activity]? (Why or why not)

10.)How would you describe the future of [insert activity] in Merizo?

Thank you for your time!

Manell-Geus Habitat Focus Area
KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEW GUIDE
Fishers

Name: _____ Day: _____

Village: _____ Time: _____

Hafa adai! Thank you for agreeing to do this interview. My name is _____. I am part of a team that is collecting data on behalf of the National Marine Fisheries Service for the Habitat Blueprint. You have been selected to participate in this interview due to your experience as a fisher in Merizo. The purpose of the interview today is to learn more about your experiences with fishing, coral reefs and the environment in Merizo. This interview will last for about one hour and a half. The information you provide will help us understand fishing practices in Merizo, changes in fishing practices and reef condition over time, and the impact of fishing regulations on the community so that .

Your participation is voluntary. You may be assured of complete anonymmity. To protect your information, nothing you tell me will be personally attributed to you in any written documents that result from this session. Any specific location information you provide will be generalized to protect your fishing sites. At any time during our conversation, please feel free to let me know if you have any questions or if you would rather not answer any specific question. You can also stop the interview at any time for any reason. Please remember that we want to know what you think and feel and that there are no right or wrong answers.

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 90 minutes for completing the survey, 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 Valerie Brown, NFMS (Valerie.brown@noaa.gov).
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Is it OK if I record this interview today? We are recording the session because we don't want to miss any of your comments. The recording and all raw data will be destroyed at the end of this project.

Do you have any questions before we begin?

Introductory Questions:

1.) How long have you been fishing in Merizo?

Describe Fishing in Merizo:

2.) People fish for a lot of reasons. What are some of the most important reasons that fishers in Merizo fish? (How much keep for themselves? How much is sold? How much is shared? Can you make a living by fishing? Could fishers in the past?
3.) What types of fishing methods are used in Merizo? Has this changed over your time as a fisher?

Changes Over Time:

4.) How have the reefs in Merizo changed over time? (prompt about algal bloom, reef degradation)

5.) How have the fish catches changed during your time as a fisher? In your opinion, what are the factors that have led to this change?

Recommendations:

6.) What do you think should be done to improve reefs in Merizo? (Who should do it? What should they do? What are the challenges?)
7.) What do you think should be done to improve reef fish size and numbers in Merizo?
8.) How should researchers share their information with fishers? Do you think that Fishers would like to help collect data?

Reflection:

9.) How would you describe the future of fishing in Merizo? (Are the youth learning to fish?)

Thank you for your time!

Manell-Geus Habitat Focus Area
FOCUS GROUP GUIDE
Residents Impacted by Wildfire

Date: _____ Interview Completed by:_____

Focus group participants: _____

Hafa adai! Thank you for agreeing to join a focus group discussion tonight. My name is _____. I am part of a team that is collecting data on behalf of the National Marine Fisheries Service for the Habitat Blueprint. You have been selected to participate in this focus group because you live in an area of Merizo that has been affected by wildfires. Our discussion will focus on fires in Merizo and its impacts on the community, the reef and fishery. We will also discuss effective ways to prevent fire and mitigate its impacts. The discussion will last about two hours. The information will help us understand fire impacts on the community and the environment so that we can work with the broader community and government agencies to minimize the impacts of fire on both the community and the reefs.

Your opinions on the issues affecting the village are very important to us. There are no wrong answers in this discussion, but there will likely be differing points of view. Please feel free to share your point of view even if it differs from what others have said. Keep in mind that we're just as interested in negative comments as positive comments and at times the negative comments are the most helpful.

Your participation in this focus group is totally voluntary. Are you willing to answer our questions?

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 120 minutes for completing the survey, 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 Valerie Brown, NFMS (Valerie.Brown@noaa.gov).

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.

You've probably noticed the voice recorder. We are recording the session because we don't want to miss any of your comments. People often say very helpful things in these discussions and we can't write fast enough to get them all down. We will be on a first name basis tonight and nothing you tell me will be personally attributed to you in any written documents that result from this session. The recording and all raw data will be destroyed at the end of this project.

Do you have any questions before we begin?

Well, let's begin. Let's find out some more about each other by going around the table. Tell us your name and how long you've lived in Merizo.

1.) How often do wildfires occur in Merizo?
2.) How are these fires started?
3.) What should people do when they see a fire? Is this widely understood by the community? If not, what should be done?
4.) How has fire affected the people in your village? (Probe: health, property damage, smoke, any positive effects?) What are the most severe impacts?
5.) Has the community observed any links between fires and changes on the reef and fishing? (probe: sedimentation, habitat, fishery) How have these changes affected people? Who are being impacted? If people don't understand the impacts and all these linkages, what should be done?

6.) How do people in Merizo deal with these fires? What is currently being done to prevent the fires? What would be the most effective way for the community to prevent fires? Who should be involved?
7.) What would be the best way to address the impacts from wildfire on the reef?
8.) How could we engage the people in Merizo to participate in activities that mitigate wildfire? Would residents be willing to participate in a village fire watch program? Do you think, residents would volunteer for a community wildfire fighting team?
9.) What type of assistance to mitigate fire and its impact is most needed by the government?

Thank you for your time!

Manell-Geus Habitat Focus Area
FOCUS GROUP GUIDE
Residents Impacted by Flooding

Date: _____ Interview Completed by:_____

Focus group participants: _____

Hafa adai! Thank you for agreeing to join a focus group discussion tonight. My name is _____. I am part of a team that is collecting data on behalf of the National Marine Fisheries Service for the Habitat Blueprint. You have been selected to participate in this focus group because you live in an area of Merizo that has been affected by flooding. Tonight our discussion will focus on flooding issues in Merizo and related impacts on the community, the reef and fishery. We will discuss effective ways to prevent flooding and mitigate its impacts. The discussion will last about two hours. The information will help us understand fire impacts on the community and the environment so that we can work with the broader community and government agencies to minimize the impacts of flooding on both the community and the reefs.

Your opinions on the issues affecting the village are very important to us. There are no wrong answers in this discussion, but there will likely be differing points of view. Please feel free to share your point of view even if it differs from what others have said. Keep in mind that we're just as interested in negative comments as positive comments and at times the negative comments are the most helpful.

Your participation in this focus group is totally voluntary. Are you willing to answer our questions?

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 120 minutes for completing the survey, 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 Valerie Brown, NFMS (Valerie.Brown@noaa.gov).

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

You've probably noticed the voice recorder. We are recording the session because we don't want to miss any of your comments. People often say very helpful things in these discussions and we can't write fast enough to get them all down. We will be on a first name basis tonight and nothing you tell me will be personally attributed to you in any written documents that result from this session. The recording and all raw data will be destroyed at the end of this project.

Do you have any questions before we begin?

Well, let's begin. Let's find out some more about each other by going around the table. Tell us your name and how long you've lived in Merizo.

1.) How often are you affected by flooding in Merizo?
2.) Has the flooding gotten better or worse over time? What are the reasons?
3.) Does the community think that the flooding will decrease in the future or get worse? Why so?
4.) How does the community prepare when flooding is expected?

5.) What are some of the ways that people have been affected by flooding in the village? (Probe: health, property damage, access to services, any positive effects?)
6.) Has the community observed any links between flooding and changes on the reef and fishing? What are some of these? What about changes in the rivers and to animals there like shrimp (uhang) and eels (asuli)?
7.) What would be the best way to address these impacts on the reef and fishing? What about the rivers and river animals? What type of assistance is most needed by the government to address this?
8.) What are the best ways that residents can help minimize impacts from flooding? What would be the best way to engage them?
9.) Do you think residents would be willing to participate in efforts to help reduce flooding? What is the best way to gain their assistance?

Thank you for your time!

A. Annual Report Outline and Review Schedules
B. Considerations for Monitoring Protected Species Interactions
C. Statistical Control Chart Approach for Monitoring Protected Species Interactions
D. Discussion on Effective Monitoring of Protected Species under the FEP Annual Reports
9. Council's Research Priorities
A. Five-year Research Priorities
B. Cooperative Research Priorities
C. Discussion
10. Public Comment
11. Committee Discussion and Recommendations
12. Other Business & Next Meeting

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Kitty M. Simonds, (808) 522–8220 (voice) or (808) 522–8226 (fax), at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: May 5, 2015.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. 2015–11117 Filed 5–7–15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648–XD937

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of a public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold a joint meeting of its Special Coral Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) and Coral Advisory Panel (AP).

DATES: The meeting will convene on Wednesday, May 27, 2015, from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council's office, 2203 North Lois Avenue, Suite 1100, Tampa, FL 33607.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Morgan Kilgour, Ph.D., Fishery Biologist, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; telephone: (813) 348–1630; fax: (813) 348–1711; email: *morgan.kilgour@gulfcouncil.org.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The items of discussion on the agenda are as follows:

Joint Special Coral Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) and Coral Advisory Panel (AP) Meeting Agenda, Wednesday, May 27, 2015, 8:30 a.m. Until 4:30 p.m.

I. Election of Coral Advisory Panel (AP) chair
II. Adoption of the Agenda
III. Approval of Minutes From the April 24, 2014, Joint Coral SSC/AP Meeting
IV. Council Charge—''to determine the criteria and boundaries, and other specifics for potential sites, and once that has been determined, that this group meet with representatives of any potentially impacted fisheries and members of law enforcement.''
V. Plan of Work
VI. Review Report From the Coral Working Group
a. Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary Proposed Boundary Expansion Update
b. Pulley Ridge Proposed Boundary Expansion Update
VII. Discuss Individual Sites Identified by the Coral Working Group
a. Review and Discuss Information
b. Evaluate Appropriate Boundaries or Areas
c. Make Recommendations on Appropriate Areas
d. Potential Fishery Interactions
VIII. Other Business
a. Discuss Timeline for Next Steps
Adjourn

This agenda may be modified as necessary to facilitate the discussion of pertinent materials up to and during the scheduled meeting.

For meeting materials see folder ''Joint Special Coral SSC and Coral AP Meeting—2015–05'' on Gulf Council file server. To access the file server, the URL is *https://public.gulfcouncil.org:5001/webman/index.cgi,* or go to the Council's Web site and click on the FTP link in the lower left of the Council Web site (*http://www.gulfcouncil.org*). The username and password are both ''gulfguest''. The meeting will be webcast over the Internet. A link to the webcast will be available on the Council's Web site, *http://www.gulfcouncil.org.*

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

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Kathy Pereira at the Council Office (see **ADDRESSES**), at least 5 working days prior to the meeting.

Note: The times and sequence specified in this agenda are subject to change.

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

Dated: May 5, 2015.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. 2015–11118 Filed 5–7–15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Socioeconomic Survey—Manell-Geus (Guam)

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 July 7, 2015.

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 Peter Edwards, (301) 563–1145 Ext 145 or at *Peter.Edwards@noaa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

This request is for a new information collection. The purpose of this

information collection is to obtain information from individuals in Merizo, Guam. Specifically, NOAA is seeking information on the knowledge, attitudes and perceptions of watershed and coral reef conditions, as well as information on knowledge and attitudes related to specific reef protection activities in the Manell-Geus watershed and adjacent waters. In addition, this survey will provide for the ongoing collection of social and economic data related to the communities affected by coral reef conservation programs.

Manell-Geus is one of ten sites in the nation selected as a focus area for NOAA's Habitat Blueprint initiative. Community support and engagement are key elements towards successfully building resilience. We intend to use the information collected through this instrument for research purposes as well as measuring and improving the results of our coral reef protection programs. Because many of our efforts to protect reefs rely on education and changing attitudes toward reef protection, the information collected will allow NOAA staff to ensure programs are designed appropriately at the start, future program evaluation efforts are as successful as possible, and outreach efforts are targeting the intended recipients with useful information.

II. Method of Collection

Information will be collected using a combination of approaches namely household surveys, focus groups, and key informant interviews. The combination of these approaches is the most efficient and effective way to collect this kind of information at the village level for this U.S. jurisdiction.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0648–xxxx.

Form Number: NA.

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

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 400.

Estimated Time per Response: 25 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 167.

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.

Sarah Brabson,

NOAA PRA Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2015–11206 Filed 5–7–15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–JS–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket ID PTO–C–2015–0017]

Title: National Medal of Technology and Innovation Nomination Evaluation Committee Meeting

AGENCY: United States Patent and Trademark Office, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of closed meeting.

SUMMARY: The National Medal of Technology and Innovation (NMTI) Nomination Evaluation Committee will meet in closed session on Tuesday, May 19, 2015. The primary purpose of the meeting is to discuss the relative merits of persons, teams, and companies nominated for the 2013 and 2014 NMTI. The Committee will consider nominations from both years in order to expedite the awards process.

DATES: The meeting will convene Tuesday, May 19, 2015, at approximately 9 a.m., and adjourn at approximately 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the United States Patent and Trademark Office, 600 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Palafoutas, Program Manager, National Medal of Technology and Innovation Program, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313; telephone (571) 272–9821; or by electronic mail: *nmti@uspto.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C. app. 2, notice is hereby given that the NMTI Nomination Evaluation Committee, chartered to the United States Department of Commerce, will meet at the United States Patent and Trademark Office campus in Alexandria, Virginia.

The Secretary of Commerce is responsible for recommending to the President prospective NMTI recipients. The NMTI Nomination Evaluation Committee evaluates the nominations received pursuant to public solicitation and makes its recommendations for the Medal to the Secretary. Committee members are distinguished experts in the fields of science, technology, business, and patent law drawn from both the public and private sectors and are appointed by the Secretary for three-year terms.

The NMTI Nomination Evaluation Committee was established in accordance with the FACA. The Committee meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the FACA and 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(6) and (9)(B), because the discussion of the relative merit of the Medal nominations is likely to disclose information of a personal nature..

The Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Secretary for Administration, United States Department of Commerce, formally determined on April 16, 2015 pursuant to Section 10(d) of the FACA, that the meeting may be closed because Committee members are concerned with matters that are within the purview of 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(6) and (9)(B). Due to closure of this meeting, copies of any minutes of the meeting will not be available. A copy of the determination is available for public inspection at the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Dated: May 3, 2015.

Michelle K. Lee,

Deputy Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property andDeputy Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[FR Doc. 2015–11010 Filed 5–7–15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–16–P

COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement List Additions

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Additions to the Procurement List.

SUMMARY: This action adds products to the Procurement List that will be