

NOTICE OF OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET ACTION

Date 05/30/2018

Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, OMB has taken action on your request received 04/19/2018

ACTION REQUESTED: New collection (Request for a new OMB Control Number)

TYPE OF REVIEW REQUESTED: Regular

ICR REFERENCE NUMBER: 201804-0648-007

AGENCY ICR TRACKING NUMBER:

TITLE: Economic Value of Wildlife Viewing Passengers in Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary (SBNMS)

LIST OF INFORMATION COLLECTIONS: See next page

OMB ACTION: Approved with change

OMB CONTROL NUMBER: 0648-0763

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: 05/31/2021

DISCONTINUE DATE:

BURDEN:	RESPONSES	HOURS	COSTS
Previous	0	0	0
New	3,000	400	0
Difference			
Change due to New Statute	0	0	0
Change due to Agency Discretion	3,000	400	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
Deputy and Acting Administrator,
Office Of Information And Regulatory Affairs

List of ICs

IC Title	Form No.	Form Name	CFR Citation
SBNMS Passenger Screener	NA	SBNMS passenger screener	
SBNMS Passenger Mailback Survey	NA	SBNMS Passenger Full 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	2. OMB control number b. <input type="checkbox"/> None a. _____ - _____
3. Type of information collection (<i>check one</i>) a. <input type="checkbox"/> New Collection b. <input type="checkbox"/> Revision of a currently approved collection c. <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of a currently approved collection d. <input type="checkbox"/> Reinstatement, without change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired e. <input type="checkbox"/> Reinstatement, with change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired f. <input type="checkbox"/> Existing collection in use without an OMB control number For b-f, note Item A2 of Supporting Statement instructions	4. Type of review requested (<i>check one</i>) a. <input type="checkbox"/> Regular submission b. <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency - Approval requested by _____ / _____ / _____ c. <input type="checkbox"/> Delegated
	5. Small entities Will this information collection have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	6. Requested expiration date a. <input type="checkbox"/> Three years from approval date b. <input type="checkbox"/> Other Specify: _____ / _____
7. Title	
8. Agency form number(s) (<i>if applicable</i>)	
9. Keywords	
10. Abstract	
11. Affected public (<i>Mark primary with "P" and all others that apply with "x"</i>) a. ___ Individuals or households d. ___ Farms b. ___ Business or other for-profit e. ___ Federal Government c. ___ Not-for-profit institutions f. ___ State, Local or Tribal Government	12. Obligation to respond (<i>check one</i>) a. <input type="checkbox"/> Voluntary b. <input type="checkbox"/> Required to obtain or retain benefits c. <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory
13. Annual recordkeeping and reporting burden a. Number of respondents _____ b. Total annual responses _____ 1. Percentage of these responses collected electronically _____ % c. Total annual hours requested _____ d. Current OMB inventory _____ e. Difference _____ f. Explanation of difference 1. Program change _____ 2. Adjustment _____	14. Annual reporting and recordkeeping cost burden (<i>in thousands of dollars</i>) a. Total annualized capital/startup costs _____ b. Total annual costs (O&M) _____ c. Total annualized cost requested _____ d. Current OMB inventory _____ e. Difference _____ f. Explanation of difference 1. Program change _____ 2. Adjustment _____
15. Purpose of information collection (<i>Mark primary with "P" and all others that apply with "X"</i>) a. ___ Application for benefits e. ___ Program planning or management b. ___ Program evaluation f. ___ Research c. ___ General purpose statistics g. ___ Regulatory or compliance d. ___ Audit	16. Frequency of recordkeeping or reporting (<i>check all that apply</i>) a. <input type="checkbox"/> Recordkeeping b. <input type="checkbox"/> Third party disclosure c. <input type="checkbox"/> Reporting 1. <input type="checkbox"/> On occasion 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Semi-annually 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Annually 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Biennially 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe) _____
17. Statistical methods Does this information collection employ statistical methods <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	18. Agency Contact (person who can best answer questions regarding the content of this submission) Name: _____ Phone: _____

19. Certification for Paperwork Reduction Act Submissions

On behalf of this Federal Agency, I certify that the collection of information encompassed by this request complies with 5 CFR 1320.9

NOTE: The text of 5 CFR 1320.9, and the related provisions of 5 CFR 1320.8(b)(3), appear at the end of the instructions. *The certification is to be made with reference to those regulatory provisions as set forth in the instructions.*

The following is a summary of the topics, regarding the proposed collection of information, that the certification covers:

- (a) It is necessary for the proper performance of agency functions;
- (b) It avoids unnecessary duplication;
- (c) It reduces burden on small entities;
- (d) It used plain, coherent, and unambiguous terminology that is understandable to respondents;
- (e) Its implementation will be consistent and compatible with current reporting and recordkeeping practices;
- (f) It indicates the retention period for recordkeeping requirements;
- (g) It informs respondents of the information called for under 5 CFR 1320.8(b)(3):
 - (i) Why the information is being collected;
 - (ii) Use of information;
 - (iii) Burden estimate;
 - (iv) Nature of response (voluntary, required for a benefit, mandatory);
 - (v) Nature and extent of confidentiality; and
 - (vi) Need to display currently valid OMB control number;
- (h) It was developed by an office that has planned and allocated resources for the efficient and effective management and use of the information to be collected (see note in Item 19 of instructions);
- (i) It uses effective and efficient statistical survey methodology; and
- (j) It makes appropriate use of information technology.

If you are unable to certify compliance with any of the provisions, identify the item below and explain the reason in Item 18 of the Supporting Statement.

Signature of Senior Official or designee

Date

Agency Certification (signature of Assistant Administrator, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Line Office Chief Information Officer, head of MB staff for L.O.s, or of the Director of a Program or StaffOffice)

Signature

Date

Signature of NOAA Clearance Officer

Signature

Date

SUPPORTING STATEMENT

SOCIOECONOMICS OF GUIDED WILDLIFE VIEWING OPERATIONS IN THE STELLWAGEN BANK NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

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 to benefit natural resource managers in Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary (SBNMS). The National Ocean Service (NOS) proposes to collect information from commercial wildlife viewing passengers to ascertain the economic value of marine wildlife via the ocean recreational industry in the Stellwagen Bank/Gulf of Maine region.

Up-to-date socioeconomic data is needed to support the conservation and management goals of SBNMS to strengthen and improve conservation of marine wildlife, including whales, pinnipeds, seals, and seabirds within the jurisdiction of the sanctuary and to satisfy legal mandates under the [National Marine Sanctuaries Act](#) (16 U.S.C. 1431 et seq), [Endangered Species Act](#) (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq), [Marine Mammal Protection Act](#) (16 U.S.C. 1361 et seq), [National Environmental Policy Act](#) (42 U.S.C. 4321), Executive Order 12866 (EO 12866), and other pertinent statutes.

SBNMS is currently in the process of updating the 2010 Management Plan, and has identified a lack of baseline socioeconomic information on ocean recreation businesses. The information is not available to assess the possible economic benefits of marine wildlife protection to the local economy, or the potential impact on ocean recreation businesses. The type of data targeted for this collection; that is, user demographic profiles, importance/satisfaction of wildlife viewing trips and expenditures of trips that involve wildlife viewing has never been collected in this region. Thus, current information on the importance/satisfaction of marine wildlife viewing and the expenditures generated from these activities is needed. **The primary focus for the survey will be to gather data on the non-consumptive, importance/satisfaction and expenditures of marine wildlife viewing passengers.** Specifically, researchers will collect data to help determine the contribution of marine wildlife watching passengers to the economy in the Stellwagen Bank region. Expenditures will be used in IMPLAN to estimate the economic contributions of the activity (jobs, income, GDP and value-added). IMPLAN is an input-output modeling software that takes expenditure data in combination with BEA data to provide estimates about economic contributions (jobs, income, GDP, value-added).

Passengers of wildlife viewing vessels include whale watching, seabird charters, kayaking, SCUBA diving, seal and great white excursions, and paddle-boarding. Collection of this data will help provide estimates of the potential economic benefits of the diversity of marine wildlife in this region.

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.

General Overview

The purpose of this information collection is to obtain the information necessary to calculate estimates and build tools that can be used by natural resource managers at the SBNMS to evaluate the value of whales, pinnipeds, seals, and seabirds within the sanctuary and the surrounding region, as well as estimating potential impacts of alternative management options on the local tourism industry. Socioeconomic data will be gathered from commercial whale and marine wildlife observation operation passengers and will be used to develop social and demographic profiles of passengers, measure their attitudes and preferences and their expenditures.

The unit of measurement is the passenger. The only personally identifiable information that may be collected is their e-mail address. This survey will be implemented via paper versions and online. For respondents who select the paper version, no PII will be collected. For those who choose the online version, their e-mail address will be collected so that we can send them a reminder e-mail with the survey link and their respondent ID number. The PII will not be included in the respondent's survey record and will be maintained by Emerson College and destroyed at the end of the data collection. The PII will not be shared with anyone outside of Emerson College.

Who will use this information?

Data gathered during this collection will be used by SBNMS and, more generally, the Office of the National Marine Sanctuaries. The surveys will be conducted by staff and graduate students at the Emerson College in Boston, MA. SBNMS will use this data to inform their upcoming management plan update.

How frequently will this information be used?

This information will be collected this year (2018) and possible in 2020 or 2021 to monitor any changes in expenditures or attitudes over time. It is anticipated that the data gathered from this collection will be used on an as-needed basis. Some of the elements of this submission may be replicated to support socioeconomic monitoring in future years.

For what purpose will the information be used?

Data gathered during this collection will be used by SBNMS and, more generally, the Office of the National Marine Sanctuaries, to support a stakeholder outreach process conducted in and by

Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary. Completing this information collection will give SBNMS wildlife viewing operation stakeholders fair representation in the design of management strategies by providing information to support the assessment of socioeconomic impacts of management alternatives. The data may potentially be used for conduct of socioeconomic impact analyses under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Executive Order 12866 (Regulatory Impact Review) and an Initial and Final Regulatory Flexibility Analyses (impacts on small businesses). Finally, the information collected also has potential to be used by resource managers for outreach and education purposes.

Compliance with Information Quality Guidelines

It is anticipated that the information collected will be disseminated to the public or used to support publicly disseminated information. NOAA National Ocean Service, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries 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](#). All analyses and reports developed in this project will be peer reviewed before release to the public.

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.

Respondents may complete the surveys online or on paper.

4. Describe efforts to identify duplication.

The research team consulted with resource managers at the SBNMS to determine what types of socioeconomic data collection activities were planned or presently ongoing in the region related to whale and marine wildlife watching industries. To avoid survey fatigue and overburdening passengers with data collections, the team consulted with researchers who have projects underway or planned to determine if there was overlap of target populations. We identified no projects that included our target population of whale and marine wildlife watching passengers for collections. The literature review did not reveal any more recent efforts completed or underway to collect similar information. Additionally, representatives of the ocean recreation industry were consulted to inquire about whether they were currently or recently involved in the same or similar type research. The response was that they were not. The National Marine Fisheries Service was also contacted to verify they were not planning a similar study, and they were not. Further, ONMS reached out to IFAW to confirm they were not planning to replicate their whale watching survey from 2008.

Researchers conducted a literature review to determine if and to what extent existing information might meet the needs of SBNMS. There are currently no surveys in progress (other than this one) and none that have been completed within the past ten years to address the attitudes and perceptions and economic contributions that wildlife viewing passengers make to the sanctuary.

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

A few wildlife viewing operations were contacted in advance to notify them of intent to conduct this data from their passengers. They stated they prefer the data collection to occur on the vessels and not at the port after the vessels return. Also, a couple of operations were contacted about the survey to receive their feedback.

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

Without this collection, a critical data gap will remain that could inhibit the ability for resource managers to conduct a thorough social impact assessment that will inform the Management Plan Review process.

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

All data collection will be consistent with OMB guidelines.

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

A Federal Register Notice published on June 20, 2017 (82 FR 28048I), solicited public comments. One comment was received. The Whale and Dolphin Conservation and The Humane Society of the United States wrote a joint letter of support for this proposed research. Our response is listed at the end of this document.

The draft survey was also presented to a few local operators in SBNMS, the Marine Mammal Commission, Allison of Whale SENSE, and National Marine Fisheries Service

(Kristy Wallmo). Feedback was received and incorporated into the final survey. The feedback generally included comments about question wording, organization and questions about wildlife harassment.

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

Procedures have been established to protect the personal information provided by respondents. All personal identification information will be removed from all databases sent to NOAA or distributed to the public. Each individual respondent will be assigned an identification number in the database so the data from different portions of the survey can be linked for analysis. Release of proprietary information is further protected by the [Freedom of Information Act](#) (5 USC 522 (b) (4)) concerning trade secrets or proprietary information, such as commercial business and financial records. All non-personal or non-proprietary information will be available for distribution. Any personal identifying information and proprietary information will be removed before data is shared, to protect the information of each individual and business.

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

No such questions will be asked.

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

The affected public for this collection are the passengers of marine wildlife watching businesses in the Stellwagen Bank Region. There are two seasons of interest for data collection; the summer and the spring/fall season. Our goal is to receive 500 completed surveys in each season. Based upon past response rates for similar surveys, we expected a 40% response rate for the expenditure surveys and a 60% response rate for the importance/satisfaction questionnaire when they were separate; for this application, they are one survey so we expect a 50% response rate. To do this, 1,000 persons must take the screener (e-mail address and a couple of demographic questions) in each season. We do not know if there will be a difference in response rates between the mailback and online versions.

Season	Screener (time/survey)	Importance/Satisfaction & Expenditure Survey Expected # of Respondents (time/survey)	Total Burden Hours
Summer	1,000 (2 minutes)	500 (20 minutes)	200 hours
Spring/Fall	1,000 (2 minutes)	500 (20 minutes)	200 hours
Total Burden Hours	66.7 (67) hours	333.33 (333) hours	400 hours

Thus, we are requesting a maximum of 400 burden hours for this collection.

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.

FY 2018: Federal Staff Time \$2,000. Contract staff time \$10,000. Travel Costs \$5,000.
Total: \$17,000.

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

There are no program changes or adjustments.

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

All reports will be peer reviewed per NOAA standards under the Information Quality Act and posted on the ONMS Socioeconomic Web site:

<http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/science/socioeconomic>

A new page(s) will be set up on this website to provide the project report to the general public. All data and documentation will be put on CD-ROM and will be made available to the general public, subject to any masking of the data required to protect privacy.

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.

Response to Comments: WDC & The Humane Society of the United States

We agree that a survey of recreational viewing operations in SBNMS will provide updated information.

The survey will be conducted for SBNMS and the surrounding region. The remaining 27 operations may be operating in the larger region. The estimate of 40 operations is based on a study completed by IFAW in 2008.

We plan to conduct the on-site survey using volunteers. However, the commenters are correct in that there will be mailing and printing costs. The cost estimate will be adjusted accordingly.

There will be an importance/satisfaction section on the survey. We will have conversations with the site to determine if an expectation module of questions would be useful. However, interviewing respondents both before and after the whale operation will increase the amount of time, number of volunteers and printing costs associated with this survey. This is not something we are able to accommodate.

As with all sanctuary socioeconomic analysis a detailed technical appendix of survey development, implementation and analysis will be developed and peer reviewed prior to publication. Further, all data is available for public request subject to privacy protocols and policies.

Lastly, the commenter discusses concerns with in-person interviews after whale watching trips. Sanctuaries has engaged in interviewing respondents after recreational trips and in many locations has worked with state, local and private business to obtain necessary permissions for interviewing respondents. If necessary, we will reach out to the appropriate Harbormasters to obtain permission.

SUPPORTING STATEMENT

SOCIOECONOMICS OF GUIDED WILDLIFE VIEWING OPERATIONS IN THE STELLWAGEN BANK NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

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.

After conversations with SBNMS site staff and a couple wildlife viewing operations, it has been determined that the screening surveys for passengers will be conducted on the boat rides back from wildlife viewing and not at the port as passengers exit the vessel. There are two approaches that respondents will have.

1. Provide their e-mail and answer two demographic questions: age and gender. This information will be used to determine if there is non-response bias.
 - a. Take a postcard with their respondent ID number and a weblink to Survey Monkey to complete the demographic, importance/satisfaction module and the expenditure module of the questionnaire.
 - b. Take a postage-paid printed copy of demographic, importance/satisfaction module and the expenditure module of the questionnaire to mail back. The paper version would also include their ID number.

The table below summarizes each survey form component number of participants (completes) and the net expected response rates for each component. We expect a 94.6 percent net response rate of those eligible wildlife passengers for the on-board vessel survey. We require 1,000 screeners for each season. Using past experience, we expect roughly 40% response rate to the expenditure mailback and a 60% response rate for the satisfaction mailback. These response rates will yield sample sizes adequate for reliably estimating all items in the mailbacks.

There are two steps in calculating the expected net response rate in our survey of visitors using airport surveys. We will calculate the expected response rate at each step and the cumulative response rate across all three steps using AAPOR Response Rate 1, which is the minimal expected net response rate. We do two scenarios below given different ranges of assumptions.

AAPOR Response Rate 1 – Wildlife Passenger On-Site Surveys

$$\text{Response Rate 1} = I/(I + P) + (R + NC + O) + (UH + UO)$$

Where

I = Interview

P = Partial Interview

R= Refusals

NC = No contact

O = Other

UH = Unknown household

UO = unknown other

Step 1: On-site interview on wildlife viewing vessels using the Tally Sheet to obtain some of the parameters of the AAPOR response rates.

$$2,000/[(2,000+13) + (100 + 0 + 0)] = \mathbf{94.65\%}$$

Although we have done surveys on wildlife viewing vessels, based upon similar on-site interviews at airports we assume 13 partial interviews (P) to get 2,000 completes.

We assume 100 refusals (R) per 2,000 completed interviews based on past experience at airports. Since this is the first time we are implementing a survey on a wildlife viewing vessels, we can only rely upon past experience where we have contacted people on-site to recruit them to conduct a longer survey.

NC, O, UH and UO are either irrelevant or assumed zero in our application.

Step 2: Mailbacks for the on-site wildlife viewing recruitment.

With the above assumptions for response rates for the two mailbacks, we have net response rates for the mailback of 47.3% (.9465 * .50).

Wildlife Viewing Survey Response Rates

On-Site Short Form (Screener)		
Number of Participants	2,000	Half the sample (1,000) will be administered in the summer season and the other half (1,000) will be administered in the spring/fall season
Expected Response Rates	94.65%	
Mailback/On-Line Survey		
Number of Participants	1,000	Half the sample (500) will be administered in the summer season and the other half (500) will be administered in the spring/fall season
Expected Response Rates	47.3%	

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.

Methodology for Sample Selection

Teams of two will be deployed to wildlife viewing vessels and tours. On the return trip, the vessel captain will announce the surveyor's presence on the boat and ask passengers to participate if they are approached. Surveyors will begin to approach respondents to conduct the short or long screener (respondent's choice). Each surveyor will start in a different location on the boat and ask respondents to answer the screener in the order that they see them. This means if 10 people are standing along the railing in a line, the surveyor will start with the person closest to them and move down the line asking each person, as time permits. Only one respondent from each group will be selected, and it will be the first person over the age of 18 (or closest to the respondent) as they move down the line.

Since both the short and longer screener will ask some demographic questions, this data will be used to identify if there is any non-response bias between those who completed the screener and mailbacks/online surveys or those who completed the screener, but not the mailbacks/online surveys. If non-response bias is detected, then a combination of multivariate and multiplicative weights will be used. This usually requires some iteration since full multiplicative weights are generally not possible with sample sizes we will be obtaining.

Step 1: First we will run Kolmogorov – Smirnov Two-sample tests for differences in continuous factors for respondents versus non-respondents and Chi-square tests with Bonferroni adjustments for experiment-wide error. Second, we will run probit and logit equations on respondents versus non-respondents (1= respondent and 0=non-respondent). Explanatory variables come from the wildlife viewing on-site form including: age and gender. This will determine what factors might be related to non-response.

Step 2: Check to see if any of the variables related to non-response are related to various variables for estimation.

For the satisfaction mail back, we will run regressions on select importance and satisfaction rating as the dependent variable. Explanatory variables come from the wildlife viewing on-site form including: age and gender.

For the expenditure mail back, we will run regressions on selected expenditure aggregate expenditure categories (e.g. Lodging, food, transportation, boating, fishing, diving, sightseeing, service and total). Explanatory variables come from the wildlife viewing on-site form including: age, race and gender.

Step 1 only reveals if there is potential for non-response bias; it is a necessary not a sufficient condition for establishing the existence of non-response bias. Step 2 determines if any of the factors

that are related to non-response are significant factors in explaining measurements obtained in the survey. If so, then sample weighting will be required. It is possible, but not certain, that multivariate weighting may be required. We won't know that until after we complete the survey and do the analyses.

Statistical Analysis

Data analysis will be geared toward understanding the demographics of our target population, their importance/satisfaction regarding wildlife viewing in SBNMS and their expenditures. Demographic profiles for the population will be summarized using basic univariate descriptive statistics. The importance/satisfaction will also be analyzed using statistical analysis and the expenditures will be developed into profiles by the summer and spring/fall season to estimate the economic contributions of wildlife viewing in the region. Their expenditure information will be used in IMPLAN to estimate jobs, value-added, output and income supported by research in each sanctuary. IMPLAN is an input – output model that requires knowing the expenditures within your study area. These expenditures are then inputted into the modelling software and jobs, income, value-added and GDP are calculated. This is a widely accepted software and is used within NOAA and other Federal Agencies.

Degree of Accuracy Needed for the Purpose Described in the Justification

If necessary, weights will be used in estimating sample means and standard errors of the means using the Statistical Software SAS with formulas adjusted for sample design issues of stratification and weighting following guidelines in (Kish 1995). To extrapolate from sample to population, the total person-days (Visits) estimate (from the operator's survey) will be used.

The general sampling methodology and estimation of the on-board vessel survey and follow-up mailback surveys has been tested several times in the Florida Keys (1995-96 and 2007-08). Sample sizes were selected for this application to ensure statistical accuracy at the 95% confidence level or plus or minus 5 percent at a minimum with many data elements expected to be estimated with less potential error since sample sizes exceed those necessary to achieve 95% confidence.

Unusual Problems Requiring Specialized Sampling Procedures

We do not anticipate any unusual problems that require specialized sampling procedures.

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 operators of the wildlife viewing tours will announce the presence of the interviewers on the ship and ask them to kindly cooperate. Further, the study is being administered by Emerson College using students and volunteers, possibly less intimidating than NOAA. Further, since most respondents will provide an e-mail we will be able to send them a reminder e-mail to complete the surveys online or

via paper and mail them back. These actions should help to increase response rates. Additionally, if there is non-response bias, then weights will be used to address this issue.

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.

Many of the survey questions, those related to the economic data, in particular, and the research methods proposed for this collection have been repeatedly deployed in past information collections by NOAA. The only modifications made to the survey instrument for this collection have been to tailor the application to the SBNMS.

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.

NOAA Project Leads

Dr. Danielle Schwarzmann was the primary advisor on the statistical aspects of the study design in consultation with Dr. Leeworthy, Chief Economist, with the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries. They are both experts in this area of research and application.

Project Lead

Dr. Danielle Schwarzmann
Economist
NOAA/NOS/Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East West Hwy., SSMC4, 11th floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910
Telephone: 301-713-7254
Fax: 301-713-0404
E-mail: Danielle.Schwarzmann@noaa.gov

Project Co-Lead

Dr. Vernon R. (Bob) Leeworthy
Chief Economist
NOAA/NOS/Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East West Highway, SSMC4
Silver Spring, MD 20910
Telephone: (301) 713-7261
Fax: (301) 713-0404
E-mail: Bob.Leeworthy@noaa.gov

Project Co-Lead

Benjamin (Ben) Haskell
Acting Superintendent
NOAA/Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary
175 Edward Foster Rd., Scituate, MA 02066
Phone 781-546-6005 Fax 545-8036
Email: ben.haskell@noaa.gov

Project Co-Lead

Nejem Raheem
Associate Professor of Economics
Emerson College
Nejem_Raheem@emerson.edu

Sources:

O'Connor, S., Campbell, R., Cortez, H., & Knowles, T., 2009, *Whale Watching Worldwide: tourism numbers, expenditures and expanding economic benefits*, a special report from the International Fund for Animal Welfare, Yarmouth MA, USA, prepared by Economists at Large.

Privacy Act Statement

Authority: The collection of this information is authorized under the [National Marine Sanctuaries Act](#) (16 U.S.C. 1431 et seq), [Endangered Species Act](#) (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq), [Marine Mammal Protection Act](#) (16 U.S.C. 1361 et seq), [National Environmental Policy Act](#) (42 U.S.C. 4321), Executive Order 12866 (EO 12866), and other pertinent statutes.

Purpose: Up-to-date socioeconomic data is needed to support the conservation and management goals of the Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary (SBNMS), to strengthen and improve conservation of marine wildlife, including whales, pinnipeds, seals, and seabirds within the jurisdiction of the sanctuary and to satisfy the legal mandates above.

NOAA Routine Uses: NOAA will use this information to coordinate with wildlife viewers who have agreed to take this survey.. Disclosure of this information is permitted under the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. Section 552a) to be shared among NOAA staff for work-related purposes. Disclosure of this information is also subject to all of the published routine uses as identified in the Privacy Act System of Records Notice [Commerce/NOAA-11](#), Contact Information for Members of the Public Requesting or Providing Information Related to NOAA's Mission.

Disclosure: Furnishing this information is voluntary; however, failure to participate in the survey will result in less information to support the conservation and management goals of the SBNMS.

We'd like to ask you a few questions about you and your experience today. (If needed confirm that respondent is over the age of 18).

1. Was the primary purpose of your trip marine wildlife viewing? Yes No
2. Did you specifically find a wildlife viewing operation that offers trips to Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary? Yes No
3. While on your wildlife viewing tour did you visit the sanctuary? Yes No
 Unsure
4. While on your wildlife viewing tour, did staff on the boat talk about the sanctuary?
 Yes No Unsure
5. What is your age?
 18-30 31-40 41-50 51-60 Over 60
6. What is your sex? Female Male Other

We'd like to follow-up with you to ask you more details about your trip and experience. The information will help conservation and management of Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary. By providing your e-mail address we will be able to e-mail you the link to complete the survey online at your convenience. We will only contact you to complete the survey and will not provide your e-mail address to any other person, business or lists.

May I have your e-mail address? _____

(If respondent says no offer to provide them a copy of the survey to mail back with a postage paid envelope).

Interview Number _____

Corresponding Survey Version _____ Today's Date _____

Your participation in this recreation expenditure survey is ***GREATLY APPRECIATED***.

Dear Valued Visitor,

During your recent trip to the New England region you participated in an on-site survey during a wildlife viewing tour and indicated that you would be willing to complete this questionnaire. It is very important that the same person who participated in the on-site survey completes this questionnaire. Your cooperation in this effort is greatly appreciated.

The questionnaire will take about 20 minutes to complete. Instructions and an example response are provided below for your convenience. Please print answers accurately and legibly. Your participation is voluntary and your responses will remain confidential. After the completion of the project all materials identifying you as an individual will be destroyed. **To mail back your completed questionnaire, reverse-fold it so that our return address is facing out, and seal with tape or a staple before placing in mailbox. No postage is needed.**

We thank you again for your participation as this information is valuable to further improve management in Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary.

Sincerely,

Interview Number: _____

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 20 minutes including time for reviewing instructions, gathering the information needed and to complete the survey. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to U.S. Department of Commerce, Clearance Officer, Office of Chief Information Officer, Rm. 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW, Washington DC 20230.

1. On your most recent trip to New England (defined as Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island), how many days did you spend there? Count partial days as whole days. _____ days
2. On your most recent trip to New England, how many days did you spend wildlife viewing? Count partial days as whole days. _____ days
3. On your most recent trip to New England, how many times did you go out on a for-hire charter operations, such as a whale watching boat tour? _____ days
4. Including your most recent trip, in the past 12 months how many trips have you taken to New England to go wildlife viewing? _____ trips
5. On your most recent trip, what month did you go wildlife viewing?

<input type="radio"/> January	<input type="radio"/> May	<input type="radio"/> September
<input type="radio"/> February	<input type="radio"/> June	<input type="radio"/> October
<input type="radio"/> March	<input type="radio"/> July	<input type="radio"/> November
<input type="radio"/> April	<input type="radio"/> August	<input type="radio"/> December

6. While visiting New England what was the primary purpose of your visit or trip?

7. The next set of questions refer to the wildlife viewing boat tour you took while in New England. Please also indicate the primary type of animals or animal group, you were trying to view on the tour. Please check only one primary animal or animal group.

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|----------|----------------------|
| a. Did you see whales? | _____ Yes | _____ No | _____ Primary Animal |
| b. Did you see seals? | _____ Yes | _____ No | _____ Primary Animal |
| c. Did you see dolphins or porpoises? | _____ Yes | _____ No | _____ Primary Animal |
| d. Did you see birds? | _____ Yes | _____ No | _____ Primary Animal |
| e. Did you see sharks? | _____ Yes | _____ No | _____ Primary Animal |
| f. Did you see other wildlife? | _____ Yes | _____ No | _____ Primary Animal |

8. Now we'd like to ask some questions about Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary (SBNMS). SBNMS is a marine protected area located off the coast of Massachusetts in the Atlantic Ocean.

- a. While on your wildlife viewing tour (from when you were asked to participate in this survey) did you visit the sanctuary? _____ Yes _____ No ___ Unsure
- b. While on your wildlife viewing tour (from when you were asked to participate in this survey), did staff on the boat talk about the sanctuary?
 _____ Yes _____ No ___ Unsure

- c. While on land during your visit to New England, did you see signage, exhibits, literature or information about the sanctuary? ___Yes ___No ___Unsure
- d. Did you choose your wildlife viewing tour (from when you were asked to participate in this survey) because it visits the sanctuary? ___Y ___N ___Un

9. If you were to visit the region again and go wildlife viewing, how likely are you to use the same wildlife viewing company (from when you were asked to participate in this survey)?
 Very Likely Somewhat Likely Unsure Somewhat Unlikely Very Unlikely

9a. Please explain _____

10. For each marine animal listed below, please indicate how much you like or dislike it, or indicate that you are not familiar with the animal.

Marine Animals	Strongly Dislike	Dislike	Slightly Dislike	Neither like or dislike	Slightly Like	Like	Strongly Like	Don't know this animal
Humpback Whales								
North Atlantic Right Whales								
Minke Whales								
Fin Whales								
Sei Whales								
Dolphins and Porpoises								
Seals								
Basking Sharks								
Other Sharks								
Ocean Sunfish								
Sea Turtles								
Shearwaters								
Seagulls								
Northern Gannets								
Other Seabirds								

11. Below is a list of items that may have influence on how you choose your wildlife viewing tour (from when you were asked to participate in this survey). For the following items please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with their influence on your choice.

Item	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Slightly Disagree	No Impact	Slightly Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Don't know
Ticket Price								
You had a coupon or other discount								
The operation was near my hotel								
The operation was near my house								
The operation was targeting animals I wanted to see								
I saw an advertisement online								
I saw an advertisement in a travel publication								
I saw an advertisement at the hotel								
I saw an advertisement on social media								
I saw an advertisement at a restaurant								
I used a travel agent								
I recognized or researched Whale SENSE								
I relied on consumer reviews on Yelp, Trip Advisor, or other review service								
The amount of time for the trip met my requirements								
Size and speed of the vessel								
There was parking nearby								
They had tours at the time of day I wanted to go								
The boat permitted smoking onboard								
The boat prohibited smoking								
I relied on recommendations of family/friends								
I relied on recommendations made by my hotel								
The company is recognized for sustainable operations and/or conservation efforts								
I preferred/liked the company's website								

Importance and Satisfaction:

12. Please read each statement and rate the **importance** of each item as it pertains to your wildlife viewing experience (from when you were asked to participate in this survey) in the New England region on the dates listed on the first page. If an item does not apply, indicate by checking “N/A” (not applicable). Likewise, if you don’t know, check “Don’t Know.”

	N/A	Don't Know	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Important	Very Important	Extremely Important
Items During your Wildlife Viewing Experience							
Clean water (little to no pollution)							
Clean air (little to no pollution)							
A large number of whales							
Different types of whales							
Opportunity to see whales							
Opportunity to see sharks							
A large number of seals							
A large number of birds							
Many types of birds							
Whale breaching the surface							
Whale bubble net feeding							
A knowledgeable naturalist on board							
The naturalist available to answer questions							
Educational exhibits or activities available onboard the vessel when wildlife is not present							
Clean restrooms on the boat							
The staff was friendly and helpful							
Operator offered a discount							
Operator offered a group rate							
The boat offered recycling							
The boat offered locally sourced food							
Availability of food and non-alcoholic beverages on the wildlife viewing vessel							
Availability of alcoholic beverages on the wildlife viewing vessel							
Items Experienced on Land During your Trip							
Educational posters, signs, exhibits & brochures							
Marina facilities, boat ramps & launching facilities							
Availability of parking							
Availability of a gift shop							
Availability of public restrooms							

13. Please read each statement and rate how **satisfied** you were with each item as it pertains to your wildlife viewing experience (from when you were asked to participate in this survey) in the New England region on the date listed on the first page. If an item does not apply, indicate by checking “N/A” (not applicable). Likewise, if you don’t know, check “Don’t Know.”

	N/A	Don't Know	Not Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Satisfied	Very Satisfied	Extremely Satisfied
Items During your Wildlife Viewing Experience							
Clean water (little to no pollution)							
Clean air (little to no pollution)							
A large number of whales							
Different types of whales							
Opportunity to see whales							
Opportunity to see sharks							
A large number of seals							
A large number of birds							
Many types of birds							
Whale breaching the surface							
Whale bubble net feeding							
A knowledgeable naturalist on board							
The naturalist available to answer questions							
Educational exhibits or activities available onboard the vessel when wildlife is not present							
Clean restrooms on the boat							
The staff was friendly and helpful							
Operator offered a discount							
Operator offered a group rate							
The boat offered recycling							
The boat offered locally sourced food							
Availability of food and non-alcoholic beverages on the wildlife viewing vessel							
Items Experienced on Land During your Trip							
Educational posters, signs, exhibits & brochures							
Marina facilities, boat ramps & launching facilities							
Availability of parking							
Availability of a gift shop							
Availability of public restrooms							
Educational posters, signs, exhibits & brochures							

14. Some people may have expectations about an activity or event before it happens. Please read the list of items below and rate your **expectations** (prior to the wildlife viewing tour) for each of the following. If an item does not apply select n/a. Likewise, if you don't know, select Don't Know.

	n/a	Don't Know	Did not Expect	Small Expectations	Moderate Expectation	Large Expectation	Big Expectation
Clean water (little to no pollution)							
Clean air (little to no pollution)							
A large number of whales							
Different types of whales							
A large number of seals							
A large number of birds							
Many types of birds							
Whale breaching the surface							
Whale bubble net feeding							
A knowledgeable naturalist on board							
Clean restrooms on the boat							
Operator offered a discount							
Operator offered a group rate							
The boat offered recycling							

15. Now, please read the list of items below and rate how they **met your expectations** (after the wildlife viewing tour (from when you were asked to participate in this survey)) for each of the following. If an item does not apply select n/a. Likewise, if you don't know, select Don't Know.

	n/a	Don't Know	Completely Did not meet my Expectations	Slightly Met my Expectations	Met my Expectations	Slightly Exceeded my Expectations	Completely Exceed my Expectations
Clean water (little to no pollution)							
Clean air (little to no pollution)							
A large number of whales							
Different types of whales							
A large number of seals							
A large number of birds							
Many types of birds							
Whale breaching the surface							
Whale bubble net feeding							
A knowledgeable naturalist on board							
Clean restrooms on the boat							
Operator offered a discount							
Operator offered a group rate							
The boat offered recycling							

Expenditures:

We would like to ask you about the expenses related to your recent trip as it pertains to your whale watching or wildlife viewing experience in the New England region. We are interested in expenses made *only* for the trip associated with the trip from when you were asked to participate in this survey.

Example Expenditure Response			
ITEMS	Total amount spent	Total amount spent in the study area	Number of people covered
Scenic Tours			
Whale watching tour	250	250	4
Please list company: Example Whale Watching Company			
Other wildlife tour			
Please list company: Example Wildlife Watching Company			
Sailing charters	300	100	2
Sunset cruises			

Please estimate how much money, rounded to the nearest dollar, your party spent on the following items and the number of people it covered. If no money was spent for any item, please place a zero in the corresponding box. Please use the map to identify the total amount spent within the study area.

ITEMS	Total amount spent	Total amount spent in the study area	Number of people covered
Scenic Tours			
Whale watching tour			
Please list company _____			
Other wildlife tour			
Please list company _____			
Sailing charters			
Sunset cruises			
Other, please specify: _____			
Sightseeing			
Land-based Sightseeing Tours			
Admission to amusement, festivals, and other attractions (e.g., zoos, aquariums, and museums)			
Other, please specify: _____			

ITEMS	Total amount spent	Total amount spent in the study area	Number of people covered
Other Activities			
Rental fee for recreation equipment (e.g., bicycles, golf carts, kayaks, and paddle boats)			
Guided service tours (not listed above)			
Tickets for motion pictures, theaters, musical performances, concerts, etc.			
Wine Tour			
Other, please specify: _____			
Lodging			
Hotel/motel			
Bed & Breakfast			
Cabin			
Cottage/Condo/Rental Home			
Other, please specify: _____			
Food & Beverages			
Food purchased at a grocery store (e.g., farmers market)			
Food and drinks bought at restaurants and bars			
Food and drinks consumed on a wildlife viewing vessel			
Other, please specify: _____			
Transportation			
Rental automobile, motor home, trailer, motorcycle, etc			
Gas & oil for automobile or RV			
Automobile or RV parking fees & tolls			
Taxi fare			
Ferry			
Train			
Bus fare (e.g., day passes and package tours)			
Airline fare			
Other, please specify: _____			
Miscellaneous Expenditures			
Camera and supplies – film, batteries, memory stick, film development			
Footwear			
Binoculars			
Clothing (including foul weather gear, hats, sweatshirts, etc.)			
Sunblock and other sundries			
Souvenirs and gifts (not including clothing)			
Other, please specify: _____			

Demographics:

1. What is your country of residence? _____
2. If you live in the United States, what is your zip code? _____
3. What is your age?
 - 18-30
 - 31-40
 - 41-50
 - 51-60
 - Over 60
4. What is your sex?
 - Female
 - Male
 - Other _____
5. Are you Hispanic or Latino? _____ Yes _____ No
6. What is your race? Please check all that apply?
 - White or Caucasian
 - Black or African American
 - Asian
 - American Indian or Alaskan Native
 - Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
 - Other _____
7. What is your employment status? Please select the best one.
 - Unemployed
 - Employed full-time
 - Employed part-time
 - Self-employed
 - Retired
 - Student
 - Homemaker
 - None of the above
8. How many adults, age 18 and over, live in your household? _____
9. How many children, under the age of 18, live in your household? _____
10. What is your household income?
 - Less than \$5,000
 - \$5,000 to \$9,999
 - \$10,000 to \$14,999
 - \$15,000 to \$19,999
 - \$20,000 to \$24,999
 - \$25,000 to \$29,999
 - \$30,000 to \$34,999
 - \$35,000 to \$39,999
 - \$40,000 to \$44,999
 - \$45,000 to \$49,999
 - \$50,000 to \$59,999
 - \$60,000 to \$74,999
 - \$75,000 to \$99,999
 - \$100,000 to \$149,999
 - \$150,000 to More

Thank you for completing this questionnaire. Your responses will help improve management in Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary. **Please see front page of booklet for instructions to send back your completed questionnaire.**

revised net subsidy rate is provided below.

Amended Final Results

As a result of correcting the ministerial errors, we determine that Goldenpalm's total net countervailable subsidy rate for the period January 1, 2014, through December 31 2014, is as follows:

Producer/exporter from India	Net countervailable subsidy rate (percent)
Goldenpalm Manufacturers PVT Limited.	8.30 percent <i>ad valorem</i> .

Assessment Rates/Cash Deposits

The Department intends to issue appropriate assessment instructions to U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) 15 days after the date of publication of these amended final results of review, to liquidate shipments of subject merchandise produced and/or exported by the respondent listed above entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after January 1, 2014, through December 31, 2014.

The Department also intends to instruct CBP to collect cash deposits of estimated countervailing duties, in the amount shown above for the company listed above on shipments of subject merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after April 17, 2017, the date of publication of the *Final Results*. For all non-reviewed firms, we will instruct CBP to continue to collect cash deposits at the most-recent company-specific or all-others rate applicable to the company, as appropriate. These cash deposit requirements, when imposed, shall remain in effect until further notice.

Disclosure

We will disclose the calculations performed for these amended final results to interested parties within five business days of the date of the publication of this notice in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b).

We are issuing and publishing these results in accordance with sections 751(h) and 777(i)(1) of the Act, and 19 CFR 351.224(e).

Dated: June 13, 2017.

Ronald K. Lorentzen,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

[FR Doc. 2017-12818 Filed 6-19-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act.

Agency: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).
Title: Alaska Pacific Halibut Fisheries: Subsistence.

OMB Control Number: 0648-0512.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Request: Regular (extension of a currently approved information collection).

Number of Respondents: 7,337.

Average Hours per Response: Permit applications, 10 minutes; Community harvest log, 30 minutes; Ceremonial or educational harvest log, 30 minutes; Appeal for permit denial, 4 hours.

Burden Hours: 1,438.

Needs and Uses: This request is for extension of a currently approved information collection.

This information collection describes special permits issued to participants in the Pacific halibut subsistence fishery in waters off the coast of Alaska and any appeals resulting from denials. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) designed the permits to work in conjunction with other halibut harvest assessment measures. Subsistence fishing for halibut has occurred for many years among the Alaska Native people and non-Native people. Special permits are initiated in response to the concerns of Native and community groups regarding increased restrictions in International Pacific Halibut Commission Area 2C and include Community Harvest Permits, Ceremonial Permits, and Educational Permits.

A Community Harvest Permit allows the community or Alaska Native tribe to appoint one or more individuals from its respective community or tribe to harvest subsistence halibut from a single vessel under reduced gear and harvest restrictions.

Ceremonial and Educational Permits are available exclusively to Alaska Native tribes. Eligible Alaska Native tribes may appoint only one Ceremonial Permit Coordinator per tribe for Ceremonial Permits or one authorized Instructor per tribe for Educational Permits.

Except for enrolled students fishing under a valid Educational Permit,

special permits require persons fishing under them to also possess a Subsistence Halibut Registration Certificate (SHARC) (see OMB No. 0648-0460) which identifies those persons who are currently eligible for subsistence halibut fishing. Each of the instruments is designed to minimize the reporting burden on subsistence halibut fishermen while retrieving essential information.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations; state, local or tribal governments.

Frequency: Annually or on occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Required to obtain or retain benefits.

This information collection request may be viewed at reginfo.gov. Follow the instructions to view Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov or fax to (202) 395-5806.

Dated: June 15, 2017.

Sarah Brabson,

NOAA PRA Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2017-12776 Filed 6-19-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Economic Value of Whale Watching in Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary

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 August 21, 2017.

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 pracomments@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Dr. Danielle Schwarzmann 240-533-0706 danielle.schwarzmann@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**I. Abstract**

This request is for a new information collection.

NOAA is conducting research to estimate the market and non-market economic values associated with whale watching in Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary (SBNMS) and the surrounding region.

The required information is to conduct surveys of the for hire-operations that take people out for non-consumptive recreation to watch whales or other wildlife, to obtain total use by type of activity (e.g. whale watching, and other wildlife observation) and the spatial use by type of activity. Information will also be obtained on the knowledge, attitudes, and perceptions of for-hire operations towards the sanctuary, sanctuary resources and sanctuary processes.

Surveys will also be conducted of the passengers of the for-hire operation boats to obtain their market and non-market economic use values for whales and other wildlife. Information collected from passengers will include their expenditures, number of trips, activities while visiting the sanctuary and non-market value for improvements to whales and other sanctuary resources. An on-site survey will obtain information on demographic profiles, annual number of whale watching trips in SBNMS, and their non-market economic use value for improvements to whales and sanctuary resources. Self-addressed, postage paid mail back questionnaires will be used for importance-satisfaction ratings and whale watching trip expenditures.

II. Method of Collection

The data from the operators will be collected by scheduling appointments to meet with the owner and conduct the survey in-person. For the passengers, surveys will be conducted at the docks after the completion of their whale watching trip and via mail.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0648-XXXX.
Form Number: None.

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

Affected Public: Individuals or households; businesses or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,000 passengers on-site, 600 for importance-satisfaction mail back and 450 for the expenditure mailback; 40 owners of whale watching operations.

Estimated Time per Response: 20 minutes per on-site interview of passengers, 20 minutes per importance-satisfaction mail back and 20 minutes for the expenditure mail back. One hour per owner of whale watching operations.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 723.

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: June 15, 2017.

Sarah Brabson,

NOAA PRA Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2017-12777 Filed 6-19-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-NK-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

RIN 0648-XF430

Endangered and Threatened Species; Initiation of 5-Year Review for the Endangered Gulf of Maine Distinct Population Segment of Atlantic Salmon

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

ACTION: Notice of initiation of 5-year review; request for information.

SUMMARY: We, NMFS, announce our intent to conduct a 5-year review for the Gulf of Maine distinct population segment (DPS) of Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*) under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA). The DPS is listed as endangered under the ESA. We are required by the ESA to conduct 5-year reviews to ensure that the listing classifications of the species are accurate. The 5-year review must be based on the best scientific and commercial data available at the time of the review. We request submission of any such information on the Gulf of Maine DPS of Atlantic salmon, particularly information on the status, threats and recovery of the species that has become available since the final listing determination in 2009.

DATES: To allow us adequate time to conduct this review, we must receive your information no later than July 20, 2017. However, we will continue to accept new information about Atlantic salmon at any time.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments by including NOAA-NMFS-2017-0050, by either of the following methods:

- *Federal e-Rulemaking Portal.* Go to www.regulations.gov !doctDetail;D=[NOAA-NMFS-2017-0050], Click the "Comment Now!" icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments.

- *Mail:* Submit written information to Dan Kircheis, NMFS, Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office, Maine Field Station, 17 Godfrey Drive, Orono, Maine 04473

Instructions: We may not consider comments if they are sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the end of the specified period. All comments received are a part of the public record and we will generally post for public viewing on www.regulations.gov without change. All personal identifying information (e.g., name, address, etc.), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive or protected information submitted voluntarily by the sender is publicly accessible. We will accept anonymous comments (enter "N/A" in the required fields if you wish to remain anonymous).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dan Kircheis at the above address, by phone at 207-866-7320 or Dan.Kircheis@noaa.gov or Julie Crocker 978-282-8480 or Julie.Crocker@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Gulf of Maine DPS of Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*) was listed as endangered under the ESA on June 19, 2009 (74 FR 29344) by NMFS and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (the Services). The Services