

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**Submission for OMB Review;
Comment Request**

The Department of Commerce has submitted 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 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Agency: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Title: Groundfish Tagging Program.

Form Number(s): None.

OMB Approval Number: 0648-0276.

Type of Request: Regular submission.

Burden Hours: 88.

Number of Respondents: 661.

Average Hours Per Response: Forms for tagged fish, 5 minutes; electronic archival tag return, 30 minutes.

Needs and Uses: The Groundfish Tagging Program provides scientists with information necessary for effective conservation, management, and scientific understanding of the groundfish fishery off Alaska and the Pacific Northwest. The program area includes the Pacific Ocean off Alaska (the Gulf of Alaska, the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area, the Alexander Archipelago of Southeast Alaska), California, Oregon, and Washington. The distribution, movement rates and direction, growth, recruitment and mortality estimated from tag recoveries are important parameters used in groundfish population assessment models and in developing allocation systems.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations; individuals or households.

Frequency: On occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

OMB Desk Officer: David Rostker, (202) 395-3897.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, (202) 482-0266, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dHynek@doc.gov).

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to David Rostker, OMB Desk Officer, FAX number (202) 395-7285, or David_Rostker@omb.eop.gov.

Dated: June 1, 2006.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. E6-8752 Filed 6-5-06; 8:45 am]

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Agency: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Title: Alaska Cooperatives in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands.

Form Number(s): None.

OMB Approval Number: 0648-0401.

Type of Request: Regular submission.

Burden Hours: 320.

Number of Respondents: 11.

Average Hours Per Response:

Cooperative preliminary report, 20 hours; cooperative final report, 8 hours; inshore cooperative catcher vessel pollock catch report, 5 minutes; and appointment of agent for service of process, 5 minutes.

Needs and Uses: The cooperative management structure, originally implemented by the American Fisheries Act (AFA), has shifted more of the monitoring and enforcement burden to the cooperatives and their members; and has allowed NMFS to manage the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands pollock fishery more precisely. With the flexibility provided by cooperatives, vessels are able to individually (and in aggregate) come very close to harvesting exactly the amount of pollock they were allocated. The allocations of pollock and other species have allowed the AFA fleet the ability to spread their effort in time and space to accommodate Steller Sea Lion conservation measures. This collection describes some of the recordkeeping and reporting requirements under the AFA Program.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Frequency: Annually and on occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

OMB Desk Officer: David Rostker, (202) 395-3897.

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Agency: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).
Title: National Estuaries Restoration Inventory.

Form Number(s): None.

OMB Approval Number: 0648-0479.

Type of Request: Regular submission.

Burden Hours: 787.

Number of Respondents: 234.

Average Hours Per Response: New project reports, 4 hours; and project updates, 2 hours.

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

Affected Public: Not-for-profit institutions; business or other for-profit organizations; State, Local or Tribal Government; Federal Government.

Frequency: Annually and on occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

OMB Desk Officer: David Rostker, (202) 395-3897.

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