

U.S. groundfish fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) off Washington, Oregon and California under the Pacific Coast Fishery Management Plan. In its consideration of a groundfish trawl rationalization program, the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) has requested that NMFS collect detailed information for owners of trawl endorsed limited entry permits in order to develop an appropriate policy. The recent reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) placed a deadline on the PFMC to complete its consideration of the trawl rationalization program. Further, the MSA (Section 303A(5)(B)(ii)) requires that the Secretary of Commerce consider procedures to address concerns over excessive geographic and/or other consolidation in harvesting and processing sectors of the fishery. NMFS would request that all trawl endorsed permit owners who are business entities to provide the names of individuals who have an ownership interest in the entity and the percentage of interest held in the entity by such individuals. This information would be requested annually on a voluntary basis.

In addition, NMFS would revise its existing sablefish ownership interest form to request that all business entities who own or hold a sablefish permit to provide the percentage of ownership interest each individual has in the business entity. This information about the percentage of ownership interest by an individual would be requested on a voluntary basis.

## II. Method of Collection

Paper applications would be provided to potential respondents and the methods of submission would include fax or mail.

## III. Data

*OMB Number:* 0648-0203.

*Form Number:* None.

*Type of Review:* Regular submission.

*Affected Public:* Not-for-profit

institutions; and business or other for-profits organizations.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 90.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 30 minutes to prepare and mail response.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden*

*Hours:* 45 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* \$64,677.

## 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: October 11, 2007.

### Gwellnar Banks,

*Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. E7-20410 Filed 10-16-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Northeast Region Vessel Identification Requirements

**AGENCY:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

**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 December 17, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at [dHynek@doc.gov](mailto:dHynek@doc.gov)).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Ryan Silva, 978-281-9300 or [Ryan.Silva@noaa.gov](mailto:Ryan.Silva@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

## I. Abstract

Regulations at 50 CFR 648.8 and 697.8 require that owners of vessels over 25 ft. (7.6 m) in registered length that have Federal permits to fish in the Northeast Region display the vessel's name and official number. The name and number must be of a specific size at specified locations. The display of the identifying characters aids in fishery law enforcement.

## II. Method of Collection

No information is submitted to NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) as a result of this collection. The vessel name must be affixed to the port and starboard sides of the bow and, if possible, on its stern. The official number must be displayed on the port and starboard sides of the deckhouse or hull, and on an appropriate weather deck so as to be clearly visible from enforcement vessels and aircraft.

## III. Data

*OMB Number:* 0648-0350.

*Form Number:* None.

*Type of Review:* Regular submission.

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

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 6,000.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 45 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 4,500 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* \$60,000.

## 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: October 11, 2007.

**Gwellnar Banks,**

*Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. E7-20411 Filed 10-16-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[FY2009–FY2014]

**National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science Human Dimensions Strategic Plan**

**AGENCY:** National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce (DOC).

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of the NCCOS Human Dimensions Strategic Plan (FY2009–FY2014) and responses to public comments.

**SUMMARY:** NOAA publishes this notice to announce the availability of the NCCOS Human Dimensions Strategic Plan (FY2009–FY2014) and provide responses to public comments requested through a **Federal Register** Notice (*Notice of availability and solicitation of public comments on the National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science Draft Human Dimensions Strategic Plan (FY2008–FY2013)*, 72 FR 7418–7419 (Feb. 15, 2007)).

**DATES:** The NCCOS Human Dimensions Strategic Plan is effective FY2009–FY2014.

**ADDRESSES:** The NCCOS Human Dimensions Strategic Plan (FY2009–FY2014) is available electronically at <http://coastalscience.noaa.gov/human/strategy/NCCOSHDPlan.pdf>. Hard copies of the plan may be obtained by sending a request to [nccos.hd@noaa.gov](mailto:nccos.hd@noaa.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Marybeth Bauer, PhD, by e-mail at [nccos.hd@noaa.gov](mailto:nccos.hd@noaa.gov) (preferred) or mail at NOAA National Ocean Service, National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science, 1305 East-West Highway, NOS HQTR Route N/SCI, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The mission of NCCOS is to provide coastal managers and other decisionmakers with scientific information and tools needed to balance society's environmental, social, and economic goals in mitigating and adapting to ecosystem stressors such as climate change, extreme natural events,

pollution, invasive species, and resource use. Humans are integral to ecosystems, and the human dimensions of ecosystems are an integral focus of the science needed to achieve this mission. Understanding the impact of humans on the ocean, the impacts of the ocean on humans, and the human aspects of ocean governance provides the scientific basis for ensuring ocean health and quality of life for this and future generations.

Marine science and policy institutions in the United States and worldwide recognize that a deeper understanding of the human dimensions of ecosystems—human causes, consequences, and responses to ecosystem stress—is needed to foster improved support for coastal and ocean decisionmaking. Examples include the Joint Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology, Subcommittee on Integrated Management of Ocean Resources, United States Commission on Ocean Policy, Pew Oceans Commission, and NOAA's External Ecosystem Task Team.

The NCCOS Human Dimensions Strategic Plan (FY2009–FY2014) establishes goals and objectives for fostering improved support of coastal and ocean decisionmaking by integrating human dimensions into the NCCOS's science program. It provides the basis for subsequent development of an implementation plan specifying programmatic elements such as strategies, outcomes, partnerships, and fiscal and human resources needs.

**Comments and Responses:** On February 15, 2007, NCCOS published a notice of availability and solicitation of public comments on a Draft Human Dimensions Strategic Plan (*Notice of availability and solicitation of public comments on the National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science Draft Human Dimensions Strategic Plan (FY2008–FY2013)*, 72 FR 7418–7419 (Feb. 15, 2007)). During the 30-day public comment period, NCCOS received the following comments from the City of Craig, Alaska; Consortium for Oceanographic Research and Education; Island Resources Foundation; New Jersey Marine Science Consortium; NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service, Office of Science and Technology; NOAA's National Ocean Service, Coastal and Ocean Resource Economics Program; NOAA's Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, Office of Weather and Air Quality and Climate Program Office; NOAA's Research Council; and University of Massachusetts-Amherst Human Dimensions of Marine and Coastal Ecosystems Program. In response to

comments received, NCCOS revised the Draft Human Dimensions Strategic Plan as follows.

**General Comments**

**Comment 1:** Several commenters commended NCCOS on taking this first step toward integrating the human element into coastal management and the required supporting scientific efforts.

**Response:** NCCOS appreciates this encouragement and advocacy from its coastal science and management partners, and looks forward to working with them to implement human dimensions research priorities.

**Comment 2:** Several commenters stated that the document is too long and recommended eliminating redundancy.

**Response:** NCCOS considerably reduced the length of the document and eliminated redundancy. To accommodate diverse levels of interest, NCCOS formatted the plan to describe each strategic objective at four levels of detail: A title, summary statement, concise rationale, and discussion. The discussion sections provide justification and explanation of strategic objectives at a level of detail that NCCOS believes is critical to cultivate a workforce that understands, appreciates, and facilitates the mission value of human dimensions research.

**Comment 3:** Several commenters stated that the document includes excessive social science jargon.

**Response:** NCCOS minimized social science jargon. However, NCCOS included and defined key technical terms such as socioeconomic driver, ecosystem service, mitigation, non-market value, and resilience. In doing so, NCCOS is responsive to the finding of the Social Science Review Panel to NOAA's Science Advisory Board that developing social science capacity in NOAA is challenged by "a lack of formal understanding of what social science is and what its contributions can be, leading to an organizational culture that is not conducive to social science research." By including and defining key technical terms, NCCOS aims to foster the human dimensions literacy and common language needed to develop an integral human dimensions focus within its science program.

**Comment 5:** Several commenters stated that the plan should include programmatic elements such as projects, timelines, fiscal and human resource needs, and deliverables.

**Response:** As explained in the "Future Directions" section of the "Overview," NCCOS wishes to clarify that this plan provides the basis for a