

Regulatory Amendment 36 also addresses accommodation of on-demand (also known as ‘ropeless’) gear for black sea bass pots for the commercial sector. On-demand gear reduces the probability of entanglements by whales and other protected species by not having vertical lines in the water column for the entire time that the pots are being fished. This type of gear has been experimentally used for the last several years under exempted fishing permits (EFP), the latest of which expires in April 2025. Scoping for Regulatory Amendment 36 will inform the Council of what changes to gear marking, identification, and stowage requirements are necessary to enable practical use of this type of gear in the commercial pot fishery beyond the EFP expiration. The Council will then determine a plan for addressing these changes through Regulatory Amendment 36 and other future amendments, as necessary.

#### Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids should be directed to the Council office (see **ADDRESSES**) 5 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: January 23, 2024.

**Diane M. DeJames-Daly,**

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

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Office of Marine and Aviation Operations: Occupational Health, Safety, and Readiness Forms

The Department of Commerce will submit the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice. We invite the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information

collection requirements and minimize the public’s reporting burden. Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** on August 17, 2023 (88 FR 56009) during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments.

*Agency:* National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

*Title:* Office of Marine and Aviation Operations: Occupational Health, Safety, and Readiness Forms.

*OMB Control Number:* 0648-XXXX.  
*Form Number(s):* Medical: 57-10-01, 57-10-02.

*Type of Request:* Regular submission. This is a new information collection.

*Number of Respondents:* 1,000.  
*Average Hours per Response:* 57-10-01, NOAA Health Services Questionnaire: 15 minutes; 57-10-02, Annual Tuberculosis Screening Document: 5 minutes.

*Total Annual Burden Hours:* 167.

*Needs and Uses:* This is a request for approval of a collection currently in use without OMB approval.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s (NOAA) Office of Marine and Aviation Operations (OMAO) manages and operates NOAA’s fleet of 15 *research and survey ships* and nine specialized environmental data-collecting *aircraft*. Comprised of civilians and officers of the *NOAA Commissioned Officer Corps*, OMAO also manages the *NOAA Diving Program*, *NOAA Small Boat Program*, and *NOAA Uncrewed Systems Operations Center*.

The research and survey ships operated, managed, and maintained by OMAO comprise the largest fleet of federal research ships in the nation. Ranging from large oceanographic research vessels capable of exploring the world’s deepest ocean, to smaller ships responsible for charting the shallow bays and inlets of the United States, the fleet supports a wide range of marine activities including fisheries surveys, nautical charting, and ocean and climate studies.

NOAA aircraft operate throughout the world providing a wide range of capabilities including *hurricane reconnaissance and research*, marine mammal and fisheries assessment, and coastal mapping. NOAA aircraft carry scientists and specialized instrument packages to conduct research for NOAA’s missions.

Housed within the NOAA Office of Marine and Aviation Operations and staffed by the *U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) Commissioned Corps officers*, the Office of Health Services (OHS) is

charged with directly supporting all personnel within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

NOAA medical officers work to maximize deployment readiness and minimize medically related disruptions to fleet, aircraft, and diving operations. OHS programs assess and promote mental and physical readiness within their operational medical discipline. Given the austere and geographically remote operational environments OHS supports, our officers are also responsible for preventing and containing disease in operational environments as subject matter experts in travel medicine. The forms contained in this collection will be used to make medical readiness recommendations for individuals and to key leadership in operational environments.

The 60-day **Federal Register** Notice indicated additional forms Medical: 57-10-05, Safety: 57-17-02, 57-17-09; and Small Boat: 57-19-04. However, these forms are completed by NOAA personnel and not subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act.

*Affected Public:* Individuals.

*Frequency:* As needed.

*Respondent’s Obligation:* Required to Obtain or Retain Benefits.

This information collection request may be viewed at [www.reginfo.gov](http://www.reginfo.gov). Follow the instructions to view the Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function and entering the title of the collection.

**Sheleen Dumas,**

*Department PRA Clearance Officer, Office of the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, Commerce Department.*

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