

opportunities to submit public comments on the evaluation of these State coastal zone management programs and national estuarine research reserves. See 88 FR 42917 (July 5, 2023, Alabama), 87 FR 47983 (August 5, 2022, Connecticut), 88 FR 15376 (March 13, 2023, Guam), 87 FR 41665 (July 13, 2022, Michigan), 87 FR 59062 (September 29, 2022, Ohio), 87 FR 48156 (August 8, 2022, Texas), 87 FR 41673 (July 13, 2022, Virginia), 88 FR 30950 (May 15, 2023, He'eia), 88 FR 50847 (August 2, 2023, Grand Bay), 88 FR 59871 (August 30, 2023, Narragansett Bay), and 87 FR 27989 (May 10, 2022, Waquoit Bay). NOAA addressed the public comments it received in the final evaluation findings.

*Authority:* 16 U.S.C. 1458 and 1461(f); 15 CFR 921.40 and 923.133.

**Keelin Kuipers,**

*Deputy Director, Office for Coastal Management, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**Ocean Research Advisory Panel (ORAP)**

**AGENCY:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce (DOC).

**ACTION:** Notice of public meetings.

**SUMMARY:** This notice sets forth a new schedule and proposed agenda of a meeting of the Ocean Research Advisory Panel (ORAP) that could not proceed on February 26, 2024 due to technical difficulties. At this new scheduled meeting, the members will discuss issues outlined in the section on Matters to be considered.

**DATES:** The meeting is scheduled for May 21, 2024 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. eastern daylight time (EDT) and May 22, 2024 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. EDT. These times and the agenda topics described below are subject to change.

**ADDRESSES:** The May 21–22, 2024 meeting will be at the NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office, 263 13th Ave. S St., Petersburg, FL 33701. At this meeting location, all public attendees need to bring a valid driver's license or valid Government ID to sign in at the Security desk when they arrive. The link for the webinar registration will be posted, when available, on the ORAP website: <https://www.noaa.gov/ocean->

[research-advisory-panel/orap-public-meetings](https://www.noaa.gov/ocean-research-advisory-panel/orap-public-meetings).

For the latest agenda please refer to the ORAP website: <https://www.noaa.gov/ocean-research-advisory-panel/orap-public-meetings>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Viviane Silva, ORAP Designated Federal Officer (DFO), SSMC3, Room 11320, 1315 East-West Hwy., Silver Spring, MD 20910; Phone Number: 240-624-0656; Email: [DFO.orap@noaa.gov](mailto:DFO.orap@noaa.gov); or visit the ORAP website at <https://www.noaa.gov/ocean-research-advisory-panel/orap-public-meetings>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Ocean Research Advisory Panel (ORAP) advises the Ocean Policy Committee (OPC) and provides independent recommendations to the Federal Government on matters of ocean policy.

Congress directed the establishment of the ORAP in Section 1055(c) of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Pub. L. 116-283), 10 U.S.C. 8933.

ORAP's responsibilities are (1) to advise the OPC on policies and procedures to implement the National Oceanographic Partnership Program; (2) to advise the OPC on matters relating to national oceanographic science, engineering, facilities, or resource requirements; (3) to advise the OPC on improving diversity, equity, and inclusion in the ocean sciences and related fields; (4) to advise the OPC on national ocean research priorities; and (5) any additional responsibilities that the OPC considers appropriate.

*Status:* The May 21–22, 2024 meeting will be open to public participation with a 30-minute public comment period at 3:15 p.m. EDT. The ORAP expects that public statements presented at its meetings will not be repetitive of previously submitted verbal or written statements. In general, each individual or group making a verbal presentation will be limited to a total time of three-five minutes. Written comments for the May 21–22, 2024 meeting should be received by May 10, 2024 by the ORAP DFO ([DFO.orap@noaa.gov](mailto:DFO.orap@noaa.gov)) to provide sufficient time for ORAP review. Written comments received by the ORAP DFO after this date will be distributed to the ORAP, but may not be reviewed prior to the meeting date.

*Special Accommodations:* These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for special accommodations may be directed to the ORAP DFO no later than 12:00 p.m. EDT on May 10, 2024.

*Matters to Be Considered:* During the ORAP meeting on Dec 13–14, 2023, the

Ocean Policy Committee (OPC) requested that the ORAP advise on areas of opportunity for partnership (such as through the National Oceanic Partnership Program) on the topic of emerging technology (which could include Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning, eDNA, and similar technology) with ocean industry and other sectors over the next 5–10 years. The OPC also requested that ORAP self-select another topic to address. The ORAP members agreed that the topic of accessible, inter-operable, interdisciplinary, and trusted ocean data to meet research and user needs is critical and deserves ORAP immediate attention. At this meeting on May 21–22, 2024, ORAP members will be discussing the two OPC tasks based on an initial review of each topic conducted by ORAP members.

Meeting materials, including work products, will be made available on the ORAP website: <https://www.noaa.gov/ocean-research-advisory-panel/orap-public-meetings>.

Dated: March 29, 2024.

**David Holst,**

*Director Chief Financial Officer/CAO, Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.*

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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; Alaska Region Logbook and Activity Family of 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 December 5, 2023 (88 FR 84305), during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments.

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

Title: Alaska Region Logbook and Activity Family of Forms.

OMB Control Number: 0648–0213.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Request: Regular submission (extension of a current information collection).

Number of Respondents: 255.

Average Hours per Response: Catcher Vessel Trawl DFL: 18 minutes; Catcher Vessel Longline/Pot DFL: 35 minutes; Catcher/Processor Longline/Pot DCPL: 50 minutes; Shoreside Processor Check-in/Check-out Report: 5 minutes; Mothership Check-in/Check-out Report: 7 minutes; Product Transfer Report: 20 minutes; Vessel Activity Report: 14 minutes.

Total Annual Burden Hours: 12,386 hours.

Needs and Uses: The National Marine Fisheries Service, Alaska Region (NMFS AKR), is requesting renewal of this currently approved information collection that consists of paper logbooks and reports used for management of the groundfish fisheries in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area (BSAI) and the Gulf of Alaska, management of the Individual Fishing Quota halibut and sablefish fisheries, and management of the BSAI Crab Rationalization Program crab fisheries.

One change has been made to this information collection. The text for one data field on the Product Transfer Report form has been clarified to include that it collects the shipper's Federal Processor Permit number. This change is necessary to make the form consistent with the form's instructions and with 50 CFR 679.5(g)(4)(ii), which requires the shipper's Federal Fisheries Permit number or Federal Processor Permit number to be included on the report. This does not change the respondents, responses, or burden for this report.

NMFS AKR manages the groundfish and crab fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of the BSAI and the groundfish fisheries of the Gulf of Alaska under fishery management plans (FMPs) for the respective areas. The North Pacific Fishery Management Council prepared, and NMFS approved, the FMPs under the authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.* Regulations implementing the FMPs appear at 50 CFR parts 679 and 680. Regulations for the logbooks and reports in this information collection are at 50 CFR 679.5.

The information collected through the paper logbooks and reports promotes the goals and objectives of the FMPs, the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, and other applicable laws. The collection of reliable data is essential to the effective conservation, management, and scientific understanding of the fishery resources.

Collecting information from fishery participants is necessary to promote successful management of groundfish, crab, Pacific halibut, and salmon resources. A comprehensive information system that identifies the participants and monitors their fishing activity is necessary to enforce the management measures and prevent overfishing. An information system is also needed to measure the consequences of management controls. This collection supports an effective monitoring and enforcement system with information that includes identification of the participating vessels, operators, dealers, and processors; location of the fishing activity; timeframes when fishing and processing is occurring; and shipment and transfer of fishing products.

Shoreside processors, stationary floating processors, and motherships receiving EEZ-caught fish and all vessels of the United States harvesting EEZ fish are required to hold a Federal permit and thus comply with reporting requirements per CFR 679.5. The data collected are used for making in-season and inter-season management decisions that affect the groundfish resources and the fishing industry that uses them.

This information collection contains four components: Paper logbooks, vessel activity reports, check-in/check-out reports, and product transfer reports. Daily logbooks provide data about the location and timing of fishing effort, as well as discard information of prohibited species. NOAA Office for Law Enforcement (OLE) and the United States Coast Guard (USCG) use logbook information during vessel boarding and site visits to ensure conservation of groundfish, compliance with regulations, and reporting accuracy by the fishing industry. The logbooks are also an important source of information for NMFS to determine where and when fishing activity occurs and the number of sets and hauls.

Vessel activity reports provide information about fish or fish product on board a vessel when it crosses the boundary of the EEZ off Alaska or crosses the U.S.—Canada international boundary between Alaska and British Columbia. NOAA OLE and USCG boarding officers use this information to audit and separate product inventory

when boarding a vessel. Check-in/check-out reports provide information on participation by processors and motherships in the groundfish fisheries. The check-in/check-out information is used by NMFS in-season managers to monitor the fishing capacity and effort in fishery allocations and quotas. Additionally, NOAA OLE agents use this information to track commercial business activity and ensure accurate accountability and proper reporting is being performed.

Product transfer reports provide information on the volume of groundfish disposed of by persons buying it from the harvesters. The product transfer report is an important enforcement document and provides an important check on buyer purchase reports. Information collected on product transfer reports is used by NOAA OLE to verify the accuracy of reported shipments through physical inspections. NOAA OLE uses the product transfer report to monitor movement of product in and out of the processor on a timely basis.

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

*Frequency:* Quarterly; On Occasion; Daily.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Mandatory.

*Legal Authority:* Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

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 either the title of the collection or the OMB Control Number 0648–0213.

**Sheleen Dumas,**

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

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