

mail to Maureen O'Reilly, Management Analyst, NIST, at [PRANIST@nist.gov](mailto:PRANIST@nist.gov). Please reference OMB Control Number 0693-0081 in the subject line of your comments. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Requests for additional information or specific questions related to collection activities should be directed to Siddharth Khosla, IT Specialist, NIST, 100 Bureau Drive, Stop 6100, Gaithersburg, MD 20899, 301-975-4640, [siddharth.khosla@nist.gov](mailto:siddharth.khosla@nist.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Abstract**

The NIST Center for Neutron Research (NCNR) Information Management System (IMS) is a public facing, web-based application to collect, manage and report operational data related to NCNR's role as a unique national user facility which was chartered to serve the nation's scientific community by providing unique experimental apparatus for scientific studies using neutron scattering. In order to fulfill that mission, NCNR established a complex business process to fairly distribute available scientific resources to prospective external users, outlined by the following steps:

- Registration of NCNR users
- Collection of scientific experiment proposals
- Regularly scheduled peer review of said proposals
- Merit-based award of available experimental resources
- Experiment date scheduling for selected projects (instrument scheduling)
- Collection and management of data required by the NCNR site access protocol
- Managing the Health Physics training of arriving scientists
- Coordination of administrative data
- Collection of data in support of related activities such as NCNR Summer School for facility users
- Management of the research results such as collected data, and subsequent publications
- Numerous reporting functions used to evaluate and manage the NCNR activities.

**II. Method of Collection**

Information will be collected electronically through the internet.

**III. Data**

OMB Control Number: 0693-0081.  
Form Number(s): None.

*Type of Review:* Regular submission, extension of a current information collection.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 2,000.

*Estimated Time Per Response:* 1 hour.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 2,000 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* \$0.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Voluntary.

**IV. Request for Comments**

We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department/Bureau to: (a) Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the time and cost burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) Evaluate ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. We will include or summarize each comment in our request to OMB to approve this ICR. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

**Sheleen Dumas,**

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

[FR Doc. 2024-20217 Filed 9-6-24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-13-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Institute of Standards and Technology**

**Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Manufacturing Extension Partnership Management Information Reporting**

**AGENCY:** National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of information collection, request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), invites 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. The purpose of this notice is to allow for 60 days of public comment preceding submission of the collection to OMB.

**DATES:** To ensure consideration, comments regarding this proposed information collection must be received on or before November 8, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested persons are invited to submit written comments by mail to Maureen O'Reilly, Management Analyst, NIST, by email to [PRANIST@nist.gov](mailto:PRANIST@nist.gov). Please reference OMB Control Number 0693-0032 in the subject line of your comments. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Requests for additional information or specific questions related to collection activities should be directed to Melissa Davis, NIST, Manufacturing Extension Partnership, 100 Bureau Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20899, MS4800, 240-277-0269, [melissa.davis@nist.gov](mailto:melissa.davis@nist.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Abstract**

Manufacturing Extension Partnership (assist a national network of locally based manufacturing extension centers that assists small- and medium-sized manufacturers to improve their productivity, improve profitability, and enhance their economic competitiveness. The information collected will provide the MEP with information regarding MEP Center performance regarding the delivery of technology, and business solutions to U.S.-based manufacturers. The collected

information will assist in determining the performance of the MEP Centers at both local and national levels, provide information critical to monitoring and reporting on MEP programmatic performance and assist management in policy decisions. Responses to the collection of information are mandatory per the regulations governing the operation of the MEP Program (15 CFR parts 290, 291, 292, and H.R. 1274—section 2). The information collected will include center inputs and activities including services delivered, clients served, center staff, expenses and revenues that are reported annually, semi-annually, and quarterly, partners, strategic plans, operation plans, and client success stories. No confidentiality for information submitted is promised or provided. In order to reflect new initiatives and new data needs, NIST MEP has identified a need to revise its existing reporting processes by modifying existing reporting elements that will enable NIST MEP to better monitor and assess the extent to which the Centers are meeting program goals and milestones.

**II. Method of Collection**

The information will be collected from the MEP Centers through the MEP Enterprise Information System (MEIS), <https://meis.nist.gov>.

**III. Data**

OMB Control Number: 0693-0032.  
Form Number(s): None.

Type of Review: Regular submission, extension of a current information collection.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 51.

Estimated Time Per Response: Recipients of NIST MEP Base awards should anticipate an additional burden based on the requirements of the cooperative agreement as follows, 22 Hours for Quarterly Review, 6 Hours for Semi-Annual Review, 30 hours for the Annual Review; 80 hours for Panel Review. *Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 6,120 hours for quarterly, semi-annual, and annual Review; and 1,360 hours for Panel Review.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$0.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

**IV. Request for Comments**

We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department/Bureau to: (a) Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the time and cost burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) Evaluate ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. We will include or summarize each comment in our request to OMB to approve this ICR. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

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

[FR Doc. 2024-20266 Filed 9-6-24; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[RTID 0648-XE257]

**Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Cooperative Management Act Provisions; General Provisions for Domestic Fisheries; Application for Exempted Fishing Permits**

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Assistant Regional Administrator for Sustainable Fisheries, Greater Atlantic Region, NMFS, has made a preliminary determination that an Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) application contains all of the required information and warrants further consideration. The EFP would allow federally permitted fishing vessels to fish outside fishery regulations in support of exempted fishing activities proposed by the Maine Department of Marine Resources (ME DMR). Regulations under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act and the Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Cooperative Management Act require publication of this notification to provide interested parties the opportunity to comment on applications for proposed EFPs.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before September 24, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit written comments by email to [nmfs.gar.efp@noaa.gov](mailto:nmfs.gar.efp@noaa.gov). Include in the subject line "ME DMR Ventless Trap EFP."

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Christine Ford, Fishery Management Specialist, [Christine.Ford@noaa.gov](mailto:Christine.Ford@noaa.gov), (978) 281-9185.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** ME DMR submitted a complete application for an EFP to conduct commercial fishing activities that the regulations would otherwise restrict. The EFP would provide distribution, abundance, and biological data on juvenile lobsters and Jonah crabs from times and areas with low coverage from traditional surveys. This EFP would exempt the participating vessels from the following Federal regulations:

TABLE 1—REQUESTED EXEMPTIONS

CFR citation	Regulation	Need for exemption
50 CFR 697.21(c) .....	Gear specification requirements ....	To allow for closed escape vents and smaller trap mesh and entrance heads.
§ 697.19 .....	Trap limit requirements .....	To allow for 3 additional traps per fishing vessel, for a total of up to 60 additional traps.