

than military readiness activities. The MMPA does not define small numbers and so, in practice, where estimated numbers are available, NMFS compares the number of individuals taken to the most appropriate estimation of abundance of the relevant species or stock in our determination of whether an authorization is limited to small numbers of marine mammals. When the predicted number of individuals to be taken is fewer than one third of the species or stock abundance, the take is considered to be of small numbers. Additionally, other qualitative factors may be considered in the analysis, such as the temporal or spatial scale of the activities.

The amount of authorized take is below one third of the estimated population abundance of all species (Gerrodette and Palacios 1996; NMFS 2015b). In fact, take of individuals is less than 8 percent of the abundance of any affected population.

Based on the analysis contained herein of the planned activity (including the required mitigation and monitoring measures) and the anticipated take of marine mammals, NMFS finds that small numbers of marine mammals will be taken relative to the population size of the affected species or stocks.

Unmitigable Adverse Impact Analysis and Determination

There are no relevant subsistence uses of the affected marine mammal stocks or species implicated by this action. Therefore, NMFS has determined that the total taking of affected species or stocks would not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of such species or stocks for taking for subsistence purposes.

National Environmental Policy Act

In compliance with Executive Order (E.O.) 12114, the NSF prepared an Environmental Analysis to consider the direct, indirect and cumulative effects to the human environment resulting from this marine geophysical survey in the Eastern Tropical Pacific. The NSF's Environmental Analysis tiers to the 2011 Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement for marine-related research funded by the NSF, which was prepared under E.O. 12114 and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

NMFS determined that the form and substance of the Environmental Analysis satisfies all the requirements of an Environmental Assessment under NEPA, as implemented by the regulations published by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ; 40 CFR

parts 1500–1508) and includes adequate information analyzing the effects on the human environment of issuing the IHA. The NSF's draft Environmental Analysis was made available to the public for review and comment. In compliance with NEPA and CEQ regulations, as well as NOAA Administrative Order 216–6A, NMFS has reviewed the NSF's Environmental Analysis, determined it to be sufficient, and adopted that Environmental Analysis. The NSF's Environmental Analysis and NMFS' Determination are available at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/marine-mammal-protection/incidental-take-authorizations-research-and-other-activities>.

Endangered Species Act

Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) requires that each Federal agency insure that any action it authorizes, funds, or carries out is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered or threatened species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated critical habitat. To ensure ESA compliance for the issuance of IHAs, NMFS consults internally whenever we propose to authorize take for endangered or threatened species.

The NMFS OPR ESA Interagency Cooperation Division issued a Biological Opinion under section 7 of the ESA, on the issuance of an IHA to L–DEO under section 101(a)(5)(D) of the MMPA by the NMFS OPR Permits and Conservation Division and the NSF's funding of L–DEO's survey. The Biological Opinion concluded that the action is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of ESA-listed blue whales, fin whales, sei whales, sperm whales, Mexico DPS humpback whales, Central America DPS humpback whales, and Guadalupe fur seals.

Authorization

As a result of these determinations, NMFS has issued an IHA to L–DEO for conducting geophysical surveys of the Guerrero Gap in the Eastern Tropical Pacific in spring 2022, provided the previously mentioned mitigation, monitoring, and reporting requirements are incorporated.

Dated: May 2, 2022.

Kimberly Damon-Randall,

*Director, Office of Protected Resources,
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; Southeast Region Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) and Related Requirements

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 January 12, 2022, 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: Southeast Region Vessel Monitoring System and Related Requirements.

OMB Control Number: 0648–0544.

Form Number(s): None.

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

Number of Respondents: 901.

Average Hours per Response: Annual VMS maintenance, 2 hours; Installation/Activation of VMS unit, 5 hours; Installation and activation checklist, 20 minutes; power-down exemption request, 5 minutes; and trip declaration, 1 minute.

Total Annual Burden Hours: 2,628.

Needs and Uses: The NMFS, Office of Law Enforcement, Southeast Enforcement Division is submitting this request for an extension of a currently approved information collection.

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act authorizes the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Gulf Council) and South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (South Atlantic Council) to prepare and amend fishery management plans for any fishery in Federal waters under their respective jurisdictions. NMFS and the Gulf Council manage the reef fish fishery in the Gulf of Mexico (Gulf) under the Fishery Management

Plan (FMP) for the Reef Fish Resources of the Gulf of Mexico. NMFS and the South Atlantic Council manage the fishery for rock shrimp in the South Atlantic under the FMP for the Shrimp Fishery in the South Atlantic Region. The vessel monitoring system (VMS) regulations for the Gulf reef fish fishery and the South Atlantic rock shrimp fishery may be found at 50 CFR 622.28 and 622.205, respectively.

The FMPs and the implementing regulations contain several specific management areas where fishing is restricted or prohibited to protect habitat or spawning aggregations, or to control fishing pressure. Unlike size, bag, and trip limits, where the catch can be monitored on shore when a vessel returns to port, area restrictions require at-sea enforcement. However, at-sea enforcement of offshore areas is difficult due to the distance from shore and the limited number of patrol vessels, resulting in a need to improve enforceability of area fishing restrictions through remote sensing methods. In addition, all fishing gears are subject to some area fishing restrictions. Because of the sizes of these areas and the distances from shore, the effectiveness of enforcement through over flights and at-sea interception is limited. An electronic VMS allows a more effective means to monitor vessels for intrusions into restricted areas.

The VMS provides effort data and significantly aids in enforcement of areas closed to fishing. All position reports are treated in accordance with NMFS existing guidelines for confidential data. As a condition of authorized fishing for or possession of Gulf reef fish or South Atlantic rock shrimp in or from Federal waters, vessel owners or operators subject to VMS requirements must allow NMFS, the United States Coast Guard, and their authorized officers and designees, access to the vessel's position data obtained from the VMS.

The information collected on the "Vessel Monitoring System Installation and Activation Certification for the Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico" form provides NMFS assurance that vessels are compliant with the requirements to install and activate an approved VMS unit. Information collected on the "Vessel Monitoring System Mobile Transceiver Unit (MTU) Power-Down Exemption Request for Vessels in the Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Fishery" form provides information that allows NMFS to exempt a vessel from their the VMS reporting requirement under specific criteria.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Frequency: VMS unit installation, once; installation and activation checklist, once; power down exemption request, variable but on average less than once per year; trip declaration, variable but an average of 9 annually per vessel; and annual maintenance once per year.

Respondent's Obligation: Submission of the Installation and Activation certification is and mandatory. Transmission of fishing activity report is mandatory. Submission of a Power down Exemption Authorization request is required to obtain or retain benefits.

Legal Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

This information collection request may be viewed at 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. 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 0648–0544.

Sheleen Dumas,

Department PRA Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Commerce Department.

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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; Fisheries Certificate of Origin

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 January 24,

2022 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: Fisheries Certificate of Origin.

OMB Control Number: 0648–0335.

Form Number(s): NOAA Form 370.

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

Number of Respondents: 540.

Average Hours per Response: 25 minutes.

Total Annual Burden Hours: 5,833.

Needs and Uses: This request is for an extension of a current information collection sponsored by NMFS' Office of International Affairs, Trade, and Commerce. The information required by the International Dolphin Conservation Program Act, amendment to the Marine Mammal Protection Act, is needed to: (1) Document the dolphin-safe status of frozen and/or processed tuna import shipments; (2) verify that import shipments of fish were not harvested by large-scale, high seas driftnets; and (3) verify that tuna was not harvested by an embargoed nation or one that is otherwise prohibited from exporting tuna to the United States.

Collected information includes the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Entry Identification, date of entry, and contact details on the exporting and importing companies. Collected information also includes harvest characteristics such as fishing vessel name, fishing trip dates, vessel flag, vessel gear type, and ocean area of harvest, as well as the declaration of the dolphin-safe status of the shipment, and if applicable, the attachment of required certifications. Forms are submitted by importers and processors. NMFS uses this information to verify the dolphin-safe status of tuna shipments.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Frequency: Per applicable tuna importation.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

Legal Authority: Marine Mammal Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) and the Dolphin Protection Consumer Information Act (16 U.S.C. 1385).

This information collection request may be viewed at 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