

ACTION: Request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Coast Guard intends to request the approval of OMB for the renewal of two Information Collection Requests (ICRs). These ICRs comprise: (1) Alteration of Obstructive Bridges; and (2) Financial Responsibility for Water Pollution (Vessels). Before submitting the ICRs to OMB, the Coast Guard is asking for comments on the collections described below.

DATES: Comments must reach the Coast Guard on or before April 25, 2000.

ADDRESSES: You may mail comments to the Docket Management System (DMS) [USCG-2000-6950], U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street S.W., Washington, DC 20590-0001, or deliver them to room PL-401, located on the Plaza Level of the Nassif Building at the same address between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The telephone number is 202-366-9329.

The Docket Management Facility maintains the public docket for this Request. Comments will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection or copying at room PL-401, located on the Plaza Level of the Nassif Building at the same address between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. You may also access this docket on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

Copies of the complete ICRs are available through this docket on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov> and also from Commandant (G-SII-2), U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, room 6106 (Attn: Barbara Davis), 2100 Second Street S.W., Washington, DC 20593-0001. The telephone number is 202-267-2326.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Barbara Davis, Office of Information Management, 202-267-2326, for questions on this document; Dorothy Walker, Chief, Documentary Services Division, U.S. Department of Transportation, 202-366-9330, for questions in the docket.

Request for Comments

The Coast Guard encourages interested persons to submit written comments. Persons submitting comments should include their names and addresses, identify this document [USCG-2000-6950] and the specific ICR to which each comment applies, and give the reason(s) for each comment. Please submit all comments and attachments in an unbound format no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for

copying and electronic filing. Persons wanting acknowledgment of receipt of comments should enclose stamped, self-addressed postcards or envelopes.

Information Collection Requests

1. *Title:* Alteration of Obstructive Bridges.

OMB Control Number: 2115-0614.

Summary: The collection of information requires the owner of a bridge whose bridge the Coast Guard has found to be an unreasonable obstruction to navigation to prepare, and submit to the Coast Guard, general plans and specifications of that bridge. *Need:* Under 33 U.S.C. 494, 502, 511, and 513, the Coast Guard may determine whether a bridge is an unreasonable obstruction to navigation and can require the owner of the bridge to submit information to determine the apportionment of cost between the U.S. and the owner for alteration of that bridge.

Respondents: Owners of bridges.

Frequency: On occasion.

Burden: The estimated burden is 120 hours annually.

2. *Title:* Financial Responsibility for Water Pollution (Vessels).

OMB Control Number: 2115-0545.

Summary: The collection of information requires operators of vessels over 300 gross tons to submit to the Coast Guard evidence of their financial responsibility to meet the maximum amount of liability in case of an oil spill or hazardous substances.

Need: Under 22 U.S.C. 2716 and 42 U.S.C. 9608, the Coast Guard has the authority to ensure that those persons directly subject to these rules are in compliance with the provisions.

Respondents: Vessels operators or owners of vessels over 300 gross tons.

Frequency: On occasion.

Burden: The estimated burden is 2,162 hours annually.

Dated: February 17, 2000.

Daniel F. Sheehan,

Director of Information and Technology.

[FR Doc. 00-4494 Filed 2-24-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Coast Guard**

[USCG-1999-6581]

Information Collection Under Review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB): 2115-0042 and 2115-0010

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this request for comments announces that the Coast Guard has forwarded the two Information Collection Reports (ICRs) abstracted below to OMB for review and comment. Our ICRs describe the information that we seek to collect from the public. Review and comment by OMB ensure that we impose only paperwork burdens commensurate with our performance of duties.

DATES: Please submit comments on or before March 27, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Please send comments to both (1) the Docket Management System (DMS), U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street S.W., Washington, DC 20590-0001, and (2) the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA), Office of Management and Budget (OMB), 725 17th Street N.W., Washington, DC 20503, to the attention of the Desk Officer for the USCG.

Copies of the complete ICRs are available for inspection and copying in public docket USCG-1999-6581 of the Docket Management Facility between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays; for inspection and printing on the internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>; and for inspection from the Commandant (G-SII-2), U.S. Coast Guard, room 6106, 2100 Second Street S.W., Washington, DC, between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Barbara Davis, Office of Information Management, 202-267-2326, for questions on this document; Dorothy Walker, Chief, Documentary Services Division, U.S. Department of Transportation, 202-366-9330, for questions on the docket.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**Regulatory History**

This request constitutes the 30-day notice required by OMB. The Coast Guard has already published [64 FR 68408 (December 7, 1999)] the 60-day notice required by OMB. That request elicited no comments.

Request for Comments

The Coast Guard invites comments on the proposed collections of information to determine whether the collections are necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department. In particular, the Coast Guard would appreciate comments addressing: (1) the practical utility of the collections; (2) the accuracy of the Department's estimated burden of the collections; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and

clarity of the information that is the subject of the collections; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of collections on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments, to DMS or OIRA, must contain the OMB Control Numbers of all ICRs addressed. Comments to DMS must contain the docket number of this request, USCG 1999-6581. Comments to OIRA are best assured of having their full effect if OIRA receives them 30 or fewer days after the publication of this request.

Information Collection Requests

1. *Title:* Certificate of Discharge to Merchant Mariners.

OMB Control Number: 2115-0042.

Type of Request: Extension of currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Masters or mates of shipping companies and merchant mariners.

Form(s): N/A.

Abstract: The collection of information requires a master or mate of a shipping company to submit information on merchant mariners to the U.S. Coast Guard that: (1) establishes their sea service time; (2) sets forth their qualifications for original credentials, or for upgrading existing credentials; and (3) sets forth their qualifications for retirement or insurance benefits.

Annual Estimated Burden Hours: The estimated burden is 4,500 hours annually.

2. *Title:* Recreational Boating Accident Report.

OMB Control Number: 2115-0010.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Operators of recreational boats.

Forms: N/A.

Abstract: The information collected identifies possible manufacturers' defects in boats or equipment, helps develop boat manufacturing standards and safe-boating-education programs, and furnishes accident statistics.

Annual Estimated Burden Hours: The estimated burden is 4,232 hours annually.

Dated: February 17, 2000.

Daniel F. Sheehan,

Director of Information and Technology.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Coast Guard

[USCG-2000-6942]

Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety Listening Sessions

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of meetings.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard will hold several regional listening sessions to present, and receive feedback on, the Coast Guard's Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety Action Plan (CFVSAP). The Coast Guard created the CFVSAP to help fishermen improve the level of safety in the fishing industry. The information gathered during these listening sessions will be presented to the Commercial Fishing Industry Vessel Advisory Committee and used to further refine the CFVSAP. The first two listening sessions are scheduled for Rockport, ME and Kodiak, AK.

DATES: The listening session in Rockport, ME will be on March 3, 2000, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. The listening session in Kodiak, AK will be on March 23, 2000, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The comment period will close on July 30, 2000.

ADDRESSES: The Samoset Resort, 220 Warrenton Street, Rockport, ME 04856-9974, (207) 442-7700; Fisherman's Hall, 403 Maine Way, Kodiak, AK, (907) 486-8080.

To make sure your comments and related material are not entered more than once in the docket, please submit them by only one of the following means:

(1) By mail to the Docket Management Facility, (USCG-2000-6942), U.S. Department of Transportation, room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001.

(2) By hand delivery to room PL-401 on the Plaza level of the Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The telephone number is 202-366-9329.

(3) By fax to the Docket Management Facility at 202-493-2251.

(4) Electronically through the Web Site for the Docket Management System at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

The Docket Management Facility maintains the public docket for this notice. Comments will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection on the Plaza Level of the Nassif Building at the above address between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays.

You may also electronically access the public docket for this notice on the internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information on the public docket, contact Dorothy Walker, Chief, Dockets, U.S. Department of Transportation, telephone 202-366-9329; for information concerning the notice of meeting contact Lieutenant Joe Paitl or Ensign Chris O'Neal, (G-MOC-3), 2100 Second St., SW, Washington, DC 20593-0001, telephone 202-267-0507 or 202-267-2008, or electronic mail Gpaitl@comdt.uscg.mil or Co'neal@comdt.uscg.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Other Regional Listening Sessions

This notice announces the first two, of seven, regional listening sessions. Other sessions are being planned for Norfolk, VA; Galveston, TX; Mobile, AL; Los Angeles, CA; and Seattle, WA. These sessions are subject to change. The final dates and locations of the sessions will be published in a separate **Federal Register** notice once they are confirmed.

Request for Comments

We encourage interested persons to participate in this information-gathering initiative by submitting written data, views, or other relevant documents. Persons submitting comments should include their names and addresses, identify this notice (USCG-2000-6942), and the reasons for each comment. You may submit your comments and material by mail, hand delivery, fax, or electronic means to the Docket Management Facility at the address under ADDRESSES; but please submit your comments and material by only one means. Please submit all comments and attachments in an unbound format, no larger than 8 1/2 x 11 inches, suitable for copying and electronic filing to the DOT Docket Management Facility at the address under ADDRESSES. If you want acknowledgement of receipt of your comments, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed post card or envelope. Comments received, whether submitted in writing to the docket or presented during the regional listening sessions, will be considered in refining the CFVSAP.

Background

In response to the alarming number of deaths in the fishing industry, the Coast Guard chartered a Task Force to identify ways to improve safety. The Task Force examined fishing vessel casualties in the context of historical data, reviewed the Coast Guard's existing Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety Program, reviewed