

Type of Review: Regular submission.
Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations, individuals or households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 200.

Estimated Time Per Response: 15 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 50.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$0.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: March 5, 2003

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 03-5900 Filed 3-11-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 030603F]

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Highly Migratory Species Dealer Reporting Family of Forms

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995,

Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before May 12, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dHynek@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Dianne Stephan, Highly Migratory Species Division, Northeast Regional Office, National Marine Fisheries Service, 1 Blackburn Dr., Gloucester, MA 01930; phone (978) 281-9397.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

Under the provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*), NOAA is responsible for management of the Nation's marine fisheries. In addition, NOAA must comply with the United States' obligations under the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act (16 U.S.C. 971 *et seq.*). NOAA Fisheries must collect domestic landings data for Atlantic highly migratory species via dealer reports in order to provide information vital for fishery management. In addition, the import, export, and re-export of bluefin tuna, bigeye tuna and swordfish must be monitored by the United States in order to comply with international obligations established through membership in the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT). ICCAT has implemented a trade monitoring program for bluefin tuna, bigeye tuna and swordfish to discourage illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing activities as well as further understanding of catches and international trade for these species.

This collection will serve as an umbrella, or family of forms, for Atlantic highly migratory species dealer reporting requirements. Four activities will occur as a result of this action: (1) new reporting requirements will be implemented;

(2) previously approved information collections will be modified and transferred into this collection; (3) previously-approved collections will be renewed; and (4) reporting requirements will be transferred to this collection without modification.

New reporting requirements will be implemented in order to execute recent binding recommendations of ICCAT. Newly required bigeye tuna statistical documents and re-export certificates and document validation upon export will be added to this collection, along with swordfish and bluefin tuna re-export certificates, which must be validated prior to export.

The swordfish import certificate of eligibility will be transferred from collection approval 0648-0363 and expanded into a swordfish statistical document required for import and export of this species; the document must be validated prior to export. The swordfish import biweekly reporting form will be moved from collection approval 0648-0013 and modified to address bigeye tuna and swordfish imports, exports, and re-exports.

The required use of bluefin tuna statistical documents in the international trade of bluefin tuna will be renewed by this action, along with validation of these forms prior to export (0648-0040).

Finally, the HMS domestic biweekly landings report and associated negative reporting used by the southeast region of NOAA Fisheries will be incorporated from collection approval 0648-0013, and the bluefin tuna tagging, daily landing and biweekly reports will be incorporated from collection approval 0648-0239, both without modification.

II. Method of Collection

Dealer reporting for domestic purchase and international trade of certain Atlantic and Pacific highly migratory species is covered by this collection. Specifically, this collection addresses dealer reporting for import, export and re-export of Atlantic and Pacific swordfish, bigeye, and bluefin tuna; and domestic purchase of Atlantic tunas, Atlantic swordfish, and Atlantic sharks.

Under this collection, dealers who import, export, or re-export bluefin tuna, bigeye tuna or swordfish must report all transactions to NOAA on biweekly reporting forms which may be mailed or faxed. Species-specific statistical documents for export must be completed and transferred with the shipment, with copies mailed or faxed to NOAA. Original statistical documents for imports terminated in the U.S. must be mailed to NOAA Fisheries. When bluefin tuna, bigeye tuna, or swordfish are re-exported, a re-export certificate must be completed and transferred with the shipment with copies provided to NOAA Fisheries. Shipments for export and/or re-export must be validated through certification by a government

official or government-approved validating institution or alternatively fish carcasses may be tagged by the dealer prior to export.

For domestically-landed Atlantic bluefin tuna, dealers must tag each individual carcass with a tail tag and fax a landing card within 24 hours after landing to NOAA Fisheries. Biweekly reports recording fish size and tag number must be submitted by fax or mail. Dealers along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts must also submit biweekly reports recording domestically-landed bigeye tuna, albacore tuna, yellowfin tuna, skipjack tuna, swordfish, and sharks caught from the Atlantic Ocean or Gulf of Mexico.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0040.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 2,110.

Estimated Time Per Response: 5 minutes each for statistical documents and re-export certificates; 1 minute for tagging; 2 hours for certification; 17 minutes for bigeye tuna/swordfish trade biweekly report; 15 minutes for Southeast Region HMS dealer report; 3 minutes for Southeast Region HMS dealer negative reporting; 8 minutes for Pacific bluefin tuna biweekly dealer report; 15 minutes for Atlantic BFT biweekly dealer report; 2 minutes for landing cards.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 44,324.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$20,262.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: March 5, 2003.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 030503B]

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council; Essential Fish Habitat/Fishery Ecosystem Plan Technical Workshops

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of Workshops 11 and 12, Coral, Coral Reef and Live hard Bottom Habitat and Artificial Reef Workshops.

SUMMARY: The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold two technical workshops in St. Petersburg, FL involving its Habitat & Environmental Protection Advisory Panel, Coral Advisory Panel and invited scientists with background in specific habitat type or species utilization patterns. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

DATES: The workshops will take place on March 26 and 27, 2003. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times.

ADDRESSES: The workshops will be held at the Florida Marine Research Institute, 100 Eighth Ave. SE, St. Petersburg, FL 33701-5095; telephone: 727/896-8626.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kim Iverson, Public Information Officer, South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, One Southpark Circle, Suite 306, Charleston, S.C., 29407; telephone: 843/571-4366 or 866/SAFMC-10; fax: 843/769-4520.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Workshop participants will meet from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. on March 26, 2003 and again from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. on March 27, 2003. This workshop process will initiate development of a South Atlantic Council Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) which presents fishery and resource information for fisheries in the South Atlantic Bight ecosystem in context. The workshop processes will integrate two directives in the Final Rule for Essential Fish Habitat: 1) Review and update Essential Fish Habitat information, and 2) Consider ecosystem-based management through development of a

Fishery Ecosystem Plan for the South Atlantic Region.

The Council recognizes the scope of the significant task necessary to meet the new essential fish habitat mandates and directive to begin evaluating ecosystem-based management through the development of an FEP and is again calling upon the Habitat Advisory Panel members and other technical experts involved in the previous Habitat Plan development process to serve as or identify appropriate experts to function on a quasi-plan development team for this task. The Habitat and Coral Advisory Panel are scheduled to meet this fall and will provide additional guidance on the workshop process and ecosystem management.

A Final essential fish habitat (EFH) Rule was published on January 17, 2002 replacing the interim Final Rule of December 19, 1997 on which the original EFH and EFH-Habitat Area of Particular Concern (HAPC) designations were made. The Councils have, pursuant to the Final EFH Rule, been directed to update EFH and EFH-HAPC information and designations; in addition, pursuant to revisions to NOAA General Council interpretation of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Councils will be required to update all Environmental Impact Statements for all Federal Fishery Management Plans under their jurisdiction. Information compiled during this process will further facilitate meeting both the EFH and the NEPA mandate. As was done with the original Habitat Plan, a series of technical workshops will be conducted by Council habitat staff, in cooperation with NMFS/National Ocean Service (NOS) Beaufort Laboratory, NMFS Southeast Fishery Science Center (SEFSC) Miami Laboratory, NMFS Southeast Regional Office (SERO) personnel and invited participants. Workshops are intended to build on a review of existing information presented in the Habitat Plan, and focus on updating information pursuant to the new EFH Rule. This effort will begin the integration of comprehensive details of habitat distribution and characterization, the biology of managed species including their biological and the characteristics of the food web in which they exist.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under