

Justification for Merger of 0648-0489 into 0648-0202

OMB Control No.: 0648-0489 was originally intended to be merged into OMB Control No.: 0648-0202, but frequent rulemaking has prevented it until now. All respondents under the former are also included in the latter.

Several information collections from 0489 were added. However, not all the current 0489 burden was added because: 1) Burdens associated with vessel permit and the DAS baseline appeal were eliminated because these provisions were a one-time collection and are no longer necessary; 2) Burdens associated with automated polling of vessel position from 0489 associated with automated polling of vessel position for all groundfish vessels has already been accounted for in earlier collections; 3) Burdens for area and Days at Sea (DAS) declaration include a revision to an existing burden approved in 0489 due to a revision of the number of participants approved in 0501; 4) Burdens associated with modifications to exemption participation periods have been reduced when merging with 0202 because 0489 reduced the participation periods of these exemptions by half.