

JUSTIFICATION OF CHANGE
SOUTHEAST REGION DEALER AND INTERVIEW FAMILY OF FORMS
OMB CONTROL NO. 0648-0013

The South Atlantic Fisheries Management Council has instituted a Gulf of Mexico (GOM) gag grouper commercial quota in Amendment 16 to the Snapper/Grouper Management Plan approved in October 2008. The quota is necessary to prevent overfishing of this species in the South Atlantic waters of the U.S. In order to be able to monitor this quota effectively, this species needs to be added to the coastal fisheries quota monitoring form to collect this information from commercial seafood dealers. This data collection is authorized under 50 CFR part 622.5(c)(5).

On the Dealer Reporting for Coastal Fisheries Quota Monitoring form, a line has been added for the GOM gag grouper (see highlight). As relatively few respondents are expected to complete information on this species, the average response time is not expected to change.