

SUPPORTING STATEMENT
ALASKA INTERAGENCY ELECTRONIC REPORTING SYSTEM
OMB CONTROL NO. 0648-0515

INTRODUCTION

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act) 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.* authorizes the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) to prepare and amend fishery management plans for any fishery in waters under its jurisdiction. National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) manages the crab fisheries in the waters off the coast of Alaska under the Fishery Management Plan for Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Crab and groundfish under the Fishery Management Plan for the Groundfish Fishery of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands and the Fishery Management Plan (FMPs) for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska. Regulations implementing the FMPs appear at 50 CFR part 679 for groundfish and 50 CFR part 680 for shellfish.

An interagency electronic reporting system (IERS) was implemented for use in the fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). NMFS requires that eLandings, the data entry component of IERS, be used as a single reporting system for commercial harvest and production of groundfish (including rockfish), Pacific halibut, and certain species of crab. eLandings allows processors and others to make all three required landings reports with a single reporting system to NMFS, the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC), and Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G). NMFS collects groundfish harvest and production data for FMP species in the EEZ. ADF&G collects harvest data for groundfish species taken in the State of Alaska (State) waters, and has responsibility for some fisheries in the EEZ, such as lingcod and black rockfish. ADF&G and NMFS cooperatively manage the Crab Rationalization Program (CR) fisheries. NMFS and IPHC cooperatively manage Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Pacific halibut in both State waters and in the EEZ.

This action is a request for renewal of this collection-of-information.

Using eLandings removes reporting duplications and makes recordkeeping and reporting simpler. Additional benefits of the eLandings system include:

- Immediate verification of permits and vessel identification;
- Timely catch reports for management agency use;
- Options for processors to import or export catch and production information; and
- Significant reduction in data entry by management agencies and processors.

Processors report groundfish, crab, Pacific halibut, and sablefish landings on the eLandings website (<http://www.elandings.alaska.gov>) and print records of those landings in the format of an ADF&G fish ticket. Fish and shellfish are reported and printed as daily at-sea or shoreside production reports. Pacific halibut, sablefish, and crab IFQ information is printed in the format of an IFQ landing report. These paper copies are maintained for enforcement purposes.

Clients with no web access, such as the at-sea fleet, will use eLandings client desktop software provided by NMFS and submit landing reports as e-mail attachments. The vessels use satellite

communications which may or may not include telephone, Internet, text messaging, e-mail, and e-mail attachment capabilities.

A. JUSTIFICATION

1. Explain the circumstances that make the collection of information necessary.

eLandings is used to debit annual harvest and production amounts. eLandings is a more convenient, accurate, and timely method of reporting than current paper forms and logbooks, mainly because fishery participants do not have to enter data three times to comply with three different fishery management agencies. Additionally, eLandings provides continuous access to individual accounts by participants. These provisions make recordkeeping and reporting requirements less burdensome by allowing participants to more efficiently monitor their accounts and fishing activities.

eLandings is expected to strengthen the partnership between NMFS, ADF&G, and IPHC by minimizing the burden and maximizing the utility of information created, collected, maintained, used, disseminated, and retained. The use of eLandings incorporates the goals of the Government Paperwork Elimination Act (GPEA) by ensuring that information technology is acquired, used, and managed to improve performance of agency missions, including the reduction of information collection burdens on the public.

2. Explain how, by whom, how frequently, and for what purpose the information will be used. If the information collected will be disseminated to the public or used to support information that will be disseminated to the public, then explain how the collection complies with all applicable Information Quality Guidelines.

eLandings is the data entry portion of the IERS for reporting commercial fishery landings in Alaska. eLandings is used to report landings and production data for groundfish, IFQ halibut, IFQ sablefish, Community Development Quota (CDQ) halibut, IFQ and CDQ crab, and Community of Adak golden king crab. In the future, the system will include landings for shellfish and salmon.

Having worked with the industry over the years, it is known that all Users have computers with Internet connectivity, which will support Internet submissions of commercial fishery landings, production data, and discard or disposition data. The User will enter this information over the Internet at <http://elandings.alaska.gov> by logging on to the eLanding system or by using the desktop client software.

The User must print daily onsite through eLandings each landing report, eLandings production report, and if an IFQ delivery, each IFQ receipt. The parties to the information must acknowledge the accuracy of the printed reports by signing them and entering date signed.

The User must retain a printed paper copy onsite or onboard of each landing report; each production report; if IFQ halibut, IFQ sablefish, or CDQ halibut, each landing receipt; if IFQ crab, each crab IFQ landing receipt. In addition, the User of a shoreside processor, stationary floating processor (SFP), catcher/processor, mothership, Registered Buyer, and Registered Crab

Receiver must make the printed copies available upon request of NMFS observers and authorized officers.

This renewal summary uses actual number of eLandings reports submitted annually rather than numbers of potential submissions by number of permits. This number also reflects revisions as well as original reports.

a. eLandings processor registration

Before using the eLandings system to report landings, production, discard, and disposition data, the User must request authorization to use the system, reserve a unique User ID, and obtain a password by using the Internet to complete the eLandings Processor Registration at <https://elandings.alaska.gov/elandings/Register>. Once registered, the User is not required to register again unless ownership changes; new ownership requires a new Federal permit and ADF&G processor code.

Upon receipt of the registration information, eLandings verifies that all of the required information is provided in the correct format, and that the requested User ID is not already in use. After completing registration or creating a new operation, eLandings will generate a User Agreement Form.

The User must print, sign, and submit the registration form to NMFS Restricted Access Management Program (RAM), eLandings Registration at fax number (907) 586-7354. The User's signature on the registration form means that the User agrees to the following terms:

- ◆ Use eLandings access privileges only for submitting legitimate fishery landing reports;
- ◆ Safeguard the User ID and password to prevent their use by unauthorized persons; and
- ◆ Ensure that the User is authorized to submit landing reports for the processor permit number(s) listed.

Mail to: NMFS RAM
eLandings Registration
P.O. Box 21668
Juneau, AK 99802-1668

or fax to: (907) 586-7354
Attn: eLandings Registration

or deliver to: NMFS RAM
eLandings Registration
709 West Ninth Street, Suite 713
Juneau, AK 99801.

NMFS will email confirmation to indicate that the User is registered, authorized to use eLandings, and that the User ID and User's account are enabled.

The User must enter the following information to obtain operation registration and User ID registration. Information collected on an eLandings registration is necessary to identify the participant and to provide authorization for the participant to use eLandings.

eLandings Processor Registration

- Operation type
- Operation name
- ADF&G processor code
- Enter all Federal permit numbers
 - If a shoreside processor or SFP, enter the Federal Processor Permit (FPP) number
 - If a catcher/processor or mothership, enter the Federal Fisheries Permit (FFP) number
 - If a Registered Buyer, enter the Registered Buyer permit number
 - If a Registered Crab Receiver, enter the Registered Crab Receiver (RCR) permit number
- Home port code
- ADF&G vessel registration number, if mothership or catcher/processor
- If a buying station, enter the home port code
 - If a tender, enter the ADF&G vessel registration number
 - If a vehicle, enter the vehicle license number and state of license
- Physical operation. If a buying station or custom processor, identify the associated processor
 - Operation type
 - ADF&G processor code
 - Applicable permit number
- User ID registration for primary User
 - Requested User ID
 - Initial password
 - Company name and User name
 - City and state
 - Business telephone number, fax number, and e-mail address
 - Security question and security answer.

eLandings Processor Registration, Respondent	
Number of respondents	15
Total annual responses	15
Frequency of response = 1	
Total burden hours (3.75)	4 hr
Time per response (15/60 = 0.25) x 15	
Total personnel cost (\$25/hr) x 4	\$100
Total miscellaneous cost (7.05)	\$7
Photocopy = 0.05 x 1 x 15 = 0.75	
Postage = 0.42 x 15 = 6.30	

eLandings processor registration, Federal Government	
Total annual responses	15
Total burden hours	4 hr
Time per response (15/60 = 0.25)	
Total personnel cost (\$25/hr)	\$100
Total miscellaneous cost	0

b. eLandings landing report

eLandings is an online data entry port through which data for four reports (under this Office of Management and Budget (OMB) number) are entered. These reports are: groundfish landing reports (IFQ and non-IFQ), crab landing reports, at-sea production reports (from catcher/processors and motherships), and shoreside production reports (from shoreside processors and SFPs). Additional information regarding eLandings may be found at <http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/er/default.htm>.

Information collected on an eLandings landing report is needed to identify the participant, to monitor the deliveries to the facility as well as record discard and disposition of species, and for management of various fisheries. Each of these reports is guided by a data entry time limit. An optional manual landing report is available in the event the eLandings system and/or the Internet is unavailable. A User who for any reason is unable to properly submit a landing report or production report through eLandings must enter the information onto a manual landing report for crab and groundfish (this collection-of-information) and for individual fishing quota (IFQ) halibut or sablefish, OMB Control No. 0648-0272. The manual landing report must be used until network connections are restored. When the network is restored, the User must enter this same information into eLandings.

Shoreside processor or SFP

Information entered automatically for eLandings landing report

User ID
Processor company name
Business telephone number and e-mail address
Port of landing
ADF&G processor code and Federal permit number
Unique landing report number assigned by eLandings upon completion of data entry

Groundfish delivery information

Number of observers onboard
Crew size_(including operator)
Management program name and identifying number (if any)
ADF&G groundfish statistical area of harvest
Date (mm/dd/yyyy) delivery was completed
If delivery is received from
 a buying station other than a tender, enter name of buying station
 a tender, enter ADF&G vessel registration number
 a catcher vessel, enter ADF&G vessel registration number
If blue logsheet not received from a catcher vessel, enter NO and code for reason not provided
Gear type of harvester
Total estimated hail weight (to nearest pound)
ADF&G fish ticket number provided to catcher vessel

Landings information

Date of landing (mm/dd/yyyy)
Landed scale weight (to the nearest pound) by species code and delivery condition code

Discard or disposition information

Record discard or disposition information
 that occurred on and was reported by a catcher vessel
 that occurred on and was reported by a buying station
 that occurred prior to, during, and after production of groundfish at the shoreside processor or SFP
 when no groundfish are delivered but the blue Daily Fishing Logbooks (DFL) contains records of discards or disposition
If groundfish or herring prohibited species catch (PSC)
Species code, delivery condition code, and disposition code
Weight (to the nearest pound)
If PSC halibut, salmon, or crab
Species code, delivery condition code, and disposition code
Count (in numbers of animals)

Mothership

Groundfish delivery information

Number of observers onboard
Crew size (including operator)
Management program name and identifying number (if any)
ADF&G groundfish statistical area of harvest

Date (mm/dd/yyyy) that delivery was completed
If the delivery is received from a tender, enter the ADF&G vessel registration number of the vessel
If delivery received from a catcher vessel, enter the ADF&G vessel registration number of the vessel
Indicate whether the blue logsheet was received from catcher vessel

If NO, select the reason provided by the catcher vessel for not supplying this copy

Gear type of harvester

Total estimated round weight by species (pounds)

ADF&G fish ticket number provided to catcher vessel

Discard or disposition information

Record discard or disposition information

that occurred on and was reported by a catcher vessel

that occurred on and was reported by a buying station

that occurred prior to, during, and after production of groundfish at the mothership

when no groundfish are delivered but the blue DFL is submitted containing records

of discards or disposition

If groundfish or PSC herring

Species code, delivery condition code, and disposition code

Weight (to the nearest pound)

If PSC halibut, salmon, or crab

Species code, delivery condition code, and disposition code

Count (in numbers of animals)

Registered Buyer

IFQ halibut, CDQ halibut, and IFQ sablefish delivery information

User ID and password

Date (mm/dd) of the landing

Location of the landing (port code)

Permit numbers for receiving

IFQ hired master

CDQ halibut hired master

Registered Buyer

Delivery information

Harvesting vessel's ADF&G vessel registration number

Gear code used to harvest

ADF&G fish ticket number(s) for the landing

ADF&G statistical area of harvest

If ADF&G statistical area is bisected by a line dividing two IFQ regulatory areas, provide the

IFQ regulatory area of harvest

Initial accurate scale weight(s) (to the nearest pound) made at the time of offloading

for IFQ halibut, IFQ sablefish, or CDQ halibut sold and retained (where retained includes: fish intended

for personal use, fish weighed and reloaded for delivery to another processor, and fish landed but rejected

at the dock by the Registered Buyer)

Species codes, delivery condition code, and disposition code for each ADF&G statistical area of

harvest

OR

Accurate weight of IFQ sablefish processed product obtained before the offload may be substituted before the

initial accurate scale weight at time of offload if the vessel operator is a Registered Buyer reporting an

IFQ sablefish landing

Whether initial accurate scale weight is given with or without ice and slime

Whether IFQ halibut is incidental catch concurrent with legal landing of salmon or concurrent with legal

landing of lingcod harvested using dinglebar gear

Signatures of Registered Buyer, IFQ permit holder, IFQ hired master permit holder, or CDQ hired master

permit holder

Registered Crab Receiver

IFQ crab delivery information

RCR permit number, IFQ crab permit number, and individual processing quota (IPQ) crab permit number,
as appropriate

ADF&G vessel registration number of the harvesting vessel
 Date (mm/dd/yyyy) fishing began
 Date (mm/dd/yyyy) of the IFQ crab landing
 ADF&G fish ticket number (automatically supplied)
 ADF&G statistical area of harvest
 Species code and delivery-condition codes of catch
 Number of crab retained and sold, condition code, product type, size/grade, sold pounds, and *optionally*, price per pound
 Scale weight of deadloss (to the nearest pound)
 Scale weight of crab retained for personal use (to the nearest pound)

Information entered for IFQ crab custom processing landings. In addition to the information required for an IFQ crab delivery, if custom processing IFQ crab, enter the ADF&G processor code of the person for which the IFQ crab was custom processed

Signatures of Registered Crab Receiver, IFQ crab permit holder, IFQ crab hired master permit holder

eLandings landing report, Respondent	
Number of respondents	239
Groundfish Landing Reports (IFQ and non IFQ): 195 Crab Landing Reports: 44	
Total annual responses	21,623
Groundfish Landing Reports (IFQ and non IFQ): 20,422 Crab Landing Reports: 1,201	
Total burden (12613.42)	12,613
Time per response = 35/60 (0.58)	
Total personnel cost (\$25/hr)	\$315,325
Total miscellaneous cost (2162.3)	\$2,162
Internet = 0.05 x 21,623 = 1081.15 Copies = 0.05 x 21,623 = 1081.15	

eLandings landing report, Federal Government	
Total annual responses	0
Total burden hours	0
Total personnel cost	0
Total miscellaneous cost	0

c. Manual (paper) landing report [Removed]

Because the manual landing report collects information that is meant to be entered into eLandings, it is removed as a separate form. This information is incorporated into the cost and burden of eLandings.

d. eLandings production report

The eLandings production reports are required for groundfish and are additional to the eLandings landing reports. Information collected on an eLandings production report is necessary to identify the participant; to monitor the discards and disposition product; and to monitor the product leaving the facility.

Shoreside processor or SFP

Automatic information for eLandings production report

FPP number
 Company name
 ADF&G processor code

User name
 email address

Production information

Reporting date
 Number of observers onsite
 Area of harvest (Gulf of Alaska (GOA) or Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands management area (BSAI))
 Product description -- Product by species code, product type, and product code
 Product weight – actual scale weight (to the nearest pound)
 Whether no production or deliveries for the day

Catcher/processor or mothership

Automatic information for eLandings production report

FFP number
 Company name
 ADF&G processor code
 User name
 email address
 Telephone number

Production information

Reporting date (mm/dd/yyyy)
 Whether processor is a catcher/processor or mothership
 Crew size (including operator)
 Management program
 Gear type of harvester
 Federal reporting area of harvest
 If harvest with trawl gear, whether *C. Opilio* Bycatch Limitation Zone (COBLZ) or Red King Crab Savings Area (RKCSA)
 Product by species code, product type, and product code
 Product weight (to nearest 0.001 mt)
 Whether no production for the day

Discard or disposition information

Record discard or disposition that occurred
 Prior to, during, or after production
 Species code and disposition code
 Discard weight of groundfish and PSC herring (to nearest 0.001 mt)
 Discard number of PSC Pacific salmon, steelhead trout, Pacific halibut, king crab, and Tanner crab
 ADF&G statistical area

eLandings production report, Respondent	
Number of respondents	178
At-sea production reports (from catcher/processors and motherships): 94 Shoreside Production Reports: 84	
Total annual responses	24,426
At-sea production reports: 14,378 Shoreside Production Reports: 10,048	
Total burden hours (6,467.3)	6,467 hr
Complete & print receipts At-sea production reports = 20/60 (0.33) x 14,378 = 4,792.67 Shoreside production reports = 10/60 (0.17) x 10,048 = 1674.67	
Total personnel cost (\$25/hr)	\$161,683
Total miscellaneous cost (2,442.60)	\$2,443
Photocopy = 0.05 x 24426 = 1,221.30 Internet = 0.05 x 24426 = 1,221.30	

eLandings production report, Federal Government	
Total annual responses	0
Total burden hours	0
Total personnel cost	0
Total miscellaneous cost	0

It is anticipated that the information collected will be disseminated to the public or used to support publicly disseminated information. As explained in the preceding paragraphs, the information gathered has utility. NMFS will retain control over the information and safeguard it from improper access, modification, and destruction, consistent with National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) standards for confidentiality, privacy, and electronic information. See response to Question 10 of this Supporting Statement for more information on confidentiality and privacy. The information collection is designed to yield data that meet all applicable information quality guidelines. Prior to dissemination, the information will be subjected to quality control measures and a pre-dissemination review pursuant to Section 515 of Public Law 106-554.

3. Describe whether, and to what extent, the collection of information involves the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological techniques or other forms of information technology.

This collection is estimated to be 99% electronic. The eLandings registration, landings report, and production report are submitted by Internet data entry at <http://elandings.alaska.gov/>. For catcher/processors and motherships that do not have Internet service, a Desktop Client Application (software package) can be used to generate files for submitting via email.

Manual landings reports are available for printing and completing at http://alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/elandings/temp_disconnect_nonIFQ.pdf. They must be mailed or faxed to the local ADF&G office.

4. Describe efforts to identify duplication.

None of the information collected as part of this information collection duplicates other collections.

5. If the collection of information involves small businesses or other small entities, describe the methods used to minimize burden.

The proposed collection-of-information does not impose a significant impact on small entities.

6. Describe the consequences to the Federal program or policy activities if the collection is not conducted or is conducted less frequently.

This action is necessary to improve recordkeeping and reporting efficiency for processors and to improve the quality of data obtained by NMFS, ADF&G, and IPHC for fishery management purposes. Advances in technology, public expectations, Congress’s GPEA mandate, and Administration policy all require that agencies of the United States government move

expeditiously to adopt electronic processes. If this collection were not conducted, NMFS fishery data collection would not be able to obtain this objective.

7. Explain any special circumstances that require the collection to be conducted in a manner inconsistent with OMB guidelines.

No inconsistencies occur in this collection.

8. Provide information on the PRA Federal Register Notice that solicited public comments on the information collection prior to this submission. Summarize the public comments received in response to that notice and describe the actions taken by the agency in response to those comments. Describe the efforts to consult with persons outside the agency to obtain their views on the availability of data, frequency of collection, the clarity of instructions and recordkeeping, disclosure, or reporting format (if any), and on the data elements to be recorded, disclosed, or reported.

A Federal Register notice published on December 17, 2008 (73 FR 76615) solicited public comments on this information collection. No comments were received.

9. Explain any decisions to provide payments or gifts to respondents, other than remuneration of contractors or grantees.

No payment or gift will be provided under this program.

10. Describe any assurance of confidentiality provided to respondents and the basis for assurance in statute, regulation, or agency policy.

As stated on the manual landing forms and the eLandings website, the information collected is confidential under section 402(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act (16 U.S.C. 1881a *et seq.*); and also under NOAA Administrative Order (AO) 216-100, which sets forth procedures to protect confidentiality of fishery statistics.

11. Provide additional justification for any questions of a sensitive nature, such as sexual behavior and attitudes, religious beliefs, and other matters that are commonly considered private.

This information collection does not involve information of a sensitive nature.

12. Provide an estimate in hours of the burden of the collection of information.

Total estimated unique respondents: 239, decreased from 1,277. Total estimated responses: 46,064, decreased from 100,317. Total estimated burden: 19,084, decreased from 57,762 hr. Total estimated personnel cost: \$477,100 decreased from \$1,444,050.

13. Provide an estimate of the total annual cost burden to the respondents or record-keepers resulting from the collection (excluding the value of the burden hours in Question 12 above).

Total estimated miscellaneous costs: \$4,612, decreased from \$14,931.

14. Provide estimates of annualized cost to the Federal government.

Total estimated annual burden: 4, decreased from 319 hr. Total estimated personnel cost: \$100, decreased from \$7,975.

15. Explain the reasons for any program changes or adjustments.

The following adjustments are made due to having actual annual numbers of responses:

IERS processor registration is decreased because registration is necessary only once unless changes occur

- a decrease of 1,262 respondents and responses, 15 instead of 1,277
- a decrease of 315 burden, 4 instead of 319
- a decrease of \$7,875 personnel costs, \$100 instead of \$7,975
- a decrease of \$555 miscellaneous costs, \$7 instead of \$562

eLandings landings report is decreased because actual annual counts are available

- a decrease of 1,038 respondents, 239 instead of 1,277
- a decrease of 35,457 responses, 21,623 instead of 57,080
- a decrease of 20,493 burden, 12,613 instead of 33,106
- a decrease of \$514,045 personnel costs, \$315,325 instead of \$827,650
- a decrease of \$2,347 miscellaneous costs, \$2,162 instead of \$4,509

eLandings production report is decreased because actual annual counts are available

- a decrease of 27 respondents, 178 instead of 205
- a decrease of 16,574 responses, 24,426 instead of 41,000
- a decrease of 17,313 burden, 6,467 instead of 23,780
- a decrease of \$432,825 personnel costs, \$161,675 instead of \$594,500
- a decrease of \$1,657 miscellaneous costs, \$2,443 instead of \$4,100

Manual landing report is removed because the costs and burden are included in eLandings reports

- a decrease of 20 respondents, 0 instead of 20
- a decrease of 960 responses, 0 instead of 960
- a decrease of 557 burden, 0 instead of 557
- a decrease of \$13,925 personnel costs, \$0 instead of \$13,925
- a decrease of \$5,760 miscellaneous costs, \$0 instead of \$5,760

16. For collections whose results will be published, outline the plans for tabulation and publication.

The information collected will not be published.

17. If seeking approval to not display the expiration date for OMB approval of the information collection, explain the reasons why display would be inappropriate.

NA.

18. Explain each exception to the certification statement identified in Item 19 of the OMB 83-I.

NA.

B. COLLECTIONS OF INFORMATION EMPLOYING STATISTICAL METHODS

This collection does not employ statistical methods.