

**JUSTIFICATION FOR CHANGE
NORTHEAST REGION PERMIT FAMILY OF FORMS
OMB CONTROL NO. 0648-0202**

This request is to merge OMB Control No. 0648-0549, “Northeast Multispecies Framework 42 Permits,” into OMB Control No. 0648-0202, “Northeast Region Permit Family of Forms.” There are net increases to responses and hours related to vessel monitoring system activities and the Days at Sea program, and thus to the entire collection, based on fleet expansion under Framework 42. However, costs have decreased, reflecting lower remaining initial capital costs for Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) purchases.

Responses have increased from 15,851,420 to 15,870,043; hours have increased from 38,379 to 40,244, and costs have decreased from 3,813,268 to 3,035,155.

Once this merger has been approved, OMB Control No. 0648-0549 will be discontinued.