

## **DIVE SHOPS AND OPERATIONS**

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THIS INFORMATION COLLECTION**

#### **1. Authorizations to Collect the Information**

The National Marine Sanctuaries Act (16 USC 1431, et seq.) and The Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary and Protection Act (Public Law 101-605, Sec 7 (5)) authorizes the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary to establish regulations to protect sanctuary resources or resolve user conflicts. This act also authorizes the Sanctuary to do research and collect information necessary for evaluating new regulations.

#### **2. How the Information Will Be Used**

The information being collected will be used to estimate the total amount of use in the Sanctuary Preservation Areas (SPAs) in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary and also assess the need for additional artificial reefs in the area. A Socioeconomic Monitoring Program has been established in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary and monitoring the use of the SPAs was considered to be a high priority element of the program. In addition, monitoring of the USS Vandenberg is required to test the economic contributions of new artificial reefs.

#### **3. Statement of Burden**

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average about 10 hours per year per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing burden, to Dr. Vernon R. (Bob) Leeworthy, chief Economist, National Ocean Service, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, 1305 East West Highway, SSMC 4, 11<sup>th</sup> floor, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

#### **4. Your Participation and Protections of Confidentiality**

Your participation is voluntary. Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

Any information that identifies you or your business (name, name of business, address and telephone number) will not be given to anyone outside the agency sponsoring this information collection. Name address, business name, boat name and telephone will be treated as proprietary information. The information that identifies you or your business will not be released to anyone pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (5 USC Section 552 (B) (4)). All other information will be available for distribution.

