

SUPPORTING STATEMENT FOR APPROVAL OF STATE COASTAL NONPOINT POLLUTION CONTROL PROGRAMS

1. IDENTIFICATION OF THE INFORMATION COLLECTION

1(a) TITLE OF THE INFORMATION COLLECTION

Approval of State Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Programs (Renewal)

OMB Control Number 2040-0153; EPA ICR Number 1569.07

1(b) SHORT CHARACTERIZATION

This ICR renewal explains reporting requirements that coastal States and Territories (collectively referred to as States) must fulfill in order to obtain final approval of their Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Programs (referred to hereafter as “Coastal Nonpoint Programs”) under Section 6217 (Protecting Coastal Waters) of the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments of 1990 (CZARA). This ICR renewal also assesses whether State program requirements for implementation of management measures will impose any reporting of record-keeping requirements on affected entities.

CZARA requires States with Federally-approved coastal zone management programs to develop Coastal Nonpoint Programs. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) established Program Development and Approval Guidance for Section 6217 coastal nonpoint pollution control programs.

Section 6217 addresses persistent coastal pollution problems by improving coordination of Federal and State coastal zone management programs and water quality programs. In the past, there was limited integration of State Nonpoint Source Management Programs approved by EPA under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and State Coastal Zone Management Programs approved by NOAA under Section 306 of the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA). Section 6217 formalizes coordination of the Section 319 and Section 306 programs by requiring EPA and NOAA to oversee preparation and review of the State Coastal Nonpoint Programs.

The program guidance describes the contents that each coastal State must include in the Coastal Nonpoint Program documentation and the criteria for program approval. Rather than create an independent program, the Section 6217 program guidance encourages States to implement their Coastal Nonpoint Programs through changes to existing CWA Section 319 and CZMA Section 306 programs. States failing to submit satisfactory Coastal Nonpoint Programs face reductions in Federal grants issued under CWA Section 319 and under CZMA Section 306.

Section 6217 requires States with approved coastal management programs to submit Coastal Nonpoint Programs within 30 months of the publication of the final program guidance (January 1993). Twenty-nine States and five Territories have submitted their Coastal Nonpoint Programs to the Office of Water within EPA, and to the Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management within NOAA. The two agencies have jointly reviewed the State Coastal Nonpoint Programs as required by Section 6217.

EPA and NOAA have approved programs from 16 States and five Territories, and conditionally approved programs from 13 States. The conditional approvals require States to submit additional information in order to obtain final program approval. CZARA Section 6217 requires States to obtain final approval of their Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Programs in order to retain their full share of funding available to them under CWA Section 319 and under CZMA Section 306.

2. NEED FOR AND USE OF THE COLLECTION

2(a) NEED/AUTHORITY FOR THE COLLECTION

CZARA Section 6217(g)(1) requires EPA to issue guidance for coastal nonpoint source pollution control:

“The Administrator [of EPA], in consultation with the Secretary [of Commerce, overseeing NOAA] and the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and other Federal agencies, shall publish (and periodically revise thereafter) guidance for specifying management measures for sources of nonpoint pollution in coastal waters.”

In response to Section 6217(g)(1), EPA issued a draft technical document specifying management measures for controlling nonpoint source pollution in coastal waters in June 1991 and issued the final technical guidance document in January 1993.

CZARA Section 6217(a) requires EPA and NOAA to issue program guidance that explain how States should prepare their Coastal Nonpoint Programs:

“Not later than 30 months after the date of the publication of final guidance under subsection (g), each State for which a management program has been approved pursuant to Section 306 of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 shall prepare and submit to the Secretary and the Administrator a Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program for approval pursuant to this section. The purpose of the program shall be to develop and implement management measures for nonpoint source pollution to restore and protect coastal waters, working in close conjunction with other State and local authorities.”

EPA and NOAA proposed program guidance in October 1992 for preparing the State Coastal Nonpoint Programs, which document State efforts to implement the management measures described in the technical guidance. EPA and NOAA issued the final program guidance in January 1993. CZARA Section 6217(b) specifies the contents of the Coastal Nonpoint Programs, which are incorporated into the program guidance requirements. Table 1 presents a summary of the program contents required by Section 6217(b). Additional justification for each reporting item is provided in section 3(b) of this supporting statement.

In addition, CZARA Section 306(d)(16) requires State Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Programs to include enforceable policies and mechanisms to implement the applicable requirements of Section 6217.

Subsequent to the publication of the program and technical guidance, EPA and NOAA provided further program clarification in a January 6, 1995 letter and a March 16, 1995 document entitled Flexibility for State Coastal Nonpoint Programs. These actions provide greater flexibility to States in prioritizing their activities; extend the implementation period for Section 6217(g) management measures from three years to eight years; and clarify a range of enforceable policies and mechanisms that could be used by States to implement their programs.

In April 1997, NOAA, EPA, the States and other interested parties began discussions regarding the progress made to date in developing and implementing State coastal nonpoint programs and the significant impediments to further progress. Based on these discussions, EPA and NOAA drafted a set of proposed administrative changes the agencies would use to guide future implementation of the CZARA program and made them available for a 60 day public comment period beginning March 11, 1998. After reviewing and responding to public comments on the proposed changes, NOAA and EPA issued final administrative changes to the program guidance. In some cases, the administrative changes impacted previous findings and conditions on State Coastal Nonpoint Programs. In such cases, EPA and NOAA reviewed those findings and conditions and made adjustments (including, where appropriate, elimination of conditions).

At this time, EPA and NOAA have approved programs from 16 States and five Territories, and conditionally approved programs from 13 other States. In order for conditionally approved programs to gain final approval, certain conditions must be met within a specified time frame (usually five years). Such conditions could include the completion of a particular program element or the development of additional authority to ensure implementation of certain management measures. This ICR renewal is needed so that the remaining 13 States may complete development and obtain final approval of their programs.

2(b) PRACTICAL UTILITY/USERS OF THE DATA

EPA and NOAA will use the Coastal Nonpoint Program submittals to determine whether to grant final approval of the State Coastal Nonpoint Programs. States not receiving final approval may lose a portion of both their CWA Section 319 and CZMA Section 306 funds under the penalty provisions of CZARA. The requested information will ensure the efficient distribution of Federal funds to States with comprehensive plans for controlling coastal water pollution. EPA and NOAA will also use the requested information to ensure that State recipients of Federal funds provide adequate opportunities for public participation during program development. States will use the information requested as part of management measure implementation in conformity with EPA’s technical guidance.

Table 1. Statutory Requirements in CZARA §6217

CZARA Citation	Statutory Requirements for Coastal Nonpoint Programs
§6217(b)	Specify general management measures to protect coastal waters.
§6217(b)(1)	Identify land uses which contribute significantly to the degradation of coastal waters.
§6217(b)(2)	Identify critical coastal areas adjacent to impaired or threatened coastal waters, where the general management measures will be insufficient to maintain water quality standards and/or designated uses.
§6217(b)(3)	Identify additional management measures needed to attain or maintain water quality standards under CWA §303 and designated uses in the critical coastal areas identified in §6217(b)(2).
§6217(b)(4)	Provide technical assistance to local governments and the public for implementing the additional management measures identified in §6217(b)(3).
§6217(b)(5)	Designate opportunities for public participation in all aspects of the coastal nonpoint program.
§6217(b)(6)	Establish mechanisms for coordinating State and local agency implementation of the coastal nonpoint programs.
§6217(b)(7)	Propose modified coastal zone boundary, as the State deems necessary, so that the State has adequate geographic

jurisdiction to implement the management measures (NOAA reviewed the adequacy of existing boundaries for each coastal management program and recommended changes where necessary).

3. NONDUPLICATION, CONSULTATIONS, AND OTHER COLLECTION CRITERIA

3(a) NONDUPLICATION

Under the original ICR, the EPA Assessment and Watershed Protection Division consulted with OPPE Desk Officer Harold Woodley and Masi Okasaki of NOAA to ensure that the information requested in the CZARA Section 6217 program guidance could not be acquired from other sources. EPA reviewed existing ICRs prepared by EPA's Office of Water and NOAA's Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management to identify possible duplications of reporting requirements.

Upon reviewing ICR Number 1560.1 (EPA National Water Quality Inventory Reports), EPA recognized similarities between the reporting requirements for the biennial State CWA Section 305(b) reports and those in the CZARA Section 6217 program guidance. The CWA Section 305(b) program guidance requires States and Territories to summarize total impaired estuarine and ocean waters and the sources of impairment in their 305(b) reports. We anticipate that States will be able to conduct monitoring activities associated with the CZARA Section 6217 program guidance through their existing CWA Section 305(b) processes.

3(b) PUBLIC NOTICE REQUIRED PRIOR TO ICR SUBMISSION TO OMB

EPA published a Federal Register notice on July 31, 2009 (74 FR 38182 – 38184) to announce the renewal of this ICR. No comments were received.

3(c) CONSULTATIONS

Under the original ICR, NOAA and EPA held regional meetings to acquire respondent input during the initial development of the CZARA Section 6217 program guidance. The regional meetings were attended by representatives of State coastal management programs, State water quality control programs, the Coastal States Organization (CSO), and the Association of State and Interstate Water Pollution Control Administrators (ASIWPCA). EPA and NOAA also distributed options papers and requested comments from each of the approved State coastal management programs.

EPA issued proposed management measures guidance in June 1991 and provided

a six-month comment period on the management measures guidance. EPA convened technical workgroups composed of Federal and State experts in preparing both the proposed and the final management measures guidance. In addition, EPA held focus group meetings with various industry groups (agriculture, forestry, and marinas, in particular). The final technical guidance was published in January 1993.

NOAA and EPA issued proposed program guidance in October 1992 and provided a 60 day public comment period. The agencies held a series of focus group meetings with representatives from State coastal management and water quality agencies and began a second series of regional meetings with States and EPA regional offices during the summer of 1992. The State respondents expressed concern about flexibility to tailor their Coastal Nonpoint Programs to specific water quality problems in their coastal zones. EPA and NOAA have provided flexibility by allowing respondents to propose alternative management measures to those included in the technical guidance. The respondents must document that the alternative management measures are as effective as the pre-approved management measures in the technical guidance prepared by EPA.

The final program guidance was published in January 1993. In response to State concerns about potential burden requirements, EPA and NOAA made every effort to integrate components of existing CWA Section 319 and CZMA Section 306 programs into the Coastal Nonpoint Program requirements. In order to minimize respondent burden, States may satisfy some reporting requirements contained in CZARA Section 6217 by identifying existing program activities that already meet Coastal Nonpoint Program objectives.

In 1993 and 1994, EPA and NOAA worked closely with States to assist them in developing their programs. This assistance included highly detailed reviews of draft State Coastal Nonpoint Programs, as well as extensive meetings with individual States. Subsequently, on January 6, 1995, EPA and NOAA wrote letters to the State organizations that represent State nonpoint source and coastal zone management agencies to provide increased flexibility to the States with respect to criteria for program approval and schedules for implementation.

In April 1997, NOAA, EPA, the States, and other interested parties began discussions regarding the progress made to date in developing and implementing State Coastal Nonpoint Programs and the significant impediments to further progress. Both the States and Federal agencies recognized that while the goals of CZARA remain valid, the program and schedules originally conceived by NOAA and EPA were extremely ambitious, and additional flexibility would be needed to enable the States to successfully implement their programs. Based on this understanding, the parties proceeded to discuss in detail the specific aspects of the program that would require modification while maintaining the overall objective that States implement management measures needed to protect coastal waters.

Based on these discussions, EPA and NOAA drafted a set of proposed administrative changes to guide future implementation of the CZARA program and made them available for a 60 day public comment period beginning March 11, 1998. After reviewing and responding to public comments on the proposed changes, NOAA and EPA issued final administrative changes to the program guidance. In some cases, the administrative changes impacted previous findings and conditions on State Coastal Nonpoint Programs. In such cases, EPA and NOAA reviewed those findings and conditions and made adjustments (including, where appropriate, elimination of conditions).

On October 25, 2002 (67 FR 65563), EPA sought comments on a previous renewal of this ICR pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.8(d). On November 20, 2002 (67 FR 70070), EPA extended the comment period 30 days. EPA received one comment from NOAA, providing recommendations for adjusting the Federal government burden hours to more accurately reflect the assessment of hours incurred by the agencies' review of State programs. EPA incorporated NOAA's recommendations to increase the estimate of the burden hours to the Federal government to more accurately reflect actual burdens (see Table 4).

NOAA and EPA have continued to consult with States and public interest groups throughout the process of formulating strategies for final approval and criteria for fulfilling conditions.

3(d) EFFECTS OF LESS FREQUENT COLLECTION

The development and approval of State Coastal Nonpoint Programs is a one-time collection activity, therefore less frequent collection is not possible. Of the 34 States that participate in CZARA Section 6217, 21 have Coastal Nonpoint Programs that have been fully approved by NOAA and EPA. 13 other States have completed development and obtained conditional approval of their Coastal Nonpoint Programs, and now need only to remove the existing conditions to obtain final approval.

3(e) GENERAL GUIDELINES

The guidance does not include any information collection activities that exceed the PRA-imposed guidelines contained in 5 CFR 1320.6.

3(f) CONFIDENTIALITY

The information collected under CZARA Section 6217 and this ICR renewal will not require States to collect any confidential information.

3(g) SENSITIVE QUESTIONS

Information to be reported is not of a sensitive nature.

4. THE RESPONDENTS AND THE INFORMATION REQUESTED

4(a) RESPONDENTS/SIC CODES

The respondent community consists of the 29 coastal States and five coastal Territories with approved Coastal Zone Management Programs. The SIC Code for State respondents is 9511 (Administration of Environmental Quality Programs: Air and Water Resources and Solid Waste Management).

4(b) INFORMATION REQUESTED

(i) Data Items, including Record Keeping Requirements

The respondents have reported on the following items in their Coastal Nonpoint Program submittals under CZARA Section 6217. (Where applicable, the CZARA section requiring each item is listed in brackets.) No record keeping requirements are imposed on the respondents.

1. Categories and subcategories of nonpoint sources that generally impair or threaten coastal water quality within the respondent's jurisdiction [CZARA §6217(b)].
2. Management measures selected from the CZARA §6217(g) technical guidance to address each significant nonpoint source category and subcategory identified above [CZARA §6217(b)].
3. Alternative management measures and technical documentation. (This optional item is included to allow the States additional flexibility in designing their Coastal Nonpoint Programs.)
4. Coastal waters not maintaining water quality standards and coastal waters threatened by increased pollution from new or expanding uses [§6217(b)(1)].
5. Land uses that are sources of nonpoint pollution entering impaired or threatened coastal waters [§6217(b)(1)].
6. Critical coastal areas adjacent to waters not maintaining water quality standards [CZARA §6217(b)(3)].
7. Additional management measures developed by the State or Territory to address threats or impairments identified in #5 above and for application

in critical coastal areas [§6217(b)(3)].

8. Plans for revising additional management measures [CZARA §6217(b)(3)].
9. Plans for providing technical assistance for implementing additional management measures to local governments and the public [CZARA §6217(b)(4) and §6217(b)(5)].
10. The organization, structure, authority, and resources of lead agencies selected to implement management measures. (This information is needed to ensure that implementation of the Coastal Nonpoint Program is delegated to agencies with adequate authority and resources.)
11. Schedules for implementation of management measures. (This information is needed to evaluate State progress towards implementing their Coastal Nonpoint Programs.)
12. Legislative and administrative authorities for implementing management measures. (This information is needed to ensure that the State has the authority to implement the Coastal Nonpoint Program.)
13. Mechanisms for coordinating State agency and local government participation in the Coastal Nonpoint Programs [CZARA §6217(b)(6)].
14. Procedures to ensure implementation of management measures including operation and maintenance, inspection, and monitoring activities. (This information is needed to ensure that the State can implement selected management measures in the Coastal Nonpoint Program.)
15. Plans to modify coastal zone boundaries [CZARA §6217(b)(6)].
16. Mechanisms for coordinating Coastal Nonpoint Programs with CWA programs under Sections 208, 303, 319, and 320 [CZARA §6217(a)(2) and §6217(b)(6)].
17. Provisions for public participation [CZARA §6217(b)(5)].

(ii) Respondent Activities

CZARA Section 6217 requires each respondent to prepare a one-time document describing their Coastal Nonpoint Program. The respondents have already performed the following activities and submitted their coastal Nonpoint Programs to NOAA and EPA in compliance with the program and technical guidances:

- \$ Reviewed the program and technical guidance documents describing the contents required in the Coastal Nonpoint Programs and the management measures for controlling nonpoint sources of water quality degradation in coastal areas.
- \$ Planned activities (i.e., delegate collection tasks, plan interagency meetings, establish reviewers, and delegate writing activities) to complete development of the Coastal Nonpoint Program.
- \$ Collected information relevant to the data items listed above (e.g., lists of impaired coastal waters, lists of management measures to be adopted, legal and geographical jurisdiction of agencies implementing management measures). The States acquired all of the information from existing sources.
- \$ Analyzed the information and constructed the Coastal Nonpoint Program, including revising coastal zone boundaries and planning new or modified State and local regulations to implement the Coastal Nonpoint Program.
- \$ Wrote draft and final Coastal Nonpoint Programs, provided notice and opportunity for public comment on their programs, and submitted the programs to EPA and NOAA for approval.

Under this ICR renewal, the 13 States that have received conditional approval for their Coastal Nonpoint Programs will be required to submit additional information to obtain final program approval.

5. THE INFORMATION COLLECTED--AGENCY ACTIVITIES, COLLECTION METHODOLOGY, AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

5(a) AGENCY ACTIVITIES

EPA and NOAA activities under this ICR renewal will consist of the review of Coastal Nonpoint Program amendments and/or informational updates submitted by States to fulfill specified conditional approval requirements necessary to obtain final program approvals.

5(b) COLLECTION METHODOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT

The States will submit amendments to their Coastal Nonpoint Programs when such amendments are required to fulfill and therefore remove the conditions set out in the conditional approval and obtain final program approval.

5(c) SMALL ENTITY FLEXIBILITY

This section is not applicable because respondents are States and Territories, and are not small businesses or organizations as defined in the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. Sections 601(3) and (4).

5(d) COLLECTION SCHEDULE

There is no uniform schedule for the submission of State amendments to Coastal Nonpoint Programs. Rather, EPA and NOAA have set forth specific schedules for completion of conditions tailored to each State's program.

6. ESTIMATING THE BURDEN AND COST OF THE COLLECTION

6(a) ESTIMATING RESPONDENT BURDEN

The burden hour estimates for the original ICR were based upon discussions with Regional EPA and NOAA personnel who have direct contact with State respondents and past experience with Coastal Nonpoint Program submittal procedures. Burden estimates for specific elements were also acquired from a small sample of State respondents (Wisconsin, Maine, North Carolina, and Washington). The detailed breakdown of burden estimates for each activity is presented in Table 2.

Based on our analyses of State Coastal Nonpoint Programs that have been submitted to EPA and NOAA under Section 6217, we have estimated that the collection burden under this ICR renewal for the conditionally approved programs will be approximately 15 percent of the burden estimated in the original ICR. This estimate is based on States' successful completion of the majority of program elements, and the additional work already underway by many States to complete program elements that require further development. In addition, while States will submit information under this ICR renewal more than once to address different aspects of their Coastal Nonpoint Program that require additional work specified under a conditional approval, other States may not submit any information under this ICR renewal because the conditions in their conditional approvals may be resolved through State rulemaking or legislative processes or as a result of investigations conducted for other reasons that support exemptions to existing conditions. Therefore, the estimate of the collection burden under this ICR renewal is an approximate calculation.

6(b) ESTIMATING RESPONDENT COSTS

The associated collection under this ICR renewal will have a moderate financial impact on the respondents.

(i) Estimating Labor Costs

The respondent labor cost estimate under the original ICR was based upon an average

hourly rate and benefits comparable to a Federal GS Grade 10, Step 7. The total hourly rate, including benefits, was estimated in the original ICR to be \$33. For this ICR renewal, the estimated hourly rate was increased to \$37 to account for inflation. Table 2 presents a detailed breakdown of the labor cost estimates for each activity.

TABLE 2. ESTIMATE OF BURDEN TO STATE RESPONDENTS WITH CONDITIONALLY APPROVED PROGRAMS, LABOR COSTS

Collection Activity	-A - Burden hours per respondent	-B- Number of respondents	-C- Person- hours C = A x B	-D- Cost in Dollars D = C x \$37
1. Review documents				
a. Program guidance	1	13	13	481
b. Technical guidance	4	13	52	1,924
2. Plan activities	16	13	208	7,696
3. Collect information				
a. Identify general NPS categories and identify general management measures	70	13	910	33,670
b. Technical documentation for alternatives	10	13	130	4,810
c. Identify impaired coastal waters	4	13	52	1,924
d. Identify land uses	24	13	312	11,544
e. Identify critical coastal areas	10	13	130	4,810
f. Identify supplemental management measures	16	13	208	7,696
g. Identify lead agencies	4	13	52	1,924
h. Schedule	12	13	156	5,772
i. Legislative/administrative authority	15	13	195	7,215
j. Coordination mechanisms	15	13	195	7,215
k. Operation & maint. procedures	8	13	104	3,848
l. Inspection procedures	8	13	104	3,848
m. Monitoring procedures	26	13	338	12,506
n. Coastal zone boundaries	4	13	52	1,924
o. Technical assistance options	4	13	52	1,924
p. Public participation mechanisms	4	13	52	1,924
4. Compile, review and analyze information				
a. Develop State and local regulations	60	13	780	28,860
b. Revise coastal zone boundaries	5	13	65	2,405
c. Other analysis	30	13	390	14,430

5. Write Coastal Nonpoint Program				
a. Draft program report	10	13	130	4,810
b. Final program report	15	13	195	7,215
6. Recordkeeping requirements	Not applicable	-	-	-
TOTAL: ALL BURDEN ITEMS	375	13	4,875	\$180,375

(ii) Estimating Capital and Operations and Maintenance Costs

No capital costs or operation and maintenance costs are associated with this ICR renewal.

(iii) Capital/Start-up Operations and Maintenance Costs

No capital/start-up operation and maintenance costs are associated with this ICR renewal.

(iv) Annualizing Capital Costs

As there are no capital costs associated with this ICR renewal, this section is not applicable.

6(c) ESTIMATING AGENCY BURDEN AND COST

The agency burden in the original ICR was based on discussions with EPA Regional Nonpoint Source Program Coordinators and NOAA Regional personnel. The cost was based upon an average hourly rate of \$33, which included salary and benefits for a Federal employee Grade 10, Step 7. The total number of burden hours in the original ICR to the Federal government was estimated to be 13,240, and the total cost was estimated to be \$466,420, based on the original 29 respondents. Based on comments received from NOAA in 2003, these figures were later determined to be underestimates due to more updated and precise knowledge of staff time at NOAA and EPA devoted to reviewing State coastal nonpoint program submissions.

Under this ICR renewal, the Federal government burden will include the burden associated with EPA and NOAA review of amendments submitted by the 13 States that still need to fulfill conditional approval requirements. To calculate the Federal government burden, the estimated hourly rate was increased to \$37 to account for inflation. Table 3 presents a breakdown of the burden and cost estimates for each agency.

TABLE 3. ESTIMATE OF BURDEN TO FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Collection Activity	-A - Burden hours (person- hours)	-B- Personnel Costs A x \$37.00	-C- Other direct costs	-D- Total Dollars B + C
1. EPA review of amendments to State Coastal Nonpoint Programs	10,500	\$388,500	-	\$388,500
2. NOAA review of amendments to State Coastal Nonpoint Programs	13,000	481,000	-	481,000
TOTAL	23,500	\$869,500	-	\$869,500

6(d) ESTIMATING THE RESPONDENT UNIVERSE AND TOTAL BURDEN AND COSTS

The universe of respondents consists of the 13 conditionally approved States.

The total burden and costs for these 13 respondents are summarized in 6(e)(i), with detail provided in Table 2.

6(e) BOTTOM LINE BURDEN HOURS AND COSTS/MASTER TABLES

(i) The Respondent Tally

States

The one-time total burden to the respondents is:
Total hours (375) X Number of Respondents (13) = 4,875 hours

The one-time total cost to the respondents is:
Total cost (4,875 X \$37/hour) = \$180,375

The respondents will perform the burden items over the three-year ICR renewal period. Thus, the average annual burden/cost is equivalent to the total one-time burden/cost divided by three years:

Total burden (4,875 hours)/3 years = 1,625 hours/year
Total cost (\$180,375)/3 years = \$60,125/year (for all respondents)
Total cost per respondent per year = \$60,125/13 respondents = \$4,625

The master table for respondent burden and costs is:

	Total Burden Hours	Total Costs
Bottom Line	4,875 hours	\$180,375

(ii) The Agency Tally

The total cost to the Federal government is estimated at 23,500 hours, or \$869,500. The Federal government will perform the collection activities over the three-year period of this ICR renewal.

EPA burden hours are estimated at approximately 3,500 hours per year over three years, resulting in a total burden of 10,500 hours.

NOAA burden hours are estimated at approximately 4,333 hours per year over three years, resulting in a total burden of 13,000 hours.

$$\text{Total Federal Agency Hours} = 10,500 \text{ (EPA)} + 13,000 \text{ (NOAA)} = 23,500$$

The average annual burden/cost is equivalent to the total burden/cost divided by three years:

$$\text{Total burden (23,500 hours)/3 years} = 7,833 \text{ hours/year}$$

$$\text{Total cost at \$37/hour} = (\$869,500)/3 \text{ years} = \$289,833 \text{ annually}$$

The master table for agency burden and costs is:

	Total Burden Hours	Total Costs
Bottom Line	23,500 hours	\$869,500

(iii) Variations in the Annual Bottom Line

For many reasons, variations for State respondents and for Federal agencies are problematic to estimate. Some of the factors that affect these variations are described in section 6(a). In general, activities associated with Federal approvals of State Coastal Nonpoint Programs have decreased over time, both for State respondents and for Federal agencies, as more States have achieved full program approvals. Indeed, during the first several years of the Coastal Nonpoint Program development period, there were comparatively higher levels of activity among both the Federal partners (who developed program guidance and conducted “threshold reviews” of initial State program submittals) and the State respondents (who submitted materials for most or all 56 management measures specified in Congressionally-mandated program guidance, as well as information on State enforceable policies and mechanisms). Since that initial start-up period, activity has declined. However, since at least 2003, activity levels for CZARA remain moderate among both State respondents and Federal agencies. Two factors seem

to account for this:

- 1) Five States joined the Coastal Nonpoint Program as late entrants: Georgia, Minnesota, Ohio, Texas and Indiana. Minnesota's program was approved in July 2006.
- 2) Among the 29 original participating States and Territories, the 13 States that remain conditionally approved have challenging and unique obstacles that account for their continued conditionally approved status, and these States, along with the Federal partners (NOAA and EPA), are working with due diligence to overcome the more difficult hurdles that remain. So while the number of conditions per State has greatly decreased, the few conditions that remain are the most challenging to resolve, and thus require disproportionately greater efforts.

6(f) REASONS FOR CHANGE IN BURDEN

The respondent burden in the original ICR is reduced under this ICR renewal because States have already completed most activities in this one-time CZARA Section 6217 requirement.

6(g) BURDEN STATEMENT

The annual public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 125 hours per response. Burden means the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, disclose or provide information to or for a Federal agency. This includes the time needed to review instructions; develop, acquire, install, and utilize technology and systems for the purposes of collecting, validating, and verifying information, processing and maintaining information, and disclosing and providing information; adjust the existing ways to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements; train personnel to be able to respond to a collection of information; search data sources; complete and review the collection of information; and transmit or otherwise disclose the information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB control numbers for EPA's regulations are listed in 40 CFR part 9 and 48 CFR chapter 15.

To comment on the Agency's need for this information, the accuracy of the provided burden estimates, and any suggested methods for minimizing respondent burden, including the use of automated collection techniques, EPA has established a public docket for this ICR under Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OW-2006-0394, which is available for online viewing at www.regulations.gov, or in-person viewing at the Office of Water Docket, Environmental Protection Agency, Public Reading Room, Room 3334,

EPA West Building, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20004. The EPA Docket Center Public Reading Room is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number for the Reading Room is 202-566-1744, and the telephone number for the Water Docket is 202-566-2426. An electronic version of the public docket is available at www.regulations.gov. This site can be used to submit or view public comments, access the index listing of the contents of the public docket, and to access those documents in the public docket that are available electronically. Once in the system, select “search,” then key in the Docket ID Number identified above.

B. COLLECTIONS OF INFORMATION EMPLOYING STATISTICAL METHODS

This section is not applicable because no statistical procedures are employed for the data collection.