

**JUSTIFICATION FOR CHANGE
 NMFS OBSERVER PROGRAMS' INFORMATION THAT CAN BE GATHERED ONLY
 THROUGH QUESTIONS
 OMB CONTROL NO. 0648-0593**

Since the approval of Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Control No. 0648-0593, it has been noted that for the Northeast Fisheries Observer Program (NEFOP), the burden for notifications to observers of upcoming trips by fishermen had been counted only for the actual trips observed, rather than including the burden for all such notifications.

In addition, we are including hours for additional trips, including all related notifications to observers, for the sector program recently approved under OMB Control No. 0648-0605, and associated with RIN 0648-AW72. The revised estimate of the burden minutes per observed trip (current and sector trips) is the total burden for all information collections divided by the number of observed trips, where the total burden includes the pre-trip notification burden for both observed and unobserved trips.

Finally, a discard log form that the region had meant to include with the original submission will be added, at a burden of 5 minutes per form, at this point only to the non-sector trips, adding a straight 5 minutes for each of those trips.

Reminder, in this information collection, Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) statements are not on all forms, but are on the letter to fishermen and/or the safety inspection form, and are also available directly from the observer on board.

2009-2012 Annual Average	NEFOP		
	May 26, 2009 Estimates	Jan 6, 2010 Estimates	Change (increase)
Active Vessels In Fisheries With A NMFS Observer Program	15,000	15,000	0
Observed Vessels	2,038	2,038	0
Observed Trips	6,171	10,638	4,467
Burden Minutes/Trip	105	102 For Non-Sector; ¹ 97 For Sector Trips ²	-3; -8
Estimated Burden Hours With 100% Response	10,799	17,716	6,917
Response Rate	90%	90%	0
Response Rate-Adjusted Estimated Burden Hours	9,719	15,944	6,225

¹ Due to the addition of the discard log for these trips; thus, for non-sector trips, reduced time per trip less, than that for the sector trips, due to addition of discard log.

² Burden reduced because of re-estimations of some of the ICs in total (not all forms always applicable to all trips), divided by total numbers of trips.

Thus, the overall burden for OMB Control No. 0648-0593 will change from the currently approved 17,455 to 23,680 with the addition of 6,225 hours, and responses, from 13,927 to 18,394, based on the absolute difference of 4,467 trips (although we base the hours on an overall response rate of 90%, we still count one response per observed trip).