

**SUPPORTING STATEMENT
ATLANTIC HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES
VOLUNTARY RELEASE REPORTS
OMB CONTROL NO. 0648-XXXX**

B. COLLECTIONS OF INFORMATION EMPLOYING STATISTICAL METHODS

(If your collection does not employ statistical methods, just say that and delete the following five questions from the format.)

1. Describe (including a numerical estimate) the potential respondent universe and any sampling or other respondent selection method to be used. Data on the number of entities (e.g. establishments, State and local governmental units, households, or persons) in the universe and the corresponding sample are to be provided in tabular form. The tabulation must also include expected response rates for the collection as a whole. If the collection has been conducted before, provide the actual response rate achieved.

The estimate of the potential respondent universe is 46,229. Assuming a 20 percent response rate, the estimated annual number of responses would be 9,246, and a breakdown of the respondents can be seen in the following table. This estimate is described in Question 12 of Section A above. There are no actual response rates to date, or from previous collections, because this is a new and different type of collection.

Affected Public	Number of Responses
Individuals or Households	4,246
Business or other For-profit	3,000
Not-for-profit Institutions	500
Federal Government	1,000
State, Local, or Tribal Government	500
Total	9,246

2. Describe the procedures for the collection, including: the statistical methodology for stratification and sample selection; the estimation procedure; the degree of accuracy needed for the purpose described in the justification; any unusual problems requiring specialized sampling procedures; and any use of periodic (less frequent than annual) data collection cycles to reduce burden.

Data submitted would not necessarily be representative of all possible results, and would not claim to be; therefore, a statistical methodology is not needed. A NMFS employee would review each data submission for quality control purposes to avoid posting duplicate entries or submissions with possible errors. The collection is entirely voluntary; thus, the public can choose to reduce the reporting burden by deciding not to participate in this collection.

3. Describe the methods used to maximize response rates and to deal with nonresponse. The accuracy and reliability of the information collected must be shown to be adequate for the intended uses. For collections based on sampling, a special justification must be provided if they will not yield "reliable" data that can be generalized to the universe studied.

Data collected would not be claimed to be representative of all possible results, and thus nonresponse bias is moot. Also, there is no practical way of contacting the many people who will not respond. It is expected that we will receive as many responses as we do, due to the interactive nature of the HMS release Web map: the general public can populate the map, and can view the results. All data received would be reviewed by a NMFS employee to determine if the data is accurate and reliable, by comparing with catch and catch/release data from other reports, before it is posted on the Web map. All data that is determined to be not accurate and/or reliable would not be used to populate the Web map.

4. Describe any tests of procedures or methods to be undertaken. Tests are encouraged as effective means to refine collections, but if ten or more test respondents are involved OMB must give prior approval.

No tests were conducted for this collection.

5. Provide the name and telephone number of individuals consulted on the statistical aspects of the design, and the name of the agency unit, contractor(s), grantee(s), or other person(s) who will actually collect and/or analyze the information for the agency.

The contact information for the collection and analysis of the information in this collection is as follows:

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