

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

In 2011, fisheries management changes will increase observer coverage in the Northwest Region, which necessitates an increase in burden hour estimates for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Control No. 0648-0593. The additional burden hours comes from additional trips that will be observed by the West Coast Groundfish Observer Program (WCGOP). 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 (all trips will be observed).

In addition, one additional question will be asked: "What first receiver (dealer) are you delivering to?" This question is the same as "Dealer's name if the catch is not sold immediately after arrival in port" which is already included in the OMB Control No. 0648-0593. Additional burden hours per trip were not needed to incorporate this question as there is a reduction of burden hours due to two questions no longer being asked of the limited entry trawl fleet: "Did you receive your selection letter?" and "Will you be fishing during the specified period?".

Thus, the overall burden for OMB Control No. 0648-0593 will change from the currently approved 23,680 to 25,561 with the addition of 1,881 hours and responses, from 18,394 to 20,294, based on the absolute difference of 1,900 trips. Reporting/recordkeeping costs will increase from the currently approved \$1,000 to \$1,135.

The table below includes the responses and hours for the At-Sea Hake Observing Program (ASHOP), with no changes, vs. the WCGOP current and changed burden.

*Reminder, in this information collection, Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) statements are not on all forms (i.e. forms that are mostly used by the observers for recording of direct observations), but are on the letter to fishermen and/or the safety inspection form, and are also available directly from the observer on board.*

	Northwest May 26, 2009		Northwest January 31, 2011		Change	
	ASHOP	WCGOP	ASHOP	WCGOP	ASHOP	WCGOP
Active vessels in fisheries with a NMFS observer program	15	1,400	15	1,500	0	100
Observed vessels	15	1,000	15	1,100	0	100
Observed trips	110	1,500	110	3,400	0	1900
Fish processing plants in fisheries with a NMFS observer program						
Observed fish processing plants						
Deployments to fish processing plants						
Other fish processing plants contacted						
Burden minutes/trip	30	60	30	60	0	0
Estimated burden hours with 100% response	55	1,500	55	3400	0	1900
Response rate	99%	99%	99%	99%	N/A	N/A
Response rate adjusted estimated burden hours	54	1,485	54	3366	0	1881