

JUSTIFICATION FOR CHANGE
MARINE RECREATIONAL FISHERIES STATISTICS SURVEY
OMB CONTROL NO 0648-0052

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries previously requested a revision to OMB Control No. 0648-0052 (approved 11/18/2010) to implement a panel survey of recreational anglers to collect information about recreational fishing effort and catch. The survey utilizes a dual-frame design that samples from lists of licensed saltwater anglers, as well as a residential household address frame. The survey instruments include a short screener questionnaire to identify recreational anglers and recruit panel participants, and a diary to collect more detailed information about catch and effort.

This request is to provide the final version of the mail survey screener questionnaire that will be utilized to identify saltwater anglers and recruit individuals to participate in a follow-up panel study. We had previously received approval for a draft survey instrument that has been shortened to maximize response, minimize the potential for nonresponse bias and better suit the needs of the survey: questions on the number in the household who fished in the past year, their names, sexes and ages, have been removed.

We do not expect the burden hours to change as a result of modifications to the screener questionnaire.