

**JUSTIFICATION FOR CHANGE
NORTHEAST REGION PERMIT FAMILY OF FORMS
OMB CONTROL NO. 0648-0202**

As part of Final Rule RIN 0648-BB08, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) proposes to modify catch reporting in the herring fishery through the submission of an additional field on the daily vessel monitoring systems (VMS) herring catch reports approved in conjunction with Final Rule RIN 0648-BA79. This action would require any limited access permit holders (Category A, B, or C), fishing with midwater trawl gear in Herring Management Areas 1A, 1B, and/or 3 (Gulf of Maine and Geroges Bank), to report the total estimated weight of all fish kept from each of the two haddock stock areas via their daily herring fishery VMS catch report. This reporting is necessary to facilitate the accurate and timely monitoring of haddock catch in the Atlantic herring fishery and for the enforcement of the incidental catch cap for the herring fishery and timely implementation of accountability measures, if necessary.

An estimated 42 vessels out of the 97 Category A, B, and C permitted herring vessels required to submit herring catch reports through VMS will have to fill out the ‘kept all’ field on each of 76 catch reports, which will add: 1) 2 minutes to each catch report, and a total of 106 hours for all reports; 2) \$0.05 per report for the additional characters, for a total additional \$160.

Final burden table for proposed catch reporting requirements:

| Information Collection | Vessel Permit Categories | # of Entities | Items per Entity | Total # of Items | Response Time (Min) | Total Burden (Hr) | Public Cost Per Item | Cost to Public |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| New Information Collection | Some A, B, C | 42 | 76 | 3192 | 2 | 106 | \$0.05 | \$160 |