

Supporting Statement for Oil Record Book for Ships

A. Justification

1) Circumstances which make the collection of information necessary.

The Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships (APPS) and the International Convention for Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the 1978 Protocol relating thereto (MARPOL 73/78), requires that information about oil cargo or fuel operations be entered into an Oil Record Book. The requirement is contained in 33 CFR 151.25. Entries must be made in the Oil Record Book (CG-4602A) for a number of operations, such as:

- Ballasting or cleaning of fuel tanks during the voyage.
- Disposal of oily residues from fuel tanks, or other sources.
- The discharge of oil or oily mixtures for the purpose of securing the safety of the ship, preventing damage to the ship or cargo, or saving of life at sea.
- The escape of oil or oily mixtures resulting from damage to the ship, unavoidable leakage, any accident or exceptional circumstance.
- The discharges of residue arising from the purification or clarification of fuel or lubricating oil.
- The discharge of oil or oily mixtures from tank vessels of 150 gross tons or non-tank vessels of 400 gross tons.
- The internal transfer of oil between tanks during the voyage.

This information collection supports the following strategic goals:

Department of Homeland Security

- Prevention

Coast Guard

- Protection of the Natural Resources.

Marine Safety, Security and Environmental Protection Directorate (CG-5)

- Reduce the amount of oil and chemicals discharged into the marine environment.
- Reduce the consequences of pollution incidents.

2) Purpose of the information collection.

The Coast Guard uses the information recorded in the record book to verify compliance with MARPOL 73/78, and as a supplemental means of finding violations of APPS and MARPOL. The actual recording of information deters violations in the manner of an accounting standard, documenting the management of quantities of potential pollutants onboard the vessel in a manner which allows validation to occur through accuracy of the record and comparison to quantities of actual volumes of fluids onboard the vessel. Unless this information is recorded, the Coast Guard would have to rely on whistleblowers and/or on actual sightings of oil discharges for enforcement, making verification of compliance more difficult. While violations might still

be found, many violations of the law could go undetected resulting in continued pollution of the sea by oil. Even with the Oil Record Book and the recordkeeping requirement, many violations go undetected. The written requirement just acts as one more deterrent.

3) Considerations of the use of improved information technology to reduce the burden.

To meet international treaty obligations and national compliance and enforcement requirements, the Oil Record Book must be maintained and available in written (i.e., non-electronic) format. The Oil Record Book content has been standardized. The U.S. Government prints the Oil Record Book and makes it available, from the Coast Guard, to masters and operators of all U.S. vessels. The ownership of the Oil Record Book for all U.S. ships remains with the U.S. Government. For additional details about the ORB requirements, see Appendix A.

4) Efforts to identify duplication. Why similar information available cannot be used.

The Coast Guard monitors State and local regulatory activity in this field. To date, no equivalent state or local programs have been identified that require similar information, and no other Federal agencies have similar or equivalent regulatory requirements.

5) Methods used to minimize the burdens to small entities if involved.

This information collection does not have an impact on small businesses or other small entities.

6) Consequences to the Federal program or policy if collection were conducted less frequently or not collected.

Entries are recorded in the appropriate record books as soon as is practical after the completion of each oil transfer operation in order to ensure the accuracy of the entry. If this information was recorded less frequently, it is possible that the person making the entry may enter incorrect information. Since the Coast Guard uses the information in the record books to enforce the APPS, it is imperative that the information be recorded accurately and in a timely manner. There is no requirement to submit the Oil Record Book to the Coast Guard. The Oil Record Book must be maintained aboard the vessel for three years.

7) Special circumstances for information collection.

This information collection is conducted in manner consistent with the guidelines in 5 CFR 1320.5(d)(2).

8) Consultation.

A 60-day Notice and 30-day Notice were published in the *Federal Register* to obtain public comment on this collection. (See USCG-2011-0494: June 16, 2011; 76 FR 35228; September 8, 2011 76 FR 55697). The USCG has not received any comments on this information collection.

9) Decision to provide any payment or gift to respondents.

There is no offer of monetary or material value for this information collection.

10) Assurances of confidentiality provided to respondents.

There are no assurances of confidentiality provided to the respondents for this information collection.

11) Additional justification for any questions of a sensitive nature.

There are no questions of sensitive language.

12) Burden hour and annualized cost estimates.

- **The total annual respondents [and responses] are 1,672.**
- **The total annual burden hours requested is 20,221.**
- **The total annual cost is \$1,568,940.**

Hour Burden: The regulation requires “each oil tanker 150 gross tons or above, ship of 400 gross tons and above other than an oil tanker, and manned fixed or floating drilling rig or other platform shall maintain an Oil Record Book Part I (Machinery Space Operations). An oil tanker of 150 gross tons and above or a non oil tanker that carries 200 cubic meters or more of oil in bulk, shall also maintain an Oil Record Book Part II (Cargo/Ballast Operations),” (33 CFR 151.25(a)).

Table 1
Estimate of Vessels that Keep Oil Record Books

Non-Oil Vessels	
Freight Barges	189
Freight Ships	229
Industrial Vessels	93
MODUs	47
Offshore Supply Vessels	268
Oil Recovery Vessels	46
Passenger Vessels	118
Research Vessels	16
School Ships	4
Towing Vessels	34
Other Platforms	116
Total Non-Oil Vessels	1,160

Table 1 (cont'd)

Oil Vessels	
Tank Barges	461
Tank Ships	51
Total Oil Vessels	512
GRAND TOTAL	1,672

The total affected population is 1,672 vessels, as depicted in Table 1. It is estimated that each tank vessel makes 540 entries per year (all tank barges and tank ships). Entries in the Oil Record Book take less than 2.5 minutes (.04167 hours, this includes entries in Books I and II) per entry. 540 entries per year times .04167 hours per entry equal 22.5 hours per year per vessel. Non-tank vessels make 1/3 as many Oil Record Book entries annually as tank vessels (all other vessels). Non-tank vessels perform 180 entries per year, and have 7.5 burden hours per year per vessel.

Table 2
Hour Burden per Vessel Type

	Entries per Vessel	Hours per Entry	Burden per Vessel
Tank Ships	540	0.04167*	22.50
Tank Barges	540	0.04167	22.50
Non-Oil Vessels	180	0.04167	7.50

* 2.5 minutes per entry.

Table 3
Total Hour Burden to Industry

	Vessels	Burden per Vessel	Total Hour Burden*
Tank Ships	51	22.50	1,148
Tank Barges	461	22.50	10,373
Non-Oil Vessels	1,160	7.50	8,700
Total Vessels	1,672		20,221

*Figures may be rounded.

Cost: The United States Coast Guard will supply the operator of a vessel with an Oil Record Book at no cost, however if the vessel operator chooses to he or she can purchase an Oil Record Book from an outside source. // For tank ships, it is expected that the Chief Engineer is responsible for making the proper entries in the Oil Record Book. The responsibilities of a Chief Engineer are deemed commensurate to that of a Chief Engineer on a High Endurance Cutter, a position filled by an O-4. For tank barges and non-tank vessels, it is expected that a Tankerman or Second Engineer/Mate is responsible for making the proper entries in the Oil Record Book. These positions are analogous to a Chief Petty Officer (E-7) in the engineering department on a Coast Guard Cutter. Therefore, using Commandant Instruction 7310.1M the wage rates for a Chief Engineer on a Tank Vessel is \$104 per hour and for a Tankerman or Second Engineer/Mate the wage rate is \$76 per hour.

Table 4

Annual Industry Cost of Data Entry*

	Total Hour Burden	Cost per Hour (\$)	Total Cost (\$)
Tank Ships	1,148	104.00	119,392.
Tank Barges	10,373	76.00	788,348
Non-Tank Vessels	8,700	76.00	661,200
Total Vessels	20,221		1,568,940

*Figures may be rounded.

Table 4 shows that the total Cost of the collection is \$1,568,940.

13) Estimate of annualized capital and start-up cost.

There are no capital, start-up or maintenance costs associated with this information collection.

14) Estimates of annualized cost to the Federal Government.

The estimated cost to the Federal Government is approximately \$7,000. This is based on printing cost of \$3,000, distribution costs of \$2,000 and general overhead cost of \$2,000 which includes warehouse storage, shipping, and handling costs (3,000 + 2,000 + 2,000 = 7,000).

In addition to the above, Coast Guard personnel review ORBs during periodic inspections, random boardings, and post-casualty investigations. This incremental burden to the Government is negligible, and therefore not herein calculated.

15) Reasons for change in the burden.

The change in burden is an ADJUSTMENT due to a change in vessel population. There is no proposed change to the recordkeeping requirements of this collection. The recordkeeping requirements, and the methodology for calculation burden, remain unchanged.

The following items listed below are changes to the collection:

- Increase in burden (respondents/responses/burden hours) is due to a change in the vessel population.
- Updates are provided for cost burden associated with this collection of information.
- CG has created printable instructions for this collection of information.

16) Plans for tabulation, statistical analysis and publication.

This information collection will not be published for statistical purposes.

17) Approval for not explaining the expiration date for OMB approval.

The form (ORB) associated with this collection is prescribed by an international treaty (e.g., MARPOL) that the U.S. Government is signatory to. The addition of an expiration date to the ORB—that for OMB approval—may cause significant problems. First, it could cause huge enforcement problems since there would be evidentiary problems and an inability to enforce

falsified records and recordkeeping captured on expired record books. Second, it could cause enforcement problems on U.S.-flag vessel owner/operators in foreign ports as well, leading to vessel delays and enforcement by foreign Port State Control. Third, it would cause enforcement problems on U.S.-flag vessel owner/operators in the United States if they are found with forms past the expiry date. Finally, these ORBs are not often updated and the requirement would be carried on indefinitely since it is the only way for the international maritime community to be able to verify compliance and enforce violations that may have occurred outside of their territorial seas. With an expiry date, there is a risk of being unable to fully and adequately meet the international obligations that the United States agreed to when it ratified the treaty when those forms expire. It is for these reasons that expiration date for OMB approval is not displayed on the ORB associated with this collection. Even if the OMB approval is for a particular span of time, the form must have an ability to be acceptable past that span of time in order to meet our obligations under the treaty.

18) Exception to the certification statement.

The Coast Guard does not request an exception to the certification of this information collection.

B. Collection of Information Employing Statistical Methods

This information collection does not employ statistical methods.

Appendix A

Summary: This Appendix explains why the ORB must be in hard copy format.

Our international obligations are clear under the treaty to which we are party. A physical book is required to comply with the regulations under MARPOL 73/78. If the U.S. were to unilaterally utilize an electronic means to satisfy the regulation, our ships would be liable to fines and other sanctions when they visited the ports of signatory states to MARPOL 73/78, just as we would sanction a vessel in our waters that did not have an Oil Record Book.

To meet international treaty obligations and national compliance and enforcement requirements, the Oil Record Book must be maintained and available in written (i.e., non-electronic) format. The Oil Record Book content has been standardized. The U.S. Government prints the Oil Record Book and makes it available, from the Coast Guard, to masters and operators of all U.S. vessels. The ownership of the Oil Record Book for all U.S. ships remains with the U.S. Government.

Background:

AMENDMENTS TO THE ANNEX OF THE PROTOCOL OF 1978 RELATING TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE PREVENTION OF POLLUTION FROM SHIPS, 1973 (MARPOL 73/78) were adopted on 15 October 2004 and entered into force on 1 January 2007. Under MARPOL 73/78, the U.S. is obligated to provide an Oil Record Book for use on board those vessels to which the treaty applies. These requirements are found in Regulation 17 and Regulation 36 of MARPOL 73/78. These Regulations state:

Regulation 17

Oil Record Book, Part I - Machinery space operations

1 Every oil tanker of 150 gross tonnage and above and every ship of 400 gross tonnage and above other than an oil tanker shall be provided with an Oil Record Book Part I (Machinery Space Operations). The Oil Record Book, whether as a part of the ship's official log-book or otherwise, shall be in the Form specified in appendix III to this Annex.

...

6 The Oil Record Book Part I, shall be kept in such a place as to be readily available for inspection at all reasonable times and, except in the case of unmanned ships under tow, shall be kept on board the ship. It shall be preserved for a period of three years after the last entry has been made.

7 The competent authority of the Government of a Party to the present Convention may inspect the Oil Record Book Part I on board any ship to which this Annex applies while the ship is in its port or offshore terminals and may make a copy of any entry in that book and may require the master of the ship to certify that the copy is a true copy of such entry. Any copy so made which has been certified by the master of the ship as a true copy of an entry in the ship's Oil Record Book Part I shall be made admissible in any judicial proceedings as evidence of the facts stated in the entry.

Regulation 36

Oil Record Book, Part II - Cargo/ballast operations

1 Every oil tanker of 150 gross tonnage and above shall be provided with an Oil Record Book Part II (Cargo/Ballast Operations). The Oil Record Book Part II, whether as a part of the ship's official logbook or otherwise, shall be in the Form specified in appendix III to this Annex.

...

7 The Oil Record Book shall be kept in such a place as to be readily available for inspection at all reasonable times and, except in the case of unmanned ships under tow, shall be kept on board the ship. It shall be preserved for a period of three years after the last entry has been made.

8 The competent authority of the Government of a Party to the Convention may inspect the Oil Record Book Part II on board any ship to which this Annex applies while the ship is in its port or offshore terminals and may make a copy of any entry in that book and may require the master of the ship to certify that the copy is a true copy of such entry. Any copy so made which has been certified by the master of the ship as a true copy of an entry in the ship's Oil Record Book Part II shall be made admissible in any judicial proceedings as evidence of the facts stated in the entry.

The International Maritime Organization (IMO), of which the U.S. is a member, is responsible for administration of international maritime treaties. Specifically, the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) of IMO is responsible for MARPOL 73/78. That Committee studied the feasibility of using electronic means to record the information required in the Oil Record Book. The MEPC made the following finding:

"10.40 The Committee concurred with the view of the Sub-Committee that, **with regard to the issue of electronic means to control oil discharges from ships**, while the use of electronic means to control oil discharges on board ships should be possible, **those means should not be intended as a replacement of the current Oil Record Book**, which had proved to be an effective way of controlling illegal discharges, **but rather** as a supplement to it, which could help reinforce compliance, and should only be fitted voluntarily." [emphasis added]

Our international obligations are clear under the treaty to which we are party. A physical book is required to comply with the regulations under MARPOL 73/78. If the U.S. were to unilaterally utilize an electronic means to satisfy the regulation, our ships would be liable to fines and other sanctions when they visited the ports of signatory states to MARPOL 73/78, just as we would sanction a vessel in our waters that did not have an Oil Record Book.

The information required to be in an Oil Record Book is not amenable to the use of improved information technology. The information required is particular to each vessel's oil cargo, fuel operation, and configuration. To meet international treaty obligations and national compliance and enforcement requirements, the Oil Record Book must be maintained and available in written (i.e., non-electronic) format. The Oil Record Book content has been standardized. The U.S. Government prints the Oil Record Book and makes it available, from the Coast Guard, to

masters and operators of all U.S. vessels. The ownership of the Oil Record Book for all U.S. ships remains with the U.S. Government.

The CG regulations for oil record books are found at 33 CFR 151.25 and can be accessed at the following: <<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2010-title33-vol2/pdf/CFR-2010-title33-vol2-sec151-25.pdf>>.