

the scope of the exempted fishing activity would be prohibited.

The project would conduct dredging activities to assess the incidental mortality of scallops passing through the 4-inch (10.16-cm) rings of a 12-foot (4.57-meter) Turtle Deflector Dredge on sandy and hard (gravel) substrates. Dredging would be conducted over approximately 5 DAS during the proposed period of May 2015 through June 2015. All dredging would occur in open access scallop fishing areas off the coast of New Jersey. A total of 20 scallop tows would be conducted (10 tows per substrate). Each tow would be made at depths of 18 to 25 fathoms for a duration of 40 minutes. The scallop vessel would fish two dredges simultaneously. One dredge would use an experimental net bag cover and the other would fish with the industry standard 12-foot (4.57-meter) turtle excluder dredge. The experimental cover is constructed of 1<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub>-inch (4.76-cm) mesh and sewn into the top of the dredge apron. The bag can be dumped independently of the 4-inch (10.16-cm) ring bag to collect the scallops and other organisms that pass through the 4-inch (10.16-cm) rings. The dredge configurations would be switched to the opposite side after five tows for each substrate.

All scallops that filter through the 4-inch (10.16-cm) rings and into the mesh bag would be measured for shell height and assessed for damage to the shell in one of three categories: Not injured; sub-lethal (repairable); or lethal (non-repairable). After shell condition is assessed, shells would be spray painted with tow number in the corresponding spray paint color and placed in a whelk pot, which would be attached to the sea floor near the fishing grounds. Two additional DAS would be utilized, one each at 1 week and 2 weeks after initial survey, to assess mortality based on initial damage. The whelk pots would be removed from the ocean bottom after week-two sampling is complete. The weight of scallop catch retained in the 4-inch (10.16-cm) ring bags of both dredges would be estimated by the captain. Researchers would take shell measurements of a subsample of 50 scallops per tow per dredge to determine size selectivity within each dredge. All other bycatch in the experimental net bag would be sorted, the captain would estimate the weights, and researchers would measure a minimum of 25 lengths per individual species. No catch would be landed for sale.

If approved, the applicant may request minor modifications and extensions to the EFP throughout the

year. EFP modifications and extensions may be granted without further notice if they are deemed essential to facilitate completion of the proposed research and have minimal impacts that do not change the scope or impact of the initially approved EFP request. Any fishing activity conducted outside the scope of the exempted fishing activity would be prohibited.

**Authority:** 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: March 18, 2015.

**Emily H. Menashes,**

*Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 2015-06550 Filed 3-20-15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XD822**

#### Fisheries of the South Atlantic; South Atlantic Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of a public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council will hold a meeting of its Habitat and Environmental Protection (Habitat) Advisory Panel (AP) in N. Charleston, SC. The meeting is open to the public.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held from 9 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 7, 2015, and from 9 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 8, 2015.

**ADDRESSES:**

*Meeting address:* The meeting will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 4381 Tanger Outlet Blvd., North Charleston, SC 29418; telephone: (843) 744-4422; fax: (843) 744-4472.

*Council address:* South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, N. Charleston, SC 29405.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kim Iverson, Public Information Officer, South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, N. Charleston, SC 29405; telephone: (843) 571-4366 or toll free: (866) SAFMC-10; fax: (843) 769-4520; email: [kim.iverson@safmc.net](mailto:kim.iverson@safmc.net).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Habitat AP will work on updating existing and developing new Council Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Policy

Statements and providing guidance on continued development of Fishery Ecosystem Plan II. The AP will receive presentations from Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) Office of Renewable Energy Programs and BOEM Outer Continental Shelf/Geological and Geophysical Programs on mapping, characterization, impact analyses and planning efforts in the South Atlantic Region.

The AP will subsequently discuss redrafting the EFH Policy Statement on Energy Exploration, Development and Transportation. The AP will provide recommendations to the Council for consideration.

#### Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids should be directed to the Council office (see **ADDRESSES**) 3 days prior to the meeting.

**Note:** The times and sequence specified in this agenda are subject to change.

Dated: March 17, 2015.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

*Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 2015-06436 Filed 3-20-15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## BUREAU OF CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION

[Docket No: CFPB-2015-0012]

### Agency Information Collection Activities: Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (Bureau) is requesting a new generic information collection plan, titled, "Generic Information Collection Plan for Surveys Using the Consumer Credit Panel".

**DATES:** Written comments are encouraged and must be received on or before May 22, 2015 to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by the title of the information collection, OMB Control Number (see below), and docket number (see above), by any of the following methods:

- *Electronic:* <http://www.regulations.gov>

Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

- *Mail:* Consumer Financial

Protection Bureau (Attention: PRA

Office), 1700 G Street NW., Washington, DC 20552.

- *Hand Delivery/Courier*: Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (Attention: PRA Office), 1275 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20002.

*Please note that comments submitted after the comment period will not be accepted.* In general, all comments received will become public records, including any personal information provided. Sensitive personal information, such as account numbers or social security numbers, should not be included.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Documentation prepared in support of this information collection request is available at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). Requests for additional information should be directed to the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, (Attention: PRA Office), 1700 G Street NW., Washington, DC 20552, (202) 435-9575, or email: [PRA@cfpb.gov](mailto:PRA@cfpb.gov). *Please do not submit comments to this mailbox.*

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title of Collection*: Generic Information Collection Plan for Surveys Using the Consumer Credit Panel.

*OMB Control Number*: 3170-XXXX.

*Type of Review*: Request for a new OMB Control Number.

*Affected Public*: Individuals and Households.

*Estimated Number of Respondents*: 8,500.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours*: 4,250.

*Abstract*: Under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau is charged with researching, analyzing, and reporting on topics relating to the Bureau's mission, including consumer behavior, consumer awareness, and developments in markets for consumer financial products and services. In order to improve its understanding of how consumers engage with financial markets, the CFPB uses the Consumer Credit Panel, a proprietary sample dataset from one of the national credit reporting agencies, as a frame to survey people about their experiences in consumer credit markets. The Bureau seeks to obtain approval for a generic information collection plan for these types of surveys. Survey responses will be used for general, formative, and informational research on consumer financial markets and consumers' use of financial products and will not directly provide the basis for specific policymaking at the Bureau.

*Request for Comments*: Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper

performance of the functions of the Bureau, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) The accuracy of the Bureau's estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methods and the assumptions used; (c) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) Ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated: March 12, 2015.

**Ashwin Vasani,**

*Chief Information Officer, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection.*

[FR Doc. 2015-06569 Filed 3-20-15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4810-AM-P**

**BUREAU OF CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION**

[Docket No. CFPB-2015-0009]

**Agency Information Collection Activities: Comment Request**

**AGENCY**: Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection.

**ACTION**: Notice and request for comment.

**SUMMARY**: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (Bureau) is requesting approval for a new generic information collection plan titled, "Generic Information Collection Plan to Conduct Cognitive Research and Pilot Testing."

**DATES**: Written comments are encouraged and must be received on or before May 22, 2015 to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES**: You may submit comments, identified by the title of the information collection, OMB Control Number (see below), and docket number (see above), by any of the following methods:

- *Electronic*: <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

- *Mail*: Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (Attention: PRA Office), 1700 G Street NW., Washington, DC 20552.

- *Hand Delivery/Courier*: Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (Attention: PRA Office), 1275 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20002.

*Please note that comments submitted after the comment period will not be accepted.* In general, all comments received will become public records, including any personal information provided. Sensitive personal information, such as account numbers or social security numbers, should not be included.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Documentation prepared in support of this information collection request is available at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). Requests for additional information should be directed to the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, (Attention: PRA Office), 1700 G Street NW., Washington, DC 20552, (202) 435-9575, or email: [PRA@cfpb.gov](mailto:PRA@cfpb.gov). *Please do not submit comments to this mailbox.*

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title of Collection*: Generic Information Collection Plan to Conduct Cognitive Research and Pilot Testing.

*OMB Control Number*: 3170-XXXX.

*Type of Review*: Request for New OMB Control Number.

*Affected Public*: Individuals and Households.

*Estimated Number of Respondents*: 7,890.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours*: 8,235.

*Abstract*: Under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau is charged with researching, analyzing, and reporting on topics relating to the Bureau's mission, including developments in markets for consumer financial products and services, consumer awareness, and consumer behavior. In order to improve its understanding of how consumers engage with financial markets, the CFPB seeks to obtain approval for a generic information collection plan to conduct research to improve the quality of data collection by examining the effectiveness of data-collection procedures and processes, including potential psychological and cognitive issues.

*Request for Comments*: Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Bureau, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) The accuracy of the Bureau's estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methods and the assumptions used; (c) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) Ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the