

**I. Executive Summary**

The National Institute of Standards and Technology’s (NIST) Alternative Personnel Management System (APMS) (62 FR 54604, October 21, 1997) is designed to (1) improve hiring and allow NIST to compete more effectively for high-quality researchers through direct hiring, selective use of higher entry salaries, and selective use of recruiting allowances; (2) motivate and retain staff through higher pay potential, pay-for-performance, more responsive personnel systems, and selective use of retention allowances; (3) strengthen the manager’s role in personnel management through delegation of personnel authorities; and (4) increase the efficiency of personnel systems through installation of a simpler and

more flexible classification system based on pay banding through reduction of guidelines, steps, and paperwork in classification, hiring, and other personnel systems, and through automation.

This amendment modifies the October 21, 1997 **Federal Register** notice. Specifically, it modifies the classification structure for the Administrative (ZA) career path, Pay Band I through IV. NIST will continually monitor the effectiveness of this modification.

**II. Basis for APMS Plan Modification**

Modification of the APMS is based upon a change in the classification structure of the ZA career path. This new structural change will enable NIST to meet the intended design and

objectives of the plan and increase the future vitality of the NIST workforce. The NIST APMS allows the NIST Director to make minor procedural modifications within already existing waivers of law or regulation with appropriate notice. Accordingly, NIST modifies the APMS to change the classification structure for the Administrative (ZA) career path, Pay Bands I through IV (set forth below).

**III. Changes in the APMS Plan**

The APMS at NIST, published in the **Federal Register** on October 21, 1997 (62 FR 54604), as amended, is modified as follows:

1. The chart titled “NIST Career Paths and Pay Bands” under the subsection titled “Position Classification” is replaced with:

NIST CAREER PATHS AND PAY BANDS

GS Grades	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<b>CAREER PATHS</b>									<b>BANDS</b>						
Scientific and Engineering .....					I			II			III		IV		V
Scientific and Engineering Technician.....			I				II		III		IV		V		
Administrative (ZA) .....						I			II			III		IV	V
Support (ZS) .....	I		II			III		IV		V					

[FR Doc. 2015-24224 Filed 9-23-15; 8:45 am]  
 BILLING CODE 3510-13-P

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Coastal Zone Management Program Administration**

**AGENCY:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before November 23, 2015.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Jennifer Jessup, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer,

Department of Commerce, Room 6616, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at [Jjessup@doc.gov](mailto:Jjessup@doc.gov)).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information should be directed to Allison Castellan, (301) 713-3155 ext. 125 or [Allison.Castellan@noaa.gov](mailto:Allison.Castellan@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Abstract**

This request is for revision and extension of a currently approved information collection.

In 1972, in response to intense pressure on United States (U.S.) coastal resources, and because of the importance of U.S. coastal areas, the U.S. Congress passed the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (CZMA), 16 U.S.C. 1451 *et seq.* The CZMA authorized a federal program to encourage coastal states and territories to develop comprehensive coastal management programs. The CZMA has been reauthorized on several occasions, most recently with the enactment of the Coastal Zone Protection Act of 1996 (CZMA as amended). The program is administered by the Secretary of Commerce, who in turn has delegated this responsibility to the National

Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s (NOAA) National Ocean Services (NOS).

The coastal zone management grants provide funds to states and territories to: Implement federally-approved coastal management programs; complete information for the Coastal Zone Management Program (CZMP) Performance Management System; develop program assessments multi-year strategies to enhance their programs within priority areas under Section 309 of the CZMA; submit documentation as described in the CZMA Section 306a on the approved coastal zone management programs; submit requests to update their federally-approved programs through amendments or program changes; and develop and submit state coastal nonpoint pollution control programs (CNP) as required under Section 6217 of the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments.

Revision: The CZMP Performance Measurement System has been revised to reduce the number of measures on which state programs are required to report, resulting in an overall decrease in reporting burden for the performance measurement system. The assessment process under CZMA Section 309 has also been refined to rely more on readily

available existing data and allow states to more quickly focus their assessments on high-priority enhancement areas.

## II. Method of Collection

Respondents have a choice of electronic or paper formats for submitting program documents, assessment and strategy documents, and other required materials. Grant applications are submitted electronically via Grants.gov and performance reports are submitted electronically through NOAA Grants Online. Performance measurement data is submitted through an online database. Methods of submittal for other program documents and required materials include electronic submittal via email, mail and facsimile transmission of paper forms, or submittal of electronic files on compact disc.

## III. Data

*OMB Control Number:* 0648-0119.

*Form Number:* None.

*Type of Review:* Regular submission (revision and extension of a current information collection).

*Affected Public:* State, Local and Tribal Governments.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 34.

*Estimated Time per Response:*

Performance reports, 27 hours; assessment and strategy documents, 240 hours; Section 306a documentation, 5 hours; amendments and routine program changes, 16 hours; CNP documentation, 320 hours; CZMA Performance Management System, 24 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden*

*Hours:* 6,133 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to*

*Public:* \$850 in recordkeeping/reporting costs.

## IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (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 OMB

approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: September 21, 2015.

**Sarah Brabson,**

*NOAA PRA Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2015-24287 Filed 9-23-15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-08-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### Western Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meetings and hearings.

**SUMMARY:** The Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold meetings of its 121st Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC), American Samoa Regional Ecosystem Advisory Committee (REAC), Fishing Industry Advisory Committee (FIAC), American Samoa Advisory Panel (AP) and its 164th Council meeting to take actions on fishery management issues in the Western Pacific Region. The Council will also convene meetings of the Pelagic and International Standing Committee, Program Planning and Research Standing Committee, and Executive and Budget Standing Committee.

**DATES:** The meetings will be held between October 13 and October 22, 2015. For specific times and agendas, see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

**ADDRESSES:** The 121st SSC will be held at the Council office, 1164 Bishop Street, Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI 96813, phone: (808) 522-8220. The REAC, FIAC, American Samoa AP, Pelagic and International Standing Committee and 164th Council meetings will be held at the Rex Lee Auditorium, Department of Commerce, Pago Pago, American Samoa; phone: (684) 633-5155. The Program Planning and Research Standing Committee and Executive and Budget Standing Committee will be held at the Sadies by the Sea conference room in Pago Pago, American Samoa; phone: (684) 633-5981. The Fishers Forum will be held at Fagatogo Marina, Fagatogo, American Samoa.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Kitty M. Simonds, Executive Director, phone: (808) 522-8220.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The 121st SSC meeting will be held between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. on October 13-14, 2015. The Council's REAC will be held between 8:30 a.m. and 1 p.m., FIAC between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. and AP between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. on October 19, 2015. The Council's Pelagic and International Standing Committee will be held between 9 a.m. and 12 noon, Program Planning and Research Standing Committee between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m., and Executive and Budget Standing Committee between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. on October 20, 2015. The 164th Council meeting will be held between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. on October 21-22, 2015. In addition, the Council will host a Fishers Forum on October 17, 2015, between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

In addition to the agenda items listed here, the SSC and Council will hear recommendations from Council advisory groups. Public comment periods will be provided throughout the agendas. The order in which agenda items are addressed may change. The meetings will run as late as necessary to complete scheduled business. Background documents will be available from, and written comments should be sent to, Mr. Edwin Ebisui, Chair, Western Pacific Fishery Management Council, 1164 Bishop Street, Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI 96813, phone: (808) 522-8220 or fax: (808) 522-8226.

#### Agenda for 121st SSC Meeting

*8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Tuesday, October 13, 2015*

1. Introductions
2. Approval of Draft Agenda and Assignment of Rapporteurs
3. Status of the 119th & 120th SSC Meeting Recommendations
4. Report from the Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center Director
5. Program Planning
  - A. Integrated Stock Assessment Model for Data Poor Stocks
  - B. Territorial Bottomfish P\* Working Group Report
  - C. Specification of Acceptable Biological Catch for the Territorial Bottomfish Fishery for Fishing Years 2016 and 2017 (Action Item)
  - D. Atlantis Model for Near-Shore Ecosystems in Guam
  - E. Implementing an Assessment Prioritization Process
  - F. Center for Independent Experts Review Reports
    1. Bycatch Estimation Model
    2. Length-based Assessment Model
  - G. Public Comment
  - H. SSC Discussion and Recommendations
6. Pelagic Fisheries
  - A. Hawaii & American Samoa Longline Fisheries Reports
  - B. National Bycatch Report (NBR) Longline Bycatch Reports 2011-13
  - C. International Fisheries