**SUPPORTING STATEMENT**

**U.S. Department of Commerce**

**National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration**

**Southeast Region Permits Family of Forms**

**OMB Control No. 0648-0205**

**A. JUSTIFICATION**

**1. Explain the circumstances that make the collection of information necessary.**

**Cite all applicable authorities for this information collection.**

This request is for revision and extension of this collection.

The collection consists of applications for permits that are a mandatory part of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) program in the Southeast Regional Office (SERO) to manage commercial, recreational, and aquaculture fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico (Gulf), Atlantic, and U.S. Caribbean. In addition, this collection also contains fisheries’ reporting, notification, and registration forms and requirements. The fisheries in the southeast region are managed under the [Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act](http://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/sfa/management/catch_shares/legislation_history/documents/msa_amended_2007.pdf) (Magnuson-Stevens Act) (16 U.S.C. 1801), and regulations at [50 CFR parts 300](http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=169dac93950d3813a83b5382b4311142&mc=true&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title50/50cfr300_main_02.tpl), [622](http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=169dac93950d3813a83b5382b4311142&mc=true&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title50/50cfr622_main_02.tpl), and [635](http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=169dac93950d3813a83b5382b4311142&mc=true&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title50/50cfr635_main_02.tpl). NMFS issues permits to fishing vessels, vessel operators, and dealers, among others, in order to collect information necessary to comply with domestic and international fisheries obligations, secure compliance with regulations, and disseminate necessary information. This request is for a revision and extension of this current information collection under OMB Control No. 0648-0205.

Specifically, this request would revise the following permit application forms:

* Federal Permit Application for Vessels Fishing in the Exclusive Economic Zone (Vessel EEZ Application)
* Federal Permit Application for Vessels Fishing for Wreckfish Off the South Atlantic States (Wreckfish Application)
* Federal Permit Application for Dealers (Dealer Application)
* Federal Permit Application for the Harvest of Aquacultured Live Rock in the EEZ Form and Instructions (Aquacultured Live Rock Application (New))
* Federal Permit Application for the Harvest of Aquacultured Live Rock in the EEZ Form and Instructions (Aquacultured Live Rock Application (Renew))
* Report for the Deposit or Harvest of Aquacultured Live Rock (Aquaculture Live Rock Deposit or Harvest)
* Federal Permit Application for Southeast Issued Operator Card (Operator Card)
* Federal Permit/Certificate Application to fish in the Colombian Treaty Waters (Colombian Treaty Waters)
* Change of Information Form for Federal Fishing Permits (Change of Information)
* Federal Permit Application for Duplicate Federal Fishery Permits, Operator Card, or Decal (Duplicate Request)
* Federal Application to Consolidate Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Permits (Reef Fish Consolidation)

Revisions to these permit application forms are described by Table 1.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Table 1. Revisions** | **Applications affected** |
| NMFS proposes revisions to the instructions. The revised instructions provide:   * Updated the Privacy Statement URL on the last page of the instructions * Updated the SERO Permit Office URL to the new website domain | Vessel EEZ |
| Wreckfish |
| Dealer |
| Aquacultured Live Rock (New) |
| Aquacultured Live Rock (Renew) |
| Operator Card |
| Colombian Treaty Waters |
| Duplicate Request |
| Change of Information |
| Reef Fish Consolidation |
| Aquaculture Live Rock Deposit or Harvest |
| Updated the application renewal fee for Wreckfish from $50 to $48 based on the results of the 2019 User Fees calculations. | Wreckfish |
| Switched the location of the demographic question *Is this Individual of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?* with the *What is this individual’s Sex?* question. | Wreckfish sections 2a, 3a, 3b, 5a, 7a, 7b |
| Aquacultured Live Rock (Renew) sections 3a, 3b, 4a, 4b, 7a,7b |
| Aquacultured Live Rock (New) sections 3a, 3b, 4a, 4b, 7a,7b |
| Colombian Treaty Waters sections 3a, 3b, 5a, 7a, 7b |
| Dealer sections 1b, 5a |
| Operator Card section 1 |
| Vessel EEZ sections 4a, 4b, 6a, 8a, 8b |
| Updated the Operator Card application *For Office Use Only* section to mirror the layout of the other applications. | Wreckfish sections 2a, 3a, 3b, 5a, 7a, 7b |
| Added a checkbox to the Vessel EEZ application that states the following “By checking this box, I affirm I have a location tracking device that has been approved by NMFS for the for-hire electronic reporting program installed on this vessel by a certified marine electrician; it has been activated, or in the case of a change of ownership of a vessel with an existing VMS unit, the new owner has updated the activation; and it is properly transmitting.” | Vessel EEZ section 3 |

The SERO Permits Office also proposes to remove the “This selling price was for:” section on the back of all limited access vessel permits. Along with updating the “Please enter the selling price” to read “Please enter the selling price for this permit:”

The proposed revisions to the specified application forms are administrative. NMFS intends the revisions to make the requested information clearer and easier to understand, and therefore, applications may require less time to complete in some cases. NMFS estimates that the proposed revisions would not change the annual number of respondents or responses. The annual cost of one permit application decreases slightly from the currently approved collection.

**2. Explain how, by whom, how frequently, and for what purpose the information will be used. If the information collected will be disseminated to the public or used to support information that will be disseminated to the public, then explain how the collection complies with all applicable Information Quality Guidelines.**

As stated above, this information collection contains permit application forms, and fisheries’ reporting, notification, and registration forms. All permits in this collection must be renewed annually. Permits can be used to accomplish many functions. One of the main purposes for issuing permits is to identify the participants in a particular trade or industry. NMFS manages fisheries on a regional basis; likewise, permits are issued by regional offices and the permit databases are regionally distributed.

The information requested is used by various offices of NMFS, staff of the regional fishery management councils (Councils), the United States Coast Guard, United States Army Corps of Engineers, and state fishery agencies under contract to NMFS to develop, implement and monitor fishery management strategies. Analyses and summarizations of data are used by NMFS, the Councils, the Departments of State and Commerce, OMB, the fishing industry, Congressional staff, and the public to answer questions about the nature of the Nation’s fishery resources.

Collection of information through annual permits provides current information on the vessel owners, operators, and dealers participating in these fisheries, thus facilitating information gathering for purposes such as catch quota monitoring, which is necessary to avoid exceeding catch quotas. For example, NMFS requires that vessel permits be displayed to dealers and that permit numbers be recorded on dealer reports in order to validate landings of some species.

A current permit holder list aids NMFS in the communication and enforcement of fishery regulations through distribution of management program brochures, fish identification guides, and regulatory compliance guides. In addition, a permit “universe” facilitates collecting catch and effort information about commercial and recreational fisheries, as required by law. NMFS constructs sampling frames for dockside and telephone surveys from permit holder lists and uses the list to select vessels for logbooks or at-sea observers (addressed under separate collections). Such surveys, logbooks, and observer reports provide essential information for management of fisheries in the United States, particularly in terms of quota allocation decisions that follow Magnuson-Stevens Act recommendations, such as allocating fishing opportunities consistent with traditional fishing patterns and considering the economic values to various user groups. Another purpose of the vessel permit requirement is that it serves as a useful tool in support of enforcement of fishery regulations. That is, the permit can be revoked as a penalty for a violation of fishery conservation measures.

NMFS requires fishermen (respondents) to display up to two adhesive decals on their vessel if they have a federal Charter Vessel/Headboat Permit for Gulf Reef Fish, or the Charter Vessel/Headboat Permit for Gulf Coastal Migratory Pelagic fish, and their respective Historical Captain endorsements in these two Gulf fisheries if applicable. NMFS issues one decal with each of the two specific fishery permits or endorsements. The purpose of the decals is to allow individuals and law enforcement officials to identify vessels that have federal permits more easily.

This collection also requires respondents to provide information through fisheries’ reporting, notification, and registration forms. The provided information allows NMFS to disseminate information to fishery participants, satisfy regulatory requirements, and effectively manage fisheries in the southeast region.

The following information collections are contained under OMB Control Number 0648-0205 and are proposed for revision:

*Federal Permit Application for Vessels Fishing in the Exclusive Economic Zone*. The Federal Vessel Permit Application Form is used to collect vessel information. Permits are issued annually or more frequently at the request of the applicant if changes are necessary. There is one vessel permit application form that is used for both new vessels that are applying for a vessel permit and for previously permitted vessels that want to renew their vessel permit. For a person on board a vessel used to harvest or possess federally-managed species in or from the EEZ, a vessel permit is required, as specified in 50 CFR part 622. For a person aboard a vessel used to harvest or possess smoothhound shark, a vessel permit is required, as specified at 50 CFR 635.4. The smoothhound shark permit application is included as part of this form but is listed separately below.

*Federal Permit Application for Vessels Fishing for Wreckfish Off the South Atlantic States*. This fishery is managed under the wreckfish individual transferable quota (ITQ) system, as specified in 50 CFR 622.172. NMFS provides each wreckfish shareholder with ITQ coupons in various denominations, the total of which equals his or her ITQ, and a copy of the calculations used in determining his or her ITQ. Each coupon is coded to indicate the initial recipient but is transferable to another shareholder. The information collection for the coupons for tracking wreckfish ITQ in the South Atlantic is contained under OMB Control Numbers 0648-0013 and 0648-0016.

*Federal Permit Application for Dealers*. Identification of dealers or processors is needed to obtain first purchase information on landings to evaluate the biological, economic, and social implications of management measures. The Gulf and South Atlantic dealer permit was implemented in 2014 to obtain more timely purchase information from dealers to better monitor annual catch limits for the various Gulf and South Atlantic species managed by NMFS SERO and the regional fishery management councils. This permit allows dealers to purchase all species managed by the Gulf and South Atlantic Fishery Management Councils (except for IFQ species, for which an IFQ dealer endorsement would still be required). The Magnuson-Stevens Act, Regulatory Flexibility Act, and Executive Orders 12866 and 12131 require the determination of these facts. For a dealer to first receive fish harvested in or from the EEZ, a Gulf and South Atlantic dealer permit must be issued to the dealer, as specified in 50 CFR 622.20(c)(1) for Gulf reef fish, 622.90(a)(1) for Gulf red drum, 622.170(c)(1) for South Atlantic snapper-grouper, 622.200(c)(1) for South Atlantic rock shrimp, 622.240(b)(1) for South Atlantic golden crab, 622.270(d)(1) for Atlantic dolphin and wahoo, 622.370(c)(1) for Gulf and South Atlantic coastal migratory pelagic species, and 622.400(a)(5)(i) for Gulf and South Atlantic spiny lobster. As with the Gulf and South Atlantic species, dealers purchasing swordfish and sharks caught in the Atlantic Ocean, including the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea, must have a dealer permit as specified in 50 CFR 635.4. These requirements for shark and swordfish dealers are needed not only to comply with the statutes and executive orders mentioned above but also to comply with international requirements.

*Federal Permit Application for the Harvest of Aquacultured Live Rock in the EEZ Form and Instructions (New and Renew)*. The purpose of this data collection is to collect information on types and quantities of aquacultured live rock that are harvested, as specified in 50 CFR 622.70 and 622.220. Although these data are collected by some state fishery agencies (notably Florida), it continues to be important to collect this information from harvesters with a Federal permit that are not from a state that requires regular permitting.

*Report for the Deposit or Harvest of Aquacultured Live Rock*. A person with a federal aquacultured live rock permit must submit this report for each deposit or harvest activity, as specified by 50 CFR 622.71 and 622.221.

*Federal Permit Application for Southeast Issued Operator Card*. Several fishery management plans in the southeast region require the vessel operator to obtain an operator card. The Atlantic dolphin and wahoo permit and South Atlantic rock shrimp permit are not valid unless the vessel operator or a crewmember holds a valid operator card when fishing for Atlantic dolphin and wahoo or South Atlantic rock shrimp, as applicable. NMFS proposes organizational changes only to the Operator Card application.

*Federal Permit/Certificate Application to fish in the Colombian Treaty Waters*. The Colombian Treaty Waters Permit Application form is a federal permitting requirement that is part of the negotiated treaty with Columbia that permits U.S. vessels to fish in Columbian waters (50 CFR 300.123).

*Change of Information for Permit Holders.* The owner or operator of a vessel with a permit, a person with a coral permit, a person with an operator permit, or a dealer with a permit must notify the SERO Regional Administrator within 30 days after any change in the application information specified, as required by 50 CFR 622.4(b). This information includes: name, address, telephone number, date the business was formed, and other identifying information of the business. The permit is void if any change in the information is not reported within 30 days. The SERO Permits Office posts a form for this purpose on their website; however, use of the form is optional as long as NMFS receives notification of any change in permittees’ information within the specified period. NMFS uses the estimated annual number of responses to estimate volume, rather than respondents, because one respondent could provide multiple responses during a year.

*Application for Duplicate Federal Fishery Permits, Operator Cards, or Decals*. The SERO Permits Office posts this optional form on their Web site for permit holders and operators to obtain duplicates of previously issued documentation. Permit holders and operators may use the optional form or provide the equivalent details in writing to the SERO Permits Office.

*Application to Consolidate Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Permits*. A permit holder with multiple commercial vessel permits for Gulf reef fish has the option to consolidate some or all of those permits and the associated landings histories into a single permit. The permit holder must submit a completed permit consolidation application to NMFS, as specified in 50 CFR 622.20(a)(1)(ii).

The following information collections are also contained under OMB Control Number 0648-0205 but are not proposed for revision:

*Notice of Intent to Harvest Aquacultured Live Rock*. At least 24 hours prior to harvest of aquacultured live rock, the owner or operator of the harvesting vessel must provide information to the NOAA Office of Law Enforcement (OLE), Southeast Division, as specified in 50 CFR 622.75(a)(4) and 622.225(a)(5). The owner or operator can either call or fax a completed form to NOAA OLE. NMFS uses the estimated annual number of responses to estimate volume, rather than respondents, because one respondent could provide multiple responses during a year.

*Notification of Lost or Stolen Traps, or Notification of Authorization for Trap Retrieval*. Vessel and permit holders are required to notify NMFS when a trap is lost, stolen, or being retrieved for inventory purposes, as specified in 50 CFR 622.249(c) for South Atlantic golden crab, and 622.403(b)(3) and 622.405(b) for Gulf and South Atlantic spiny lobster.

*Zone Transit Notification.* For a person aboard a fishing vessel to fish for golden crab in one of three designated zones in the South Atlantic EEZ - the northern zone, the middle zone, or the southern zone - a federal golden crab permit for a specific zone is required. In order to transit a non-permitted zone with golden crab on board, the vessel operator must notify NOAA OLE, as specified in 50 CFR 622.241(b)(2).

*Annual Landings Report for Gulf of Mexico Shrimp.* The owner or operator of a vessel for which a federal commercial vessel permit for Gulf shrimp has been issued must annually report the permitted vessel’s total annual landings of shrimp and value, by species, on a form provided by the Southeast Fisheries Science Center. Compliance with this reporting requirement is required for permit renewal, as specified in 50 CFR 622.51(a)(4).

*Operators of Vessels Fishing for Rock Shrimp, or Dolphin and Wahoo.* For a person aboard a fishing vessel used to fish for rock shrimp in federal waters from the state border of Virginia and North Carolina to the east coast of Florida, either a Commercial Vessel Permit for Rock Shrimp must be issued to fish off of North and South Carolina (Carolinas Zone) or off of Georgia and Florida (South Atlantic EEZ), as specified in 50 CFR 622.200. A vessel may not be issued permits to fish in both areas simultaneously. If a vessel has a valid Commercial Vessel Permit for Rock Shrimp for the South Atlantic EEZ, and the vessel owner is applying for a Carolinas Zone permit on the same vessel, the South Atlantic EEZ permit must first be transferred from the vessel or surrendered to NMFS in order for a person aboard a fishing vessel to fish commercially for rock shrimp in federal waters in the other zone.

A vessel must be issued an Atlantic dolphin and wahoo commercial permit (50 CFR 622.270) to be eligible for exemption from the bag and possession limits for dolphin or wahoo in the Atlantic EEZ or to sell dolphin or wahoo harvested in the Atlantic EEZ. The permit will only be valid if there is someone on the vessel that has a valid Vessel Operator Permit Card issued by NMFS SERO or the NMFS Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office.

*Permit Transfer Notarization.* Transfer notification application must be accompanied by the original permit and a copy of a signed bill of sale or equivalent acquisition papers, as specified in 50 CFR 622.4. In those cases where a permit, license, or endorsement is transferable, the seller must sign the back of the permit, license, or endorsement and have the signed transfer document notarized.

*International Maritime Organization (IMO) Registration*. Commercial vessels fishing for highly migratory species (HMS) are required to obtain an IMO number if they are 20 meters in length or longer (approx. 65 feet) in length. A vessel owner is only required to register the vessel one time, and then the IMO number is permanently assigned to that vessel and does not change or expire, regardless of any subsequent change in vessel ownership. SERO collects the IMO number through the Vessel EEZ Application for the NMFS HMS Division and is required to renew or obtain a HMS limited access permit, including the Atlantic tuna longline, shark incidental, shark directed, swordfish incidental, swordfish directed, and swordfish handgear permits. Permit applications that do not contain the required supporting documents are considered incomplete. Collection of this information through annual vessel permits provides current information on the vessel owners participating in these fisheries, thus facilitating quota monitoring necessary to avoid exceeding catch quotas for HMS and helps support enforcement efforts of fishery regulations.

*Smoothhound Shark Permit*. This annual permit requirement aids in identifying the participants in the commercial smoothhound shark fishery to facilitate information gathering for fishery management and quota monitoring, facilitate enforcement of fishing regulations, and help maintain a sustainable fishery. For a person aboard a vessel used to harvest or possess any highly migratory species (i.e., sharks, tunas, swordfish), a vessel permit(s) is required as specified at 50 CFR 635.4. The smoothhound shark permit application is included as part of the Vessel EEZ Application form. In the discussion below, estimates of the annual numbers of respondents, responses, and time and cost burden are given separately from the Vessel EEZ Application.

NMFS anticipates that the information collected by these forms could be disseminated to the public or used to support publicly disseminated information. As explained in the following sections, the information gathered has utility. NMFS will retain control over the information and safeguard it from improper access, modification, and destruction, consistent with NOAA standards for confidentiality, privacy, and electronic information. See the response to Question 10 of this supporting statement for more information on confidentiality and privacy. The information collection is designed to yield data that meet all applicable information quality guidelines. Prior to dissemination, the information will be subjected to quality control measures and a pre-dissemination review pursuant to [Section 515 of Public Law 106-554](http://www.fws.gov/informationquality/section515.html).

**3. Describe whether, and to what extent, the collection of information involves the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological techniques or other forms of information technology.**

The SERO and other NMFS websites include the forms under this collection. NMFS can also mail forms and instructions to respondents. Respondents can download and complete forms electronically, or complete paper forms, and then they can either mail or bring the forms to NMFS. Online permit application renewals are currently available only for some of the permits included on the Vessel EEZ Application form. All other permitting requirements are currently still paper forms. Completing the conversion from paper to electronic forms is dependent on funding and personnel resources that are unavailable at this time. Therefore, a timeframe to complete the conversion is unknown.

**4. Describe efforts to identify duplication.**

The Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic Fishery Management Councils and their advisory groups meet multiple times per year to discuss issues pertinent to management of fisheries in the southeast region, including permits and permitting requirements. These groups include representatives from fishing and processing industries, environmentalists, the academic community, and the Atlantic, Gulf, and U.S. Caribbean states and territories. Through these forums and the federal rule-making process, information including any potential duplication of permitting requirements is identified. No duplication regarding the forms proposed for revision has been identified.

**5. If the collection of information involves small businesses or other small entities, describe the methods used to minimize burden.**

Because nearly all applicants are currently thought to be small businesses or small entities, separate requirements based on size of business have not been developed. However, one of the purposes of the proposed revisions is to determine more accurately if permit holders are in fact small entities. Only the minimum data to meet the current and future needs of NMFS’ fisheries management are requested from the applicants.

**6. Describe the consequences to the federal program or policy activities if the collection is not conducted or is conducted less frequently.**

If this information collection were not conducted or conducted less frequently, the United States would have difficulty fulfilling reporting and compliance obligations under Magnuson-Stevens Act, possibly resulting in violations of Magnuson-Stevens Act requirements, including catch-reporting requirements.

Species harvested in fisheries with permits under this collection of information are managed under the Magnuson-Stevens Act and in several fishery management plans (FMPs). Section 303(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act provides statutory authority to require permits for fisheries governed by FMPs issued by the Secretary of Commerce.

In addition, regulations at 50 CFR parts 300 subpart M, 622, and 635 require the permits under this collection of information. The importance of the information collected prior to permit issuance and the use of the permit system is explained under Question 2.

**7. Explain any special circumstances that require the collection to be conducted in a manner inconsistent with OMB guidelines.**

There are no special circumstances that require the collection to be conducted in a manner inconsistent with OMB guidelines.

**8. If applicable, provide a copy and identify the date and page number of publications in the Federal Register of the agency's notice, required by 5 CFR 1320.8 (d), soliciting comments on the information collection prior to submission to OMB. Summarize public comments received in response to that notice and describe actions taken by the agency in response to these comments. Specifically address comments received on cost and hour burden.**

NMFS published a Federal Register notice on January 15, 2020, soliciting comments for a 60-day period on the renewal and revision of this information collection (85 FR 2408). NMFS did not receive any comments.

NMFS operates a customer support phone line in which the regulated public communicates with NMFS for questions or concerns. Users frequently use this support line to make suggestions for improvements or notify NMFS if anything is not working properly.

**9. Explain any decisions to provide payments or gifts to respondents, other than remuneration of contractors or grantees.**

There are no payments or other remunerations to respondents.

**10. Describe any assurance of confidentiality provided to respondents and the basis for assurance in statute, regulation, or agency policy.**

As stated on the forms and unless otherwise noted, all data submitted under the proposed collection will be handled as confidential material in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Act, section 402b, and [NOAA Administrative Order 216-100](http://www.corporateservices.noaa.gov/ames/administrative_orders/chapter_216/216-100.html), Protection of Confidential Fishery Statistics.

This information collection is included in a comprehensive NMFS Permits and Registrations System of Records Notice (SORN), COMMERCE/NOAA #19, Permits and Registrations for U.S. Federally Regulated Fisheries, published April 17, 2008, and effective June 11, 2008. An updated SORN was published on August 7, 2015, and became effective on October 15, 2015.

**11. Provide additional justification for any questions of a sensitive nature, such as sexual behavior and attitudes, religious beliefs, and other matters that are commonly considered private.**

No questions of a sensitive nature are asked.

**12. Provide an estimate in hours of the burden of the collection of information. For wage costs: use** [**www.bls.gov/oes**](http://www.bls.gov/oes) **, then click on OES Data in the left-hand column, then National to find Occupational Employment Wage Rates for the current year. Find the appropriate Occupational Title of the Respondent completing the Information Collection and use the mean hourly wage.**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Information Collection** | **Type of Respondent (Occupational Title)** | **Annual # of Respondents**  **(a)** | **Annual # of Responses / Respondent**  **(b)** | **Total # of Annual Responses**  **(c) = (a) x (b)** | **Burden Hrs / Response**  **(d)** | **Total Annual Burden Hrs**  **(e) = (c) x (d)** | **Mean Hourly Wage Rate $ (for Type of Respondent)**  **(f)\*** | **Total Annual Wage Burden Costs ($)**  **(g) = (e) x (f)** |
| Application for Vessels Fishing in the EEZ | Fisherman | 5,648 | ~1.2 | 6,481 | 50 min | 5,401 | 14.49 | 78,260.49 |
| Application for Vessels Fishing for Wreckfish in the South Atlantic States | Fisherman | 5 | ~1 | 6 | 55 min | 6 | 14.49 | 86.94 |
| Application for an Annual Dealer Permit | Fisherman | 461 | ~1.2 | 533 | 30 min | 267 | 14.49 | 3,868.83 |
| Application for a New Permit for the Harvest of Aquacultured Live Rock | Fisherman | 3 | 1 | 3 | 70 min | 4 | 14.49 | 57.96 |
| Application to Renew Permit for the Harvest of Aquacultured Live Rock | Fisherman | 15 | ~1.5 | 22 | 50 min | 18 | 14.49 | 260.82 |
| Notice of Intent to Harvest Aquacultured Live Rock | Fisherman | 18 | ~6.7 | 120 | 10 min | 20 | 14.49 | 289.80 |
| Aquaculture Deposit or Harvest Report | Fisherman | 18 | ~6.7 | 120 | 15 min | 30 | 14.49 | 434.70 |
| Application for Operator Card | Fisherman | 552 | 1 | 552 | 30 min | 276 | 14.49 | 3,999.24 |
| Application to fish in Colombian Treaty Waters | Fisherman | 1 | 1 | 1 | 50 min | 1 | 14.49 | 14.49 |
| Change of Information for Federal Fishery Permit Holders | Fisherman | 50 | 1 | 50 | 5 min | 4 | 14.49 | 57.96 |
| Application to Consolidate Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Permits | Fisherman | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 min | 1 | 14.49 | 14.49 |
| Application for Duplicate Permits, Cards, or Decals | Fisherman | 150 | 1 | 150 | 5 min | 13 | 14.49 | 188.37 |
| Notification of Lost Traps | Fisherman | 9 | 1 | 9 | 10 min | 2 | 14.49 | 28.98 |
| Golden Crab Permittee Zone Transit Notification | Fisherman | 5 | 1 | 5 | 10 min | 1 | 14.49 | 14.49 |
| Gulf of Mexico Shrimp Landings Report | Fisherman | 1,325 | ~1.1 | 1,432 | 20 min | 477 | 14.49 | 6,911.73 |
| Permit Transfer Notarization | Fisherman | 1,500 | 1.4 | 1,710 | 10 min | 285 | 14.49 | 4,129.65 |
| IMO Number Registration | Fisherman | 50 | 1 | 50 | 30 min | 25 | 14.49 | 362.25 |
| Smoothhound Shark Permit | Fisherman | 500 | 1 | 500 | 50 min | 417 | 14.49 | 6,042.33 |
| **Totals** |  | **10,311** |  | **11,745** | **505 min; 23 min** | **7,248** |  | **$22,807.26** |

\* Wage data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics occupation code 45-3031, Fishing and Hunting Workers, was used to determine the appropriate mean hourly wage rate. [https://www.bls.gov/soc/2018/major\_groups.htm#45-0000](https://www.bls.gov/soc/2018/major_groups.htm%2345-0000)

**13. Provide an estimate of the total annual cost burden to the respondents or record-keepers resulting from the collection (excluding the value of the burden hours in Question 12 above).**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Information Collection** | **# of Respondents**  **(a)** | **Annual # of Responses / Respondent**  **(b)** | **Total # of Annual Responses**  **(c)=(a) x (b)** | **Cost Burden per Response**  **$ (h)** | **Total Annual Cost Burden $**  **(i) = (c) x (h)** |
| Application for Vessels Fishing in the EEZ | 5,648 | ~1.2 | 6,481 | 41 | 265,721 |
| Application for Vessels Fishing for Wreckfish in the South Atlantic States | 5 | ~1 | 6 | 49 | 294 |
| Application for an Annual Dealer Permit | 461 | ~1.2 | 533 | 46 | 24,483 |
| Application for a New Permit for the Harvest of Aquacultured Live Rock | 3 | 1 | 3 | 176 | 528 |
| Application to Renew Permit for the Harvest of Aquacultured Live Rock | 15 | ~1.5 | 22 | 32 | 704 |
| Notice of Intent to Harvest Aquacultured Live Rock | 18 | ~6.7 | 120 | 0 | 0 |
| Aquaculture Deposit or Harvest Report | 18 | ~6.7 | 120 | 1 | 120 |
| Application for Operator Card | 552 | 1 | 552 | 51 | 28,152 |
| Application to fish in Colombian Treaty Waters | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Change of Information for Federal Fishery Permit Holders | 50 | 1 | 50 | 1 | 50 |
| Application to Consolidate Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Permits | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Application for Duplicate Permits, Cards, or Decals | 150 | 1 | 150 | 19 | 2,850 |
| Notification of Lost Traps | 9 | 1 | 9 | 0 | 0 |
| Golden Crab Permittee Zone Transit Notification | 5 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Gulf of Mexico Shrimp Landings Report | 1,325 | ~1.1 | 1,432 | 1 | 1,432 |
| Permit Transfer Notarization | 1,500 | 1.4 | 1,710 | 6 | 8,550 |
| IMO Number Registration | 50 | 1 | 50 | 0 | 0 |
| Smoothhound Shark Permit | 500 | 1 | 500 | 26 | 13,000 |
| **TOTALS** |  |  | **11,745** |  | **345,886** |

The total annual cost to respondents from the proposed revisions to the forms in this collection of information decreases slightly.

**14. Provide estimates of annualized cost to the Federal Government.**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Cost Descriptions** | **Grade/Step** | **Loaded Salary or Cost** | **% of Effort** | **Fringe (if Applicable)** | **Total Cost to Government** |
| **Federal Oversight** | ZP-4 | 150,000 | 100 |  | 150,000 |
|  | GS-7 (5) | 75,000 | 100 |  | 375,000 |
| **TOTAL** |  |  |  |  | **525,000** |

**15. Explain the reasons for any program changes or adjustments.**

The following tables show the changes and in the number of respondents, responses, time estimates, labor costs, and miscellaneous costs; and explains the reasons for these changes.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Information Collection** | **Respondents** | | **Responses** | | **Burden Hours** | | **Reason for change or adjustment** |
| Current Renewal / Revision | Previous Renewal / Revision | Current Renewal / Revision | Previous Renewal / Revision | Current Renewal / Revision | Previous Renewal / Revision |
| Application for Duplicate Permits, Cards, or Decals |  |  |  |  | 13 | 25 | NMFS decreases the estimated time burden for this form from 10 to 5 minutes per response based on the data collected on this form compared to other forms in 0205. |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Total for Collection** |  |  |  |  | **7,248** | **7,260** |  |
| **Difference** |  | |  | | **(12)** | |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Information Collection** | **Labor Costs** | | **Miscellaneous Costs** | | **Reason for change or adjustment** |
| Current | Previous | Current | Previous |
| Wreckfish Application |  |  | 294 | 306 | The most recent application fee assessment determined that NMFS’ cost to process Wreckfish Applications decreased from $50 to $48 per application. The estimated $1 cost for postage remains the same. Therefore, the total cost to each respondent per response decreases from $51 to $49, and decreases by $12 overall. |
| Cost to Federal Government | 525,000 | 629,730 |  |  | Costs to the Federal Government were calculated based on total salary costs and not application processing times. Therefore, the estimated cost to the Federal Government decreases by $104,730 annually. |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Total for Collection** |  |  | **345,886** | **345,998** |  |
| **Difference** | (104,730) | | **(12)** | |  |

**16. For collections whose results will be published, outline the plans for tabulation and publication.**

The results from this collection are not planned for publication in a standalone report. NMFS may use the results to inform other analyses or for general informational purposes.

**17. If seeking approval to not display the expiration date for OMB approval of the information collection, explain the reasons why display would be inappropriate.**

The expiration date will be displayed on this information collection.

**18. Explain each exception to the certification statement.**

There are no exceptions for compliance with provisions in the certification statement.

**B. COLLECTIONS OF INFORMATION EMPLOYING STATISTICAL METHODS**

This collection does not employ statistical methods.