# **SUPPORTING STATEMENT**

**U.S. Department of Commerce** 

National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration Individual Fishing Quotas for

Pacific Halibut and Sablefish in the Alaska Fisheries
OMB Control No. 0648-0272

#### **Abstract**

This is a resubmission, with the final rule, of a request for revision of an existing information collection due to an associated rule (RIN 0648-BJ34). This rule includes a minor change to regulations implementing the IFQ Program that is necessary to remove a redundant form, centralize all non-medical temporary IFQ transfers onto a single form, and simplify the temporary IFQ transfer process for the public and for agency administrators. The Application for Temporary Military Transfer of IFQ form is removed because the Application for Temporary Transfer of Halibut/Sablefish Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) form may be used for all non-medical temporary IFQ transfers, including temporary military transfers. No changes were made to the Application for Temporary Transfer of Halibut/Sablefish Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) form, other than revising the instructions on the form to improve clarity.

The instruments in this information collection are necessary for the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Alaska Region, to manage the IFQ Program. The information collected is used to identify and authorize participants in the halibut and sablefish fisheries, to track and transfer quota share, to limit transfers to authorized participants, and to monitor quota share balances and harvest in these fisheries.

# **Justification**

1. Explain the circumstances that make the collection of information necessary. Identify any legal or administrative requirements that necessitate the collection. Attach a copy of the appropriate section of each statute and regulation mandating or authorizing the collection of information.

The International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) and NMFS Alaska Region manage fishing for Pacific halibut (*Hippoglossus stenolepis*) through regulations established under the authority of the Northern Pacific Halibut Act of 1982, 16 U.S.C. 773c (Halibut Act). The IPHC promulgates regulations governing the halibut fishery under the Convention between the United States Halibut Fishery of the Northern Pacific Ocean and Bering Sea (Convention). Regulations pursuant to the Convention are set forth at 50 CFR 300 subpart E.

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council), under the authority of the Halibut Act (with respect to Pacific halibut) and the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*; Magnuson-Stevens Act) (with respect to sablefish), manages the fixed gear Pacific halibut and sablefish Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Program. NMFS Alaska Region administers the IFQ Program. Regulations implementing the IFQ Program

are set forth at 50 CFR part 679.

The IFQ Program provides a limited access system for Pacific halibut in Convention waters in and off Alaska and sablefish fisheries in waters of the Exclusive Economic Zone off Alaska. Fishing under the IFQ Program began on March 15, 1995, ending the open-access fisheries that preceded its implementation.

NMFS and the Council developed the IFQ Program to reduce fishing capacity that had increased during years of management as an open-access fishery. The IFQ Program provides coastal Alaska communities a source of revenue, while maintaining the social and economic character of the fixed-gear sablefish and halibut fisheries. The IFQ Program provides economic stability for these fisheries while reducing many of the conservation and management problems commonly associated with open-access fisheries. The IFQ Program includes several provisions, such as ownership caps and vessel use caps that protect small producers, part-time participants, and entry-level participants that otherwise could be adversely affected by excessive consolidation.

An IFQ permit authorizes participation in fixed-gear harvests of Pacific halibut off Alaska and sablefish fisheries off Alaska. IFQ is not specific to vessels and is issued annually to persons holding fishable Pacific halibut and sablefish quota share (QS). The IFQ can be used any time during the annual IFQ season to allow each fisherman to set his or her own pace and fishing effort. Fishermen may harvest the IFQ over the entire fishing season, which extends approximately from March through November 15.

NMFS initially issued QS to persons who owned or leased vessels that made legal commercial fixed-gear landings of Pacific halibut or sablefish during 1988, 1989, or 1990 off Alaska. Currently, QS may only be obtained through transfer.

The NMFS Alaska Region website provides more information on the IFQ Program.

This information collection is necessary to manage the IFQ Program. The information collected is used to identify and authorize participants in the halibut and sablefish fisheries, to track and transfer quota share, to limit transfers to authorized participants, and to monitor quota share balances and harvest in these fisheries.

# Revision due to associated rule (RIN 0648-BJ34)

This information collection is revised due to a rule that includes a minor change to regulations implementing the IFQ Program. This change is necessary to remove a redundant form, centralize all non-medical temporary IFQ transfers onto a single form, and simplify the temporary IFQ transfer process for the public and for agency administrators.

The Application for Temporary Military Transfer of IFQ is removed because the existing Application for Temporary Transfer of Halibut/Sablefish IFQ may be used for all non-medical temporary transfers, including temporary military transfers. The Application for Temporary Military Transfer of IFQ was used by members of the National Guard and military reserves who are unable to participate in the IFQ fishery for which they hold QS because of a military

mobilization or activation to duty status. They will now use the Application for Temporary Transfer of Halibut/Sablefish IFQ to apply for temporary military transfers of IFQ. No changes were made to the Application for Temporary Transfer of Halibut/Sablefish IFQ, other than to revise the instructions on the form to improve clarity. This rule revises the temporary military transfer regulations at 50 CFR 679.41(m)(3) to reference the application for temporary transfer of halibut/sablefish IFQ instead of the temporary military transfer application.

# 2. Indicate how, by whom, and for what purpose the information is to be used. Except for a new collection, indicate the actual use the agency has made of the information received from the current collection.

**Information Requirements and Needs and Uses of Information Collected** 

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|--------|---|---|----------------------|---|
| Item # | Requirement   | Statute   | Regulation<br>50 CFR | Needs and Uses  |
| 1      | Application for<br>Eligibility to Receive<br>QS/IFQ by Transfer | 16 U.S.C. 773<br>&<br>16 U.S.C. 1801<br>et seq. | § 679.41(d)          | Used by persons applying to receive quota share (QS) or individual fishing quota (IFQ) by transfer to obtain a Transfer Eligibility Certificate.  Used by NMFS to determine eligibility to receive quota share or individual fishing quota by transfer.   |
| 2      | Quota Share (QS) Holder: Identification of Ownership Interest   | 16 U.S.C. 773<br>&<br>16 U.S.C. 1801<br>et seq. | § 679.42             | Used by corporations, partnerships, associations, and other nonindividual entities that hold QS under the IFQ Program to submit information on their ownership interest.  Used by NMFS to determine compliance with IFQ requirements including to 1) determine if persons who hold QS have exceeded their allowable use limits under the "individually and collectively" language set out in the IFQ regulations at 50 CFR 679.42(e) and (f); 2) determine changes in corporations or partnerships; 3) identify first-time applicants; 4) affirm an entity's continuing existence; 5) ensure corporations and partnerships are not erroneously issued annual IFQ resulting from the collectively held QS; and 6) determine indirect ownership of vessels for purposes of the hired master provisions of the |

|   |   |   |                           | IFQ Program.   |
|---|---|---|---------------------------|--|
| 3 | Application for<br>IFQ/CDQ Hired Master<br>Permit   | 16 U.S.C. 773<br>&<br>16 U.S.C. 1801<br>et seq. | 679.4(d)(2) and (e)       | Used by the applicant to obtain hired masters by IFQ permit holders in the IFQ Program and by CDQ permit holders in the Western Alaska Community Development Quota Program.  Used by NMFS to determine the eligibility of the IFQ permit holder to use a hired master and to issue the hired master permit if approved |
| 4 | Application for<br>IFQ/CDQ Registered<br>Buyer Permit                                     | 16 U.S.C. 773<br>&<br>16 U.S.C. 1801<br>et seq. | § 679.4(d)(3)             | Used by the applicant to apply for, amend, or renew a registered buyer permit under the IFQ Program and the CDQ Program.  Used by NMFS to determine the eligibility of the applicant to receive a registered buyer permit and to issue the permit if the application is approved.                                      |
| 5 | Application for Transfer<br>of QS   | 16 U.S.C. 773<br>&<br>16 U.S.C. 1801<br>et seq. | § 679.41(b)and (c)        | Used by a QS holder to apply to permanently transfer Pacific halibut or sablefish QS.  Used by NMFS to determine whether the transfer meets the regulatory requirements.   |
| 6 | Application for<br>Temporary Transfer of<br>Halibut/Sablefish<br>Individual Fishing Quota | 16 U.S.C. 773<br>&<br>16 U.S.C. 1801<br>et seq. | § 679.41(b), (c), and (m) | Used by a QS holder to apply to temporarily transfer Pacific halibut or sablefish QS.  Used by NMFS to determine whether the transfer meets the regulatory requirements.   |
| 7 | Application for Transfer<br>of QS/IFQ by Self Sweep<br>Up                                 | ~   | § 679.41(b)and (c)        | Used by QS holder to apply to combine two blocks of QS in the same vessel category that they currently hold.  Used by NMFS to determine eligibility to combine the QS and to ensure that QS and IFQ are transferred in compliance with the regulations governing transfer of QS and IFQ.                               |
| 8 | Annual Report for CDQ<br>IFQ Transfers  | 16 U.S.C. 773<br>&<br>16 U.S.C. 1801<br>et seq. | § 679.5(I)(10) and (w)    | Used by a CDQ group in times of low halibut abundance to report the criteria used to select IFQ holders to receive IFQ transfers from, the criteria used to determine who can  |

|    |                                     |                     |                 | receive transferred IFQ, and the      |
|----|-------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
|    |                                     |                     |                 |                                       |
|    |                                     |                     |                 | amount and type of IFQ transferred.   |
|    |                                     |                     |                 | Used by NMFS to determine             |
|    |                                     |                     |                 | compliance with program               |
|    |                                     |                     |                 | requirements.                         |
|    |                                     |                     |                 | Used by QS holders not eligible to    |
|    |                                     |                     |                 | hire a skipper and who (or            |
|    |                                     |                     |                 | immediate family member) have a       |
|    |                                     |                     |                 | medical condition preventing them     |
|    |                                     | 16 U.S.C. 773       |                 | from fishing their catcher vessel IFQ |
|    | Application for Medical             | &                   | 0 (== .=( !)(=) | to apply to temporarily transfer IFQ. |
| 9  | Transfer of IFQ                     | 16 U.S.C. 1801      | § 679.42(d)(2)  |                                       |
|    | `                                   | et seq.             |                 | Used by NMFS to determine that        |
|    |                                     |                     |                 | the applicant is eligible for the     |
|    |                                     |                     |                 | transfer and to transfer the IFQ      |
|    |                                     |                     |                 | derived from QS held by the           |
|    |                                     |                     |                 | applicant to an eligible QS holder.   |
|    |                                     |                     |                 | Used by QS holder to provide NMFS     |
|    |                                     |                     |                 | with the name of a designated         |
|    |                                     | 141166 770          |                 | beneficiary to receive survivorship   |
|    | OC/IFO Danafini                     | 16 U.S.C. 773<br>&  |                 | transfer privileges in the event of   |
| 10 | QS/IFQ Beneficiary Designation Form | 16 U.S.C. 1801      | § 679.41(k)     | the QS holder's death.                |
|    | Designation Form                    |                     |                 |                                       |
|    |                                     | et seq.             |                 | Used by NMFS to identify the          |
|    |                                     |                     |                 | designated beneficiary of a QS        |
|    |                                     |                     |                 | holder.                               |
|    |                                     |                     |                 | Used by a QS holder who receives      |
|    |                                     |                     |                 | an Initial Administrative             |
|    |                                     | 16 U.S.C. 773       |                 | Determination to appeal an            |
|    |                                     | &                   |                 | application denied by NMFS.           |
| 11 | Appeals                             | 16 U.S.C. 1801      | 15 CFR 906      |                                       |
|    |                                     | et seq.             |                 | Used by NMFS to assess information    |
|    |                                     | J. J. J.            |                 | provided by the appellee in relation  |
|    |                                     |                     |                 | to a previous program application     |
|    |                                     |                     |                 | denial.                               |
|    |                                     |                     |                 | Used by the applicant to request a    |
|    |                                     |                     |                 | replacement for a certificate,        |
|    |                                     |                     |                 | permit, or license that was           |
|    |                                     | 141166 770          |                 | previously issued by NMFS and that    |
|    | Application for                     | 16 U.S.C. 773       |                 | subsequently was lost, destroyed, or  |
| 12 | Replacement of                      | &                   | § 679.4         | stolen.                               |
|    | Certificates or Permits             | 16 U.S.C. 1801      |                 | Used by NMFS to determine that        |
|    |                                     | et seq.             |                 | the certificate, permit, or license   |
|    |                                     |                     |                 | that was previously issued by NMFS    |
|    |                                     |                     |                 | is eligible to be replaced and to     |
|    |                                     |                     |                 | replace that item.                    |
| 13 | IFQ Administrative                  | 16 U.S.C. 773       | § 679.5         | Used by an IFQ fisheries participant  |
| 13 | Waiver                              | 10 U.S.C. 773<br>&  | 3 0/7.3         | to request a waiver from one of       |
|    | vvalvci                             | ∞<br>16 U.S.C. 1801 |                 | three landing requirements or IFQ     |
|    |                                     |                     |                 | hired master on board requirement.    |
|    |                                     | et seq.             |                 | mica master on board requirement.     |

|    |   |   |                   | Used by NMFS to determine whether to grant the waiver.  |
|----|---|---|-------------------|---|
| 14 | Prior Notice of Landing   | 16 U.S.C. 773<br>&<br>16 U.S.C. 1801<br>et seq. | § 679.5(I)(1)     | Used by vessel operator notify NMFS Office for Law Enforcement (NMFS OLE) prior to making a landing of IFQ halibut, CDQ halibut, or IFQ sablefish.  Used by NMFS manage and monitor halibut and sablefish harvests.   |
| 15 | IFQ Departure Report  | 16 U.S.C. 773<br>&<br>16 U.S.C. 1801<br>et seq. | § 679.5(I)(4)     | Used by a vessel operator to notify NMFS OLE that they intend to make a landing of IFQ halibut, CDQ halibut, IFQ sablefish, or Crab Rationalization Program (CR) crab at any location other than in an IFQ regulatory area for halibut and sablefish or in a crab fishery for CR crab in the State of Alaska.  Used by NMFS manage and monitor halibut, sablefish, and crab harvests. |
| 16 | Transshipment<br>Authorization  | 16 U.S.C. 773<br>&<br>16 U.S.C. 1801<br>et seq. | § 679.5(I)(3)     | Used by a vessel operator to obtain authorization from NMFS OLE to transship processed IFQ halibut, CDQ halibut, IFQ sablefish, or CR crab between vessels.  Used by NMFS manage and monitor halibut, sablefish, and crab harvests.   |
| 17 | Dockside sales receipt  | 16 U.S.C. 773<br>&<br>16 U.S.C. 1801<br>et seq. | § 679.5(g)(2)(iv) | Used by a registered buyer conducting dockside sales to issue a receipt to each individual receiving IFQ halibut, CDQ halibut, or IFQ sablefish in lieu of a product transfer report.  Used by NMFS OLE to monitor and inspect the shipment of IFQ fish to determine whether there was proper accounting for all IFQ fish landed.   |
| 18 | Application for a Non-<br>profit Corporation to be<br>Designated as a<br>Recreational Quota<br>Entity | 16 U.S.C. 773<br>&<br>16 U.S.C. 1801<br>et seq. | § 679.41(n)(2)    | Used by a non-profit corporation to apply to be designated as a Recreational Quota Entity in the IFQ Program.  Used by NMFS to determine eligibility of the entity to be designated an RQE  |
| 19 | Application for Transfer  | 16 U.S.C. 773                                   | § 679.41(b)       | Used by the RQE to apply to receive   |

|    |   |   |            | QS by transfer and to transfer QS.   |
|----|---|---|------------|--|
|    | of Quota Share To or<br>From a Recreational<br>Quota Entity | &<br>16 U.S.C. 1801<br>et seq.                  |            | Used by NMFS to ensure that QS are transferred in compliance with regulations governing the buying and selling of QS.  |
| 20 | Recreational Quota<br>Entity Annual Report                  | 16 U.S.C. 773<br>&<br>16 U.S.C. 1801<br>et seq. | § 679.5(v) | Used by the RQE to report its administrative activities and business operation for each calendar year that it holds halibut recreational fishing quota and QS.  Used by NMFS and the Council to determine compliance with RQE requirements and evaluate program effectiveness. |

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 (the Information Quality Act), which requires NMFS to ensure the quality, objectivity, utility, and integrity of information it publicly disseminates. Public dissemination of data collected by this information collection is governed by NOAA's information quality guidelines, which were issued on October 30, 2014.

It is anticipated that the information collected will be disseminated to the public or used to support publicly disseminated information. 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 Question 10 of this Supporting Statement for more information on confidentiality and privacy.

# 1. Application for Eligibility to Receive QS/IFQ by Transfer

Quota share represents a harvesting privilege for a person. Annually, NMFS issues IFQ to QS holders to harvest specified poundage. The specific amount of IFQ held by a person is determined by the number of QS units held, the total number of QS units issued in a specific regulatory area, and the total pounds of sablefish or halibut allocated for the IFQ fisheries in a particular year.

An applicant must be a United States (U.S.) citizen or U.S. corporation, partnership, or other non-individual business entity to receive QS/IFQ by transfer. Those persons applying to receive QS or IFQ by transfer must submit this application to obtain a Transfer Eligibility Certificate (TEC).

A person applies for eligibility only once. To be eligible, persons must have at least 150 days of experience working as part of a harvesting crew in any U.S. commercial fishery. Work in support

of harvesting but not directly related to it is not considered harvesting crew work.

An application for eligibility may be submitted by mail or delivery to NMFS, Alaska Region, Restricted Access Management (RAM). Fax submittal is not accepted due to the notary requirements.

The following information is collected on the Application for Eligibility to Receive QS/IFQ by Transfer.

#### Block A – Applicant Information

Name and NMFS Person ID

Taxpayer ID No. (Employer ID No. or SSN)

Business mailing address (indicate whether permanent or temporary)

Business telephone number, business fax number, and business e-mail address

If applicant is a U.S. citizen, enter date of birth

If applicant is a U.S. corporation, partnership, association, or other non-individual business entity, enter date of incorporation

If a resident of Adak, Alaska, enter date residency began

Block B - Freezer Shares

If this TEC is for an entity that intends to buy or lease only category A QS and participant is a corporation, partnership, association, or other non-individual entity, **attach** QS holder: Identification of Ownership Interest form.

Block C – Commercial Fishing Experience

**Species** 

Gear type

Location

Begin date and end date of fishing experience

Number of actual days spent harvesting fish

Duties performed while directly involved in the harvesting of fish

Vessel name

Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) vessel registration number or U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)

documentation number of vessel

Name of vessel owner and name of vessel operator

Reference

Name

Relationship to applicant

Business mailing address and business telephone number

#### Block D – Notary Certification

Printed name and signature of applicant or authorized representative and date signed

If authorized representative, **attach** authorization

Notary public signature, commission expiration date, and notary stamp or seal

# 2. Quota Share (QS) Holder: Identification of Ownership Interest

This form must be submitted annually to NMFS by corporations, partnerships, associations, and other non-individual entities that hold QS.

NMFS needs the requested information to determine compliance with IFQ Program requirements that include the following:

 determine if persons who hold QS have exceeded their allowable use limits under the "individually and collectively" language set out in the IFQ regulations at 50 CFR 679.42(e) and (f);

- determine if a corporation or partnership that holds catcher vessel QS has changed (i.e., the addition of a new member);
- identify first-time applicants;
- affirm an entity's continuing existence;
- ensure corporations and partnerships are not erroneously issued annual IFQ resulting from the collectively held QS;
- determine indirect ownership of vessels for purposes of the hired master provisions of the IFQ Program.

An entity must notify NMFS of any change within 15 days of its effective date and must then transfer its QS to a qualified individual.

Proof of vessel ownership must be submitted by non-individual respondents each year. Federal regulations at 50 CFR 679.42(i) and (j) define acceptable proof of ownership as follows:

- For a documented vessel, owns a minimum 20-percent interest in the vessel as shown by the U.S. Abstract of Title issued by the USCG that lists the permit holder as an owner and, if necessary to prove the required percentage ownership, other written documentation;
- For an undocumented vessel, owns a minimum 20-percent interest in the vessel as shown by a State of Alaska vessel license or registration that lists the permit holder as an owner and, if necessary to show the required percentage ownership interest.

An ownership interest application may be submitted to NMFS RAM by mail, delivery, or fax.

The following information is collected on the form Quota Share Holder: Identification of Ownership Interest.

# Block A - Identification of QS holder

Name of QS holder

Indicate whether this business is a publicly held corporation

If a corporation, association, partnership, or other non-individual entity indicate whether still active If an estate that has been probated, provide date probate was finalized

Block B – Identification of Members, Shareholders, Partners, Joint Venturers, Successors-In-Interest

If ownership consists of separate or additional corporations or partnerships, the individual owners of those entities and the percentage of interest those individuals hold in their respective corporations/partnerships must be listed

Name of owner(s)

Percent of interest held

Indicate whether ownership percentages represent the addition of any new owners since QS was initially issued  $\underline{Block\ C-Certification}$ 

Printed name and signature of applicant or authorized representative and date signed. Authorized representatives must submit proof of authorization from QS owner and state title.

# 3. Application for IFQ/CDQ Hired Master Permit

A hired master permit is required for harvest of IFQ halibut, IFQ sablefish, or Western Alaska Community Development Quota (CDQ) halibut on behalf of a permit holder. Non-individual IFQ permit holders (corporations, partnerships, associations, and other non-individuals) must designate a hired master to fish their IFQ or obtain a permit to access their account.

To obtain a hired master, non-individual permit holders must own (either directly or indirectly) at least 20 percent of the vessel their hired master will use to fish the IFQ. The applicant must complete a separate application for each vessel, each IFQ permit number, and each CDQ permit number.

To demonstrate percent of vessel ownership by IFQ permit holder, documentation of ownership must be included with this application, except for Category A IFQ permit holders and CDQ permit holders.

- Proof of vessel ownership by the IFQ permit holder:
  - o For USCG documented vessels, a complete copy of the USCG Abstract of Title
  - O For an undocumented vessel, a copy of the State of Alaska vessel license or registration
- If the IFQ permit holder is not the person named on the USCG Abstract of Title or State of Alaska vessel license or registration, documentation establishing indirect ownership, such as corporate annual reports, meeting minutes, or stock certificates.

A hired master permit is in effect from the date of issue through the end of the specified fishing year.

The application for a hired master permit may be submitted to NMFS RAM by mail, delivery, or

The following information is collected on the Application for IFQ/CDQ Hired Master Permit.

#### Block A – IFQ/CDQ Permit Holder Information

Name and NMFS person ID of IFQ permit holder

Business mailing address (indicate whether temporary or permanent)

Business telephone number, business fax number, and business e-mail address

Block B - Purpose of Application

Indicate if adding or removing hired master

Indicate whether the hired master permit should be mailed directly to the hired master

Indicate permit number(s) and categories to which this action applies

Block C – Identification of Vessel upon which IFQ/CDQ Halibut or Sablefish will be Fished

Vessel name, length overall, ADF&G vessel registration number, and USCG documentation number of vessel

If IFQ permit holder holds an ownership interest of at least 20% in the named vessel, attachments are required.

Block D – IFQ Permit Holder for Quota Share in Category B, C, or D

Indicate if IFQ Permit Holder hold an ownership interest of at least 20% in the vessel named in Block C.

Attach documentation in support of your ownership interest in the vessel

Block E -- IFQ Permit Holders for Quota Share in Category B, C, or D: Individuals Only

Indicate if the IFQ permit holder held an ownership interest of at least 20% in the vessel named in Block C for the 12 months immediately preceding the date of this application.

If NO, indicate if the permit holder owner applying for a hired master permit and seeking an exemption from the 12-month vessel ownership requirement.

Block F – Hired Master Information

Name and NMFS person ID of hired master permit holder

Business mailing address (indicate whether temporary or permanent)

Business telephone number, business fax number, and business e-mail address

Block G – 12-month Ownership Exemption Request

Indicate type of exemption you are seeking

For Claim of Vessel Los or Irreparable Vessel Damage:

Name, ADF&G number, and USCG number of vessel

Date vessel lost or irreparably damaged

Indicate if USCG Form 2692 "Report of Marine Casualty" was submitted for the incident

Cause of vessel loss or damage (check all that apply)

Was the vessel used to harvest halibut or sablefish QS belonging to the IFQ permit holder before the vessel was lost or irreparably damaged?

For Claim of Temporary Vessel Disablement

Name, ADF&G number, and USCG number of vessel

Date vessel temporarily disabled

Indicate if USCG Form 2692 "Report of Marine Casualty" was submitted for the incident

Was the vessel temporarily disabled by an accident that materially and adversely affected the vessel's seaworthiness or fitness for service?

Does the vessel require repairs from this incident that require at least 60 days to complete?

Was the vessel used to harvest halibut or sablefish QS belonging to the IFQ permit holder before the vessel was temporarily disabled?

Block H – Certification of Permit Holder

Signature and printed name of applicant or authorized representative, and date signed

If representative, **attach** authorization

# 4. Application for IFQ/CDQ Registered Buyer Permit

The Application for IFQ/CDQ Registered Buyer Permit is used to apply for, amend, or renew a registered buyer permit under the IFQ Program and the CDQ Program. A registered buyer permit authorizes the person identified on the permit to receive and make an IFQ landing by an IFQ permit holder or IFQ hired master permit holder, or to receive and make a CDQ halibut landing by a CDQ permit holder or CDQ hired master permit holder.

A registered buyer permit is required of the following:

- Any person who receives IFQ halibut, CDQ halibut, or IFQ sablefish from the person(s) who harvested the fish.
- Any person who harvests IFQ halibut, CDQ halibut, or IFQ sablefish and transfers such fish in a dockside sale, outside of an IFQ regulatory area, or outside the State of Alaska.
- A vessel operator who submits an IFQ Departure Report (see description of this report below at subsection p).

NMFS does not issue a registered buyer permit to entities receiving IFQ Pacific halibut, IFQ sablefish, or CDQ Pacific halibut at locations outside Alaska. In such cases, the vessel operator must be a registered buyer.

A registered buyer permit is non-transferable and is issued annually on request at no cost. Many registered buyers hold more than one permit.

A registered buyer permit is in effect from the first day of the year for which it is issued or from the date of issuance, whichever is later, through the end of the 1-year cycle that runs from March 1 through the last day of February, unless it is revoked, suspended, surrendered, or modified.

The application may be submitted to NMFS RAM by mail, fax, or delivery. An application to renew or amend the permit may also be submitted online using <u>eFISH</u>, the NMFS-approved

electronic reporting system.

If the application is submitted to NMFS online using eFISH, the NMFS Person ID, password, and transfer key take the place of a signature and certify that all information is true, correct, and complete.

Upon acceptance by NMFS of an online submission, the registered buyer may print a paper copy of the new permit and maintain this copy for inspection. NMFS will mail permits to applicants applying by mail, delivery, or fax.

For the application to be considered complete, all observer fees due to NMFS (see § 679.55) must be paid. Observer fees are authorized under OMB control number 0648-0711.

The following information is collected on the Application for IFQ/CDQ Registered Buyer Permit.

Indicate type of permit requested: New, Renew, or Amended

If renewing or amending a permit, enter registered buyer permit number

Block A -- Applicant Identification

Name and NMFS Person ID of registered buyer

Name of contact person

Business mailing address (indicate whether permanent or temporary)

Physical location of facility

Business telephone number, fax number, and e-mail address

Block B – Type of Activity

Check all activities that apply

Block C – Signature

Signature and printed name of applicant or authorized representative and date signed

If authorized representative, attach authorization

# 5. Application for Transfer of QS

Any person that received QS/IFQ as an Initial Issue or that holds a Transfer Eligibility Certificate (TEC) is eligible to receive QS/IFQ by transfer.

The Application for Transfer of QS is used to permanently transfer QS.

An Application for Transfer of QS must be approved by the NMFS Regional Administrator before a person may use IFQ that results from a direct transfer to harvest IFQ halibut or IFQ sablefish. The IFQ Program does not permit transfer of QS subject to any conditions of repossession or resale to the transferor except by court order, operation of law, or security agreement.

The information required by this application is necessary to ensure that QS and IFQ are transferred in compliance with the regulations governing the buying and selling of QS and the leasing of IFQ.

A separate application must be submitted for each group of QS being transferred.

An Application for Transfer of QS may be submitted to NMFS RAM by mail or delivery. Fax submittal is not accepted due to the notary requirements.

The following information is collected on the Application for Transfer of QS.

Indicate whether transferee has a TEC

Checklist

Use this list to ensure application is complete.

Block A – Identification of Transferor (Seller)

NMFS Person ID

Date of birth

Business mailing address (indicate whether permanent or temporary)

Business telephone number, Business fax number, and business e-mail address

Block B – Identification of Transferee (Buyer)

Name and NMFS Person ID

Date of birth

Business mailing address (indicate whether permanent or temporary)

Business telephone number, business fax number, and business e-mail address

Block C – Sweep-up or CDQ Compensation

If QS is to be included in a sweep-up, list the QS Group Number on the QS Holder Summary Report into which this new piece should be combined.

If this is a transfer of Catcher Vessel CDQ Compensation QS and the vessel category was never declared, indicate the vessel category in which you would like to have your QS issued.

#### Block D – Identification of QS and IFQ to be Transferred

Whether halibut or sablefish

IFQ Regulatory area

Vessel category

Number of QS units to be transferred

Transferor IFQ permit number

Start and end serial numbers of QS to be transferred

Indicate whether all remaining pounds for the current fishing year should be transferred

**If NO**, number of pounds to be transferred

Block E – Required Transferor Supplemental Information

Price per pound of IFQ

Price per unit of QS

Total amount paid for the QS/IFQ, including all fees

Reasons for transferring the QS/IFQ (check all that apply)

If a broker is used for this transaction, enter amount paid in brokerage fees or % of total price

Block F – Required Transferee Supplemental Information

Indicate whether QS/IFQ being purchased will have a lien attached

If YES, name of lien holder

Primary source of financing for this transfer (check one)

How the QS/IFQ was located (check all that apply)

Buyer's relationship to the QS/IFQ Holder (check all that apply)

If agreement exists to return QS/IFQ to Transferor or other person, or a condition placed on resale, explain

Block G – Certification of Transferor

Printed name and signature of Transferor or Authorized Representative and date signed

If authorized representative, attach authorization

Signature, commission expiration date, and stamp of notary

Block H – Certification of Transferee

Printed name and signature of Transferee or Authorized Representative and date signed

If authorized representative, **attach** authorization.

Signature, commission expiration date, and stamp of notary

Two people, the transferor and the transferee, complete one application for a transfer.

6. Application for Temporary Transfer of Halibut/Sablefish Individual Fishing Quota

**Revision:** An instruction on this form is revised to clarify that a temporary military transfer is only available to individuals undergoing military mobilization, or who have orders to report for military service, or who are in active duty military service. This does not change the respondents, responses, burden, or costs. Additionally, no changes to these numbers are made due to removing the Application for Temporary IFQ because the estimates are already conservative enough to include any changes resulting from the removal of that application.

IFQ is eligible to be temporarily transferred in limited exceptions. The Application for Temporary Transfer can be used for several temporary transfers, including Category A IFQ transfer, surviving beneficiary transfer, military service transfer, and the newest justification, transfers to CDQ groups in Areas BCD in times of low halibut abundance.

Specific regulatory criteria must be met before any of these transfers are approved. A temporary IFQ transfer is valid only for the calendar year in which it is approved.

The information required by this application is necessary to ensure that IFQ are transferred in compliance with the regulations governing the buying, selling, or gifting of IFQ.

This application may be submitted to NMFS by mail or delivery. NMFS will not accept a fax submittal because a notarized signature is required.

The following is collected on the Application for Temporary Transfer of Halibut/Sablefish Individual Fishing Quota:

#### Block A – Type of Temporary IFQ Transfer Requested

Please indicate the type of temporary IFQ transfer requested (Category A IFQ transfer, surviving beneficiary, temporary military service transfer, IFQ transfer to CDQ groups during year of low halibut abundance)

#### Block B - Transferor Information

Name and NMFS Person ID

Date of Birthday

Business mailing address (indicate whether permanent or temporary)

Business telephone number, business fax number, and business e-mail address

# Block C – Transferee Information

Name and NMFS Person ID

Date of Birthday

Business mailing address (indicate whether permanent or temporary)

Business telephone number, business fax number, and business e-mail address

# Block D – Identification of IFQ to be Transferred

Indicate halibut or sablefish

Indicate IFQ Regulatory Area

Number of IFO Pounds

From IFQ Permit Number

For Fishing Year

#### Block E – Required Transferor Supplemental Information

Price per pound

Total Amount paid for IFQ in this transaction, including all fees

#### <u>Block F – Required Transferee Supplemental Information</u>

Indicate the primary source of financing for this transfer

How was the IFQ located?

What is the Transferee's relationship to the IFQ Holder?

# Block G – Temporary Military Transfer

Does the Transferor qualify to hire a master under regulatory provisions at 50 CFR 679.42(i)(1)? See instructions for more information.

Is the Transferor a member of a branch of the National Guard or a member of a reserve component under a call to active service or, in the case of a member of the reserve component, been ordered to report for military service beginning on the date of the member's receipt of the order and ending on the date on which the member reports for active duty military service?

**If YES**, you must provide documentation of active military mobilization or deployment. This documentation must include the following:

A copy of official documentation such as valid military orders or call that direct the transferor to report to active duty military service, to mobilize for a military deployment, or to report to active service.

A concise description of the nature of the military deployment or active duty military service, including verification that the applicant is unable to participate in the IFQ fishery for which he or she holds IFQ permits during the IFQ season because of his/her active duty military service.

#### Block H -- Certification of Transferor

Printed name and signature of Transferor and date signed

If authorized representative, attach authorization

Signature, commission expiration date, and stamp of notary

# Block I -- Certification of Transferee

Printed name and signature of Transferee and date signed.

If authorized representative, attach authorization.

Signature, commission expiration date, and stamp of notary

The number of respondents is based on IFQ transfer activity for 2017. Two people, the transferor and the transferee, complete one application for a transfer.

# 7. Application for Transfer of QS/IFQ by Self Sweep-up

The Application for Transfer of QS/IFQ by Self Sweep-up is for use by a person who wishes to combine (sweep-up) two blocks. Blocked QS may be combined into one block if the total amount of QS being combined is less than or equal to established amounts of QS units per area. To be combined, QS must be in the same vessel category, and the resulting block size must not exceed the sweep-up limits.

An application for transfer by sweep up may be submitted to NMFS RAM by mail or delivery. Fax submittal is not accepted due to the notary requirements.

The following information is collected on the Application for Transfer of QS/IFQ by Sweep-up.

Block A – Applicant information

Applicant name and NMFS Person ID

Date of birth

Business mailing address (indicate whether permanent or temporary)

Business telephone number, business fax number, and business e-mail address

Block B -- First Quota Shore Block Halibut or sablefish IFQ Regulatory area Vessel category Number of QS units to be combined Start and end serial numbers of QS Block C — Second Quota share Block Halibut or sablefish IFQ Regulatory area Vessel category Number of QS units to be combined Start and end serial numbers of QS Block D – Certification of Notary and Applicant Signature and printed name of QS holder and date signed If authorized representative, attach authorization Signature, commission expiration date, and stamp of notary public

# 8. Annual Report for CDQ IFQ Transfers

In years of low halibut catch limits in regulatory areas 4B and 4CDE, CDQ groups are allowed to lease halibut catcher vessel IFQ in regulatory areas 4B, 4C, and 4D. A CDQ group is required to submit an annual report for CDQ IFQ transfers only in years in which the CDQ group received catcher vessel halibut IFQ by transfer.

Any IFQ transferred to a CDQ group under this provision is available for use in conjunction with halibut CDQ and intended for use by residents that have traditionally harvested halibut CDQ. The annual report allows CDQ groups to demonstrate how this opportunity is benefiting its residents without the Council or NMFS needing to define who is a resident.

The reporting requirement at § 679.5(l)(10) requires the CDQ groups to submit an annual report on the criteria used to select IFQ holders to receive IFQ transfers from, the criteria used to determine who can receive transferred IFQ, and the amount and type of IFQ transferred.

The report is submitted to NMFS and the Council through mail or email no later than January 31 after the transfer activity was completed. A CDQ group is not eligible to lease halibut IFQ until a timely and complete report is submitted. There is no form for this report.

This program is voluntary and is limited to small vessels (under 51 feet length overall). There are six CDQ groups. Since this program is implemented only in times of low halibut abundance and not all vessels will opt to participate, NMFS anticipates 0 respondents and responses at this time. However, in the long term, we expect an average 2 responses per year.

# 9. Application for Medical Transfer of IFQ

QS holders not eligible to hire a skipper and who (or an immediate family member) have a medical condition preventing them from fishing their catcher vessel IFQ may lease out the IFQ. This provision is intended to allow IFQ to be fished while the QS holder or their immediate

family member has a short-term medical condition. For this reason, a written declaration from a health care provider is required, and the number of times a person may use a medical transfer for any medical condition is limited. NMFS will not approve a medical transfer if the applicant has received a medical transfer in any 3 of the previous 7 years for any medical condition. A medical transfer is valid only during the calendar year of the transfer.

The requirement for an IFQ permit holder to be aboard the vessel during fishing operations and to sign the IFQ landing report may be waived. A medical transfer may be approved if the applicant demonstrates that he or she is unable to participate in the IFQ fishery for which he or she holds IFQ—

- because of a severe medical condition that precludes participation; or
- because of a severe medical condition involving an immediate family member that requires the IFQ holder's full time attendance.

The application is available on the NMFS website or by calling NMFS RAM. The original application must be mailed or delivered to RAM.

The following information is collected on the Application for Medical Transfer of IFQ.

Indicate if the Transferor (medical condition) qualifies for a hired master exception

**If YES**, the medical transfer application will be denied.

Indicate if the Transferee (no medical condition) holds a Transfer Eligibility Certificate (TEC)

**If NO**, the transferee (buyer) must apply for a TEC.

Block A – Transferor Information (Medical Condition)

Name of Transferor

NMFS Person ID

Birth date of applicant

Business Mailing Address (indicate if permanent or temporary): street or P.O. box number, city, state, and zip code This is address where transfer documentation will be sent

Business telephone number, fax number, and E-mail address

Block B – Transferee Information (No Medical Condition)

Name of Transferee

NMFS Person ID

Birth date of applicant

Business Mailing Address (indicate if permanent or temporary): street or P.O. box number, city, state, and zip code This is address where transfer documentation will be sent

Business telephone number, fax number, and E-mail address

Block C – Identification of IFO to be Transferred

Indicate whether halibut or sablefish

Fishing Year

Transferor IFQ Permit Number

IFQ Regulatory Area

IFQ Pounds Transferring

Block D – Transferor Supplemental Information

Price per pound, including fees, or other method of compensation

Total amount paid for the IFQ, including fees

Block E – Transferee Supplemental Information

Primary source of financing for this transfer

Indicate how IFQ was located

Transferee's relationship to the IFQ Holder

Block F – Medical Declaration (must be completed by a health care provider as defined at 50 CFR 679.2)

Name and Title of Treating Health Care Provider

Business Telephone Number and Permanent Mailing Address

Type of Health Care Provider

Brief description of the primary medical condition affecting the applicant or applicant's family member that prevents participation in the fishery for this calendar year.

Signature of Treating Health Care Provider and date signed

Block G – Certification Of Transferor

Printed name and signature of transferor and date signed

If completed by a representative, **attach** authorization

Block H – Certification Of Transferee

Printed name and signature of transferor and date signed

If completed by a representative, **attach** authorization

The transferor, transferee, and the health care provider are included in the number of respondents, since all must complete and sign a section of the application. Therefore, there are three respondents per response for the medical transfer application.

# 10. QS/IFQ Beneficiary Designation Form

QS holders may provide NMFS with the name of a designated beneficiary to receive survivorship transfer privileges in the event of the QS holder's death. A beneficiary is the surviving spouse or an immediate family member as defined at 50 CFR 679.2.

NMFS allows the transfer of IFQ only (lease) to the beneficiary by right of survivorship, for a period of 3 years following the death of the original QS holder. This information collected is necessary to provide temporary transfer privileges to the family of a deceased QS holder in the absence of a surviving spouse.

A designated beneficiary form may be submitted to NMFS by mail or delivery.

The following information is collected on the QS/IFQ Beneficiary Designation Form.

Block A – Identification of QS holder

Name and NMFS Person ID

Business mailing address

Business telephone number, business fax number, and business e-mail address

Block B – Identification of beneficiary

Name and NMFS person ID

Business mailing address

Business telephone number, business fax number, and business e-mail address

Block C – Relationship of Beneficiary to QS Holder

If beneficiary is not the spouse of the QS holder, explain family relationship of the beneficiary to the QS holder Block D – Signature

Signature and printed name of beneficiary, and date signed

If authorized representative, **attach** authorization

# 11. Appeals

Appeals was inadvertently removed from this collection in 2015. An appeals process is provided for a QS holder who receives an adverse initial administrative determination (IAD) related to

their transfer application. If NMFS denies a transfer, a QS holder may appeal this denial under the appeals procedures set out at 15 CFR part 906.

Administrative appeals of adverse decisions made by NMFS Alaska Region must be submitted to the NMFS National Appeals Office (NAO) in Silver Spring, Maryland. Instructions for submitting an appeal are provided on the NAO website at

https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/rules-and-regulations/appeals. The appeal may be submitted by fax (307-713-2384) or by mail or commercial carrier to National Appeals Office, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

There is no form for this collection.

The appeal must be filed not later than 45 days after the date the IAD is issued unless a shorter or longer filing timeframe is explicitly specified in the regulations governing the initial administrative determination.

No appeals have been filed since 2015; however, one IAD was issued in 2016 and one in 2019. For purposes of this analysis, one response is used in the tables in questions 12 and 13.

# 12. Application for replacement of certificates, permits, or licenses

This form is used to request a replacement for a certificate, permit, or license that was previously issued by NMFS and that subsequently was lost, destroyed, or stolen.

An application for replacement may be submitted to NMFS RAM by mail, delivery, or fax.

The following information is collected on the Application for Replacement of Certificates, Permits, or Licenses.

#### Block A – Identification of Applicant

Name and NMFS Person ID

Date of birth, if an individual; Date of incorporation, if a corporation, association, partnership, or other non-individual entity

Business mailing address (indicate whether temporary or permanent)

Business telephone number, business fax number, and business e-mail address

Block B – Replacement Request

Indicate certificate, permit, or license to be replaced (check only items that apply)

Block C – Reason for replacement request

Check one; if checked "other," describe

Block D – Certification of Applicant

Signature and printed name of applicant or authorized representative and date signed

If authorized representative, attach authorization

# 13. IFQ Administrative Waiver

Participants in IFQ fisheries request an administrative waver by calling NOAA Office for Law Enforcement (OLE) using a NMFS-provided toll-free number or, in rare cases, by marine radio.

No form exists for this waiver.

OLE completes the waiver to document the participant's request for an administrative waiver from one of the following requirements. The waiver is granted at the discretion of the clearing officer:

- Six-hour Prior of Notice of Landing: issued to a vessel to land fish before the required 6 hours
- 12-hour IFQ Landing Window: issued to a vessel that lands fish after hours: after 1800 and before 0600
- Electronic Landing Report: issued due to eLandings failure
- IFQ hired master on board: issued for the IFQ hired master to not be on board in extreme personal emergencies

The following information is collected in an IFQ Administrative Waiver.

*Toll-free telephone call to OLE* 

Date and time of waiver
Vessel name and ADF&G vessel registration number
All IFQ permit numbers
Prior Notice confirmation number (if applicable)
Registered Buyer name and permit number (if applicable)
Requirement being waived.

# 14. Prior Notice of Landing (PNOL)

The operator of any vessel making an IFQ landing must submit a PNOL to OLE no fewer than 3 hours before landing IFQ halibut, CDQ halibut, or IFQ sablefish, unless permission to commence an IFQ landing within 3 hours of notification is granted by a clearing officer. No form exists for this item.

The operator of any vessel wishing to make an IFQ landing before the date and time (A.l.t.) reported in the PNOL or later than 2 hours after the date and time (A.l.t.) reported in the PNOL must submit a new PNOL.

Vessel operators call OLE using a toll-free number to submit a PNOL. An OLE data clerk types the data directly into the system. The system generates a PNOL confirmation number, which the data clerk provides to the fisherman.

The PNOL alerts the IPHC monitoring personnel and OLE personnel to legal landings. In addition, the submittal of a PNOL allows OLE—

- to query the IFQ data center to determine if the permit holder has enough IFQ pounds available in the account to cover the amount being landed;
- to observe the offload; and
- to monitor longline pot gear retrieval in the Gulf of Alaska.

Data on gear type are necessary to ensure compliance with the PNOL requirement because some reporting exemptions are gear-based.

- Halibut: An IFQ landing of halibut of 500 lb or less of IFQ weight and concurrent with a legal landing of salmon harvested using hand troll gear or power troll gear is exempt from the PNOL.
- Lingcod: An IFQ landing of halibut of 500 lb or less of IFQ weight and concurrent with a legal landing of lingcod harvested using dinglebar gear is exempt from the PNOL.

IPHC uses gear type data to assist with harvest monitoring. NMFS and the Council use gear information to project bycatch rates for non-IFQ fish in the IFQ fishery and support analyses for seasonal apportionments and other allocation proposals.

The following information is collected in the PNOL.

#### Toll-free telephone call to OLE

Vessel Information

Vessel name

ADF&G vessel registration number

Landing information

Port of landing and port code

Exact location of landing within the port (dock name, harbor name, facility name, or geographical coordinates) Date and time (A.l.t.) that the landing will take place

Species and estimated weight (lb) of IFQ halibut, CDQ halibut, or IFQ sablefish that will be landed

IFQ regulatory area(s) where IFQ halibut, CDQ halibut, or IFQ sablefish were harvested

IFQ permit numbers used to land IFQ halibut, CDQ halibut, or IFQ sablefish

Gear type used to harvest the IFQ sablefish or IFQ halibut

If using longline pot gear in the Gulf of Alaska or pot gear in the BSAI, report the following:

- number of pots set,
- number of pots lost, and
- number of pots left deployed on the fishing grounds.

Comments

# 15. IFQ Departure Report

A vessel operator who intends to make a landing of IFQ halibut, CDQ halibut, IFQ sablefish, or Crab Rationalization Program (CR) crab at any location other than in an IFQ regulatory area for halibut and sablefish or in a crab fishery for CR crab in the State of Alaska must submit an IFQ Departure Report, by telephone, to OLE (800-304-4846 or 907-586-7163) between 0600 hours, A.l.t., and 2400 hours, A.l.t. No form exists for this report.

A vessel operator who intends to make an IFQ landing at a location different from the location named on the IFQ Departure report must submit a revised report naming the new location at least 12 hours in advance of the offload. Revisions must be submitted by telephone, to OLE (800-304-4846 or 907-586-7163) between the hours of 0600 hours, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), and 2400 hours, A.l.t.

The IFQ Departure Report is submitted only after completion of all IFQ fishing and prior to departing the waters of the exclusive economic zone adjacent to the jurisdictional waters of the State of Alaska, the territorial sea of the State of Alaska, or the internal waters of the State of Alaska.

A vessel operator submitting an IFQ Departure Report for CR crab must have a Registered Crab Receiver permit.

A vessel operator submitting an IFQ Departure Report for IFQ halibut, CDQ halibut, or IFQ sablefish must have a registered buyer permit and must submit IFQ landing reports for all IFQ halibut, CDQ halibut, and IFQ sablefish on board at the same time and place as the first landing of any IFQ halibut, CDQ halibut, or IFQ sablefish.

The following information is collected in an IFQ Departure Report.

# Toll-free telephone call to OLE

Intended date, time (Alaska local time), and location of landing

Vessel name and ADF&G vessel registration number

Halibut IFQ, halibut CDQ, sablefish IFQ, and CR crab permit numbers of IFQ and CDQ permit holders on board Vessel operator's name

Registered Buyer permit or Registered Crab Receiver permit number

Area of harvest.

If IFQ or CDQ halibut, provide halibut regulatory areas (Figure 15 to 50 CFR part 679)

If IFQ sablefish, provide sablefish regulatory areas (Figure 14 to 50 CFR part 679)

If CR crab, provide CR fishery code (Table 1 to part 680)

Estimated total weight as appropriate of IFQ halibut, CDQ halibut, IFQ sablefish, or CR crab on board (lb/kg/mt)

# 16. Transshipment Authorization

No person may transship processed IFQ halibut, CDQ halibut, IFQ sablefish, or CR crab between vessels without authorization by a local clearing officer. Authorization from a local clearing officer must be obtained for each instance of transshipment at least 24 hours before the transshipment is intended to commence.

The authorization is requested from OLE by telephone at 800-304-4846. No form exists for this item.

To obtain a Transshipment Authorization, the vessel operator must provide the following information to the clearing officer.

The following information is collected in a Transshipment Authorization.

#### *Toll-free telephone call to OLE*

Time and date of transshipment

Location of transshipment

Name and ADF&G vessel registration number of vessel offloading transshipment

Name of vessel receiving the transshipment

Product destination

Species code and product type code

Total product weight

Time (A.l.t.) and date of request

Name, telephone number, fax number for person making the request

# 17. Dockside Sales Receipt

The purpose of reporting the amount of IFQ fish involved in a dockside sale is to provide OLE with the ability to monitor and inspect the shipment of IFQ fish to determine whether there was proper accounting for all IFQ fish landed.

A person holding a valid IFQ permit or IFQ hired master permit, and a registered buyer permit may conduct a dockside sale of IFQ halibut or IFQ sablefish with a person who has not been issued a registered buyer permit after all IFQ halibut and IFQ sablefish have been landed and reported.

A person holding a valid halibut CDQ hired master permit and registered buyer permit may conduct a dockside sale of CDQ halibut with a person who has not been issued a registered buyer permit after all CDQ halibut have been landed and reported.

A registered buyer conducting dockside sales must issue a receipt to each individual receiving IFQ halibut, CDQ halibut, or IFQ sablefish in lieu of a product transfer report (see OMB control number 0648-0213). No form exists for this item.

The dockside sales receipt must include the following information.

Date of sale Registered buyer permit number Weight by product of the IFQ halibut, CDQ halibut, or sablefish IFQ transferred

18. Application for a Non-profit Corporation to be Designated as a Recreational Quota Entity (RQE)

An RQE is authorized to purchase and hold a limited amount of commercial halibut quota share that will yield additional pounds of recreational fishing quota on an annual basis to augment the amount of halibut available for harvest in the charter halibut fishery. The RQE provides a mechanism for a compensated reallocation of a portion of commercial halibut quota share to the charter halibut fishery.

A non-profit organization that intends to establish itself as an RQE and participate in the IFQ Program must complete an Application for a Non-profit Entity to be Designated as a Recreational Quota Entity (RQE) for approval by NMFS. This application collects information necessary for NMFS to determine eligibility of the entity to be designated an RQE.

NMFS will approve only one entity as the RQE. Upon approval by NMFS, the RQE may buy, sell, and hold halibut QS in Areas 2C and 3A.

This application is due only once.

The application may be submitted to NMFS by mail or delivery. Fax submittal is not accepted

due to the notary requirements.

The Application for a Non-profit Corporation to be Designated as a Recreational Quota Entity collects the following information.

#### Application for a Non-profit Corporation to be Designated as a CQE

# Block A–Identification of applicant

Name of nonprofit organization

Tax ID Number

NMFS ID Number

Name of contact person

Permanent business mailing address

Business telephone number, fax number, and e-mail address

# Block B - Required Attachments -- Checklist of required attachments

Applicants Articles of Incorporation

Applicant's Corporate By-laws

List of applicant's key personnel, including its Board of Directors, officers, representatives, and managers Applicant's organizational chart or, at minimum, a written explanation that fully reveals the applicants line and staff responsibilities and relationships

#### Block C – Notary Certification

Printed name and signature of applicant or authorized representative and date signed. If representative, attach authorization.

Signature, date when commission expires, and stamp of notary

# 19. Application for Transfer of Quota Share To or From a Recreational Quota Entity

An RQE is eligible to receive QS by transfer and to transfer QS.

An RQE is limited to holding no more than 10 percent of the 2015 commercial QS pool in Area 2C and no more than 12 percent of the 2015 commercial QS pool in Area 3A. An RQE may not annually transfer more than 1 percent of the commercial QS units in Area 2C or more than 1.2 percent of the commercial QS units in Area 3A based on the 2015 QS pool.

An RQE may not purchase any D class QS in Area 3A and may not purchase more than 10 percent of the D class QS in Area 2C based on the D class QS pool in 2015. An RQE is also limited to purchasing no more than 10 percent of the B class QS in Area 2C based on the B class QS pool in 2015.

If an RQE transfers QS to another person, the quota class and block designation of the QS is retained. Any person that holds a TEC is eligible to receive QS by transfer from the RQE. The IFQ Program does not permit transfer of QS subject to any conditions of repossession or resale to the transferor except by court order, operation of law, or security agreement.

The Application for Transfer of Quota Share To or From a Recreational Quota Entity is used by an RQE to permanently receive or transfer QS. This application collects information necessary for NMFS to ensure that QS are transferred in compliance with regulations governing the buying and selling of QS.

This application may be submitted to NMFS RAM by mail or delivery. Fax submittal is not accepted due to the notary requirements.

The Application for Transfer of Quota Share To or From a Recreational Quota Entity collects the following information.

# Application for Transfer of QS To or From a Recreational Quota Entity

#### Block A – Transferor Information (Seller)

Name and NMFS Person ID

Business mailing address (indicate whether permanent or temporary)

Business telephone number, Business fax number, and business e-mail address

#### Block B – Transferee Information (Buyer)

Name and NMFS Person ID

Business mailing address (indicate whether permanent or temporary)

Business telephone number, business fax number, and business e-mail address

#### Block C – Questions for Transferee

If QS is to be included in a sweep-up, list the identifier on the QS Group Number into which this new piece should be combined.

If this is a transfer of Catcher vessel CDQ compensation QS and the vessel category has never been declared, designate the catcher vessel category in which QS should be issued.

#### Block D - Identification of QS to be Transferred

Quota Share to be transferred

IFQ Regulatory Area

Vessel Category

Total QS units

Designation of QS, as shown on the QS Holder Report

# Block E – Required Transferor Supplemental Information

Indicate the reason(s) transfer being proposed.

Price per unit of QS

Total amount paid for the QS in this transaction, including all fees

If a broker is used for this transaction, indicate amount paid in brokerage fees or percentage of total price. Indicate reason for transferring QS.

# Block F – Required Transferee Supplemental Information

If QS will have a lien attached, identify the lien holder

Primary source of financing for this transfer

How was the QS located

Relationship to the transferor

If an agreement exists to return the QS to the transferor or any other person or a condition placed on resale, explain.

#### Block G -- Certification of Transferor

Printed name and signature of Transferor and date signed

If authorized representative, attach authorization.

Signature, commission expiration date, and stamp of notary

#### Block H -- Certification of Transferee

Printed name and signature of Transferee and date signed.

If authorized representative, attach authorization.

Signature, commission expiration date, and stamp of notary

# 20. Recreational Quota Entity Annual Report

The RQE must submit a complete annual report on its administrative activities and business operation for each calendar year that it holds halibut recreational fishing quota (RFQ) and QS.

The RQE may combine annual reports on its holdings of halibut QS and RFQ for IFQ regulatory areas 2C and 3A into one report. The RQE must submit annual report data for the halibut QS and RFQ it held during the calendar year.

The RQE is not required to submit an annual report for any calendar year in which it did not hold any halibut QS or RFQ.

The annual report must be submitted to the NMFS-Alaska Regional Administrator and to the North Pacific Fishery Management Council by January 31 for the prior calendar year. There is no form for this annual report.

A complete RQE Annual Report contains the following information.

#### Recreational Quota Entity (RQE) Program Annual Report

**General report requirements:** 

Any changes to the bylaws, board of directors, or other key management personnel of the RQE from the preceding year;

Amount and description of annual administrative expenses:

Amount and description of funds spent on conservation and research, including a summary of the results of those expenditures; and

Amount and description of all other expenses incurred by the RQE.

Information specific to IFQ regulatory areas 2C and 3A

For each IFQ regulatory area represented by the RQE, the RQE must annually report the following information:

The total amount of halibut QS by category and blocks held by the RQE at the start of the calendar year, on October 1, and at the end of the calendar year;

A list of all transfers (purchases or sales) of halibut QS, including the transaction price; and

A description of the number of charter halibut permits and number of angler endorsements purchased and held by the RQE.

3. Describe whether, and to what extent, the collection of information involves the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g. permitting electronic submission of responses, and the basis for the decision for adopting this means of collection. Also, describe any consideration of using information technology to reduce burden.

Except for the dockside sales receipt and the information collected by OLE over the telephone, all of the forms and applications are available as fillable pdfs posted on the NMFS Alaska Region website at <a href="www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov">www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov</a>. These forms and applications may be completed electronically by the participant, downloaded, printed, and mailed or faxed to NMFS.

<u>eFISH</u> is the NMFS Alaska Region online Fisheries Information System. eFISH provides an online method to submit applications and access to participants' NMFS permit accounts. eFISH allows participants to renew certain fishery permits; report landings; print certificates or permits; conduct quota transfers; pay fees and submit landing value reports; and check account balances, vessel balances, and landing ledger reports. Permit holders access eFISH through a User ID and password issued by NMFS. Instructions for using eFISH are posted on the NMFS Alaska Region website at <a href="https://alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/node/30749">https://alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/node/30749</a>.

Registered buyers may use eFISH to renew or amend their registered buyer permit. QS holders may use eFISH to print a copy of their IFQ annual permit, IFQ hired master permit, and IFQ registered buyer permit.

NMFS Alaska Region is working toward offering more online services.

# 4. Describe efforts to identify duplication. Show specifically why any similar information already available cannot be used or modified for use for the purposes described in Question 2

During the final rule stage of the revision to this information collection, NMFS Alaska Region developed and published an emergency rule (0648-BJ88) that included a minor revision to the Application for Temporary Transfer of Halibut/Sablefish IFQ. Because the emergency rule overlapped with this rule (0648-BJ34), and due to the urgent need to implement the emergency rule and that the emergency rule change would only be needed through the end of the 2020 fishing year, a new temporary information collection was used for the change to the application. OMB approved the change to the application on June 19, 2020, under new OMB Control Number 0648-0792. The application was revised to add a check box with the text "Temporary Transfer for the 2020 fishing year only" that QS holders use to request the temporary transfer allowed under the emergency rule. OMB Control Number 0648-0792 covers only the additional respondents, responses, burden hours, and costs for this application that resulted from the emergency rule and will be discontinued after the end of the 2020 IFQ fishing year when the emergency rule change is no longer needed.

Other than that, none of the information collected as part of this information collection duplicates other collections. This information collection is part of a specialized and technical program that is not like any other. Federal regulations specify use of this information collection to administer the IFQ Program, and there are not alternate means or methods to perform the functions laid out in this supporting statement.

# 5. If the collection of information impacts small businesses or other small entities, describe any methods used to minimize burden.

NMFS attempts to minimize the burden of this collection on all respondents by collecting only information necessary to manage the IFQ Program, by providing and supporting the online data collection and reporting systems eFISH and eLandings, and by providing help to participants in writing and by phone. eFISH and eLandings include online help options and user guides at <a href="https://alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/services">https://alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/services</a>. NMFS also maintains documentation about eFISH in the eLandings Wiki (Confluence)

at <a href="https://elandings.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/doc/pages/31096857/eFISH+Web+Application">https://elandings.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/doc/pages/31096857/eFISH+Web+Application</a>. In addition, NMFS maintains a help/support call center with contractors available by phone Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Alaska time.

Additionally, most of the elements in this information collection are available online as fillable

pdfs. A toll-free phone number is available for participants to contact NMFS RAM for help or information on these elements.

6. Describe the consequence to Federal program or policy activities if the collection is not conducted or is conducted less frequently, as well as any technical or legal obstacles to reducing burden.

This information collection is required to manage commercial halibut and sablefish fishing under the Halibut Act, the Magnuson-Stevens Act (16 U.S.C. 1801, *et seq.*), and under 50 CFR parts 300 and 679.

It would not be possible to effectively manage the IFQ Program or carry out the mandates of the Halibut Act and the Magnuson-Stevens Act if this collection were not conducted or conducted less frequently.

The lack of adequate information to manage the IFQ Program would result in the fishery management decision-making process being less objective, more political, and potentially less equitable. This would decrease the credibility of the fishery management process and result in an unnecessarily costly and ineffective management system. The cost of making decisions based on inadequate information would adversely affect the viability of the IFQ fishing industry.

7. Explain any special circumstances that would cause an information collection to be conducted in a manner:

This collection of information will be conducted in a manner consistent 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.

A proposed rule (RIN 0648-BJ34) soliciting public comments published in the *Federal Register* on April 14, 2020 (85 FR 20657). The comment period ended on May 14, 2020. No comments were received on the collection-of-information requirements.

9. Explain any decision to provide any payment or gift to respondents, other than remuneration of contractors or grantees.

No payment or gift is provided under this program.

10. Describe any assurance of confidentiality provided to respondents and the basis for the assurance in statute, regulation, or agency policy. If the collection requires a systems of records notice (SORN) or privacy impact assessment (PIA), those should be cited and

#### described here.

All information collections by NMFS, Alaska Region, are protected under confidentiality provisions of section 402(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act as amended in 2006 (16 U.S.C. 1801, *et seq.*) and under NOAA Administrative Order 216-100, which sets forth procedures to protect confidentiality of fishery statistics.

The System of Records Notice that covers this information collection is <u>COMMERCE/NOAA-19</u>, <u>Permits and Registrations for United States Federally Regulated Fisheries</u>. An amended Privacy Act system of records notice was published in the *Federal Register* on August 7, 2015 (80 FR 47457), and became effective September 15, 2015 (80 FR 55327).

The Privacy Impact Assessment that covers this information collection is NOAA NMFS Alaska Region Local Area Network (NOAA4700).

11. Provide additional justification for any questions of a sensitive nature, such as sexual behavior or attitudes, religious beliefs, and other matters that are commonly considered private. This justification should include the reasons why the agency considers the questions necessary, the specific uses to be made of the information, the explanation to be given to persons from whom the information is requested, and any steps to be taken to obtain their consent.

This information collection does not involve information of a sensitive nature.

#### 12. Provide estimates of the hour burden of the collection of information.

- Indicate the number of respondents, frequency of response, annual hour burden, and an explanation of how the burden was estimated. Unless directed to do so, agencies should not conduct special surveys to obtain information on which to base hour burden estimates. Consultation with a sample (fewer than 10) of potential respondents is desirable. If the hour burden on respondents is expected to vary widely because of differences in activity, size, or complexity, show the range of estimated hour burden, and explain the reasons for the variance. Generally, estimates should not include burden hours for customary and usual business practices.
- If this request for approval covers more than one form, provide separate hour burden estimates for each form and aggregate the hour burdens.
- Provide estimates of annualized cost to respondents for the hour burdens for collections of information, identifying and
  using appropriate wage rate categories. The cost of contracting out or paying outside parties for information collection
  activities should not be included here. Instead, this cost should be included under 'Annual Cost to Federal
  Government'.

<u>NOTE:</u> The number of respondents is the actual number of individuals the collection is estimated to impact each year. For example, if an information collection will be valid for three years, and you expect 300 respondents the first year and none the second and third years, use the average of 100 respondents.

| Information Collection   | Type of<br>Respondent<br>(e.g.,<br>Occupational<br>Title) | # of<br>Respondents<br>(a) | Annual # of<br>Responses /<br>Respondent<br>(b) | Total # of<br>Annual<br>Responses<br>(c) = (a) x (b) | Burden Hrs /<br>Response<br>(d) | Total Annual<br>Burden Hrs<br>(e) = (c) x (d) | Mean Hourly Wage<br>Rate (for Type of<br>Respondent) <sup>3/</sup><br>(f) | Total Annual<br>Wage Burden<br>Costs<br>(g) = (e) x (f) |
|--|---|----------------------------|---|--|---------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Application for Eligibility to Receive<br>QS/IFQ by Transfer               | QS/IFQ holders  | 100                        | 1   | 100  | 2 hrs                           | 200   | \$23.46   | \$4,692   |
| Quota Share (QS) Holder: Identification of Ownership Interest              | QS holders  | 150                        | 1   | 150  | 2 hrs                           | 300   | \$23.46   | \$7,038   |
| Application for IFQ/CDQ Hired Master<br>Permit                             | IFQ permit<br>holders; CDQ<br>permit holders              | 200                        | 1   | 200  | 1 hr                            | 200   | \$23.46   | \$4,692   |
| Application for IFQ/CDQ Registered<br>Buyer Permit                         | registered<br>buyers                                      | 235                        | 1   | 235  | 0.5 hr                          | 118   | \$23.46   | \$2,768   |
| Application for Transfer of QS   | QS holders  | 880 <sup>1/</sup>          | 1   | 440  | 2 hrs                           | 880   | \$23.46   | \$20,644  |
| Application for Temporary Transfer of Halibut/Sablefish Individual Fishing | IFQ holders; CDQ<br>group                                 | 7421/                      | 1   | 371  | 2 hrs                           | 742   | \$23.46   | \$17,407  |

| Quota  | representatives                                |                   |          |       |            |                                       |         |           |
|--|--|-------------------|----------|-------|------------|---------------------------------------|---------|-----------|
| Application for Transfer of QS/IFQ by<br>Self Sweep Up   | QS/IFQ holders                                 | 58                | 1        | 58    | 2 hrs      | 116                                   | \$23.46 | \$2,721   |
| Annual Report for CDQ IFQ Transfers  | CDQ group representatives                      | 2                 | 1        | 2     | 40 hrs     | 80                                    | \$23.46 | \$1,876   |
| Application for Medical Transfer of IFQ  | IFQ permit<br>holders; health<br>care provider | 420 <sup>2/</sup> | 1        | 140   | 1.5 hrs    | 210                                   | 32.814/ | \$6,890   |
| QS/IFQ Beneficiary Designation Form  | QS/IFQ holders                                 | 12                | 1        | 12    | 30 minutes | 6                                     | \$23.46 | \$141     |
| Appeals  | QS holders                                     | 1                 | 1        | 1     | 4 hrs      | 4                                     | \$23.46 | \$94      |
| Application for Replacement of<br>Certificates or Permits                                      | permit and<br>license holders                  | 50                | 1        | 50    | 30 minutes | 25                                    | \$23.46 | \$587     |
| IFQ Administrative Waiver  | IFQ permit<br>holders                          | 235               | avg 1.47 | 346   | 6 minutes  | 35                                    | \$23.46 | \$821     |
| Prior Notice of Landing  | vessel operators                               | 2,418             | avg. 2.3 | 5,594 | 15 minutes | 1,399                                 | \$23.46 | \$32,821  |
| IFQ Departure Report   | vessel operators                               | 26                | 1        | 26    | 15 minutes | 7                                     | \$23.46 | \$164     |
| Transshipment Authorization  | vessel operators                               | 1                 | 1        | 1     | 12 minutes | 1                                     | \$23.46 | \$23      |
| Dockside sales   | registered<br>buyers                           | 235               | 5        | 1,175 | 6 minutes  | 118                                   | \$23.46 | \$2,768   |
| Application for a Non-profit<br>Corporation to be Designated as a<br>Recreational Quota Entity | RQE<br>representative                          | 1                 | 1        | 1     | 200 hrs    | 67 hrs<br>(annualized<br>200 hrs / 3) | \$23.46 | \$1,572   |
| Application for Transfer of Quota Share<br>To or From a Recreational Quota Entity              | RQE<br>representative                          | 1                 | 20       | 20    | 2 hrs      | 40                                    | \$23.46 | \$938     |
| Recreational Quota Entity Annual<br>Report   | REQ representative                             | 1                 | 1        | 1     | 40 hrs     | 40                                    | \$23.46 | \$938     |
| Totals   |  |                   |          | 8,923 |            | 4,588                                 |         | \$109,595 |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1/</sup> The application is completed by two respondents: the transferor and the transferee.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2/</sup> The application is completed by three respondents: the transferor, the transferee, and the health care provider.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3/</sup> Unless otherwise noted, this analysis uses the mean hourly wage for Occupation Code 45-0000 (Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations), Sector 11 (Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting). May 2019 Occupational Employment Statistics Research Estimates, Alaska.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4/</sup> The mean hourly wage was determined as follows: (\$23.46 \*2 [transferor and transferee] + \$51.50 [healthcare provider])/3. The healthcare provider mean hourly wage is from Occupation Code 29-0000 (Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations), Sector 62 (Heath Care). May 2019 Occupational Employment Statistics Research Estimates.

Alaska.

13. Provide an estimate for the total annual cost burden to respondents or record keepers resulting from the collection of information. (Do not include the cost of any hour burden already reflected on the burden worksheet).

| Information Collection  | # of Respondents<br>(a) | Annual # of<br>Responses /<br>Respondent<br>(b) | Total # of Annual<br>Responses<br>(c) = (a) x (b) | Cost Burden / Respondent*<br>(h)                                    | Total Annual<br>Cost Burden<br>(i)= (c) x (h) |
|---|-------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| Application for Eligibility to Receive QS/IFQ by Transfer                           | 100                     | 1   | 100   | 11<br>(postage, photocopy, notary)                                  | \$1,100                                       |
| Quota Share (QS) Holder: Identification of Ownership<br>Interest                    | 150                     | 1   | 150   | avg \$3.39 <sup>3/</sup><br>(postage or fax, photocopy)             | \$509   |
| Application for IFQ/CDQ Hired Master Permit   | 200                     | 1   | 200   | avg \$1.41 <sup>3/</sup><br>(postage or fax, photocopy)             | \$282   |
| Application for IFQ/CDQ Registered Buyer Permit                                     | 235                     | 1   | 235   | avg \$0.51 <sup>4/</sup><br>(postage, fax, or online;<br>photocopy) | \$120   |
| Application for Transfer of QS  | 8801/                   | 1   | 440   | 11<br>(postage, photocopy, notary)                                  | \$9,680                                       |
| Application for Temporary Transfer of Halibut/Sablefish<br>Individual Fishing Quota | 742 <sup>1/</sup>       | 1   | 371   | 11<br>(postage, photocopy, notary)                                  | \$8,162                                       |
| Application for Transfer of QS/IFQ by Self Sweep Up                                 | 58                      | 1   | 58  | 11<br>(postage, photocopy, notary)                                  | \$638   |
| Annual Report for CDQ IFQ Transfers   | 2                       | 1   | 2   | 11<br>(postage, photocopy, notary)                                  | \$22  |
| Application for Medical Transfer of IFQ   | 420²/                   | 1   | 140   | 0.80<br>(postage, photocopy)  | \$112   |
| QS/IFQ Beneficiary Designation Form   | 12                      | 1   | 12  | 0.83<br>(postage, photocopy)  | \$10  |
| Appeals   | 1                       | 1   | 1   | 536<br>(attorney, fax)  | \$536   |
| Application for Replacement of Certificates or Permits                              | 50                      | 1   | 50  | avg \$1.403 <sup>3/</sup> (postage or fax, photocopy)               | \$70  |
| IFQ Administrative Waiver   | 235                     | avg 1.47  | 346   | 0   | \$O   |
| Prior Notice of Landing   | 2,418                   | avg. 2.3  | 5,594   | 0   | \$O   |
| IFQ Departure Report  | 26                      | 1   | 26  | 0   | \$O   |
| Transshipment Authorization   | 1                       | 1   | 1   | 0   | \$O   |
| Dockside sales  | 235                     | 5   | 1,175   | 0   | \$0   |

| Application for a Non-profit Corporation to be Designated as a Recreational Quota Entity | 1 | 1  | 1     | 6<br>(postage, photocopy, notary)  | \$6      |
|--|---|----|-------|------------------------------------|----------|
| Application for Transfer of Quota Share To or From a<br>Recreational Quota Entity        | 1 | 20 | 20    | 11<br>(postage, photocopy, notary) | \$223    |
| Recreational Quota Entity Annual Report  | 1 | 1  | 1     | 1<br>(postage, photocopy)          | \$1      |
| TOTALS   |   |    | 8,923 |                                    | \$21,471 |

<sup>\*</sup> Postage \$ 0.55; fax \$6; online; photocopy \$0.15/page; notary \$10; attorney \$125.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>/ The application is completed by two respondents: the transferor and the transferee.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2/</sup> The application is completed by three respondents: the transferor, the transferee, and the health care provider.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3/</sup> An average was used because this application may be submitted by mail or fax.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4/</sup> An average was used because this application may be submitted by mail, fax, or online.

14. Provide estimates of annualized cost to the Federal government. Also, provide a description of the method used to estimate cost, which should include quantification of hours, operational expenses (such as equipment, overhead, printing, and support staff), and any other expense that would not have been incurred without this collection of information.

A cost recovery program is in effect for the IFQ Program. Under this cost recovery program, NMFS is authorized to collect direct program costs from the permit holders. Therefore, the information collection requirements of the IFQ Program do not impose a cost on the Federal Government. Direct program costs are the costs NMFS incurs to manage, collect data from, and enforce the IFQ Program.

The direct program costs for the IFQ Program in 2019 were \$ 4,488,393.

The following are examples of the types of tasks that were included under the 2019 IFQ direct program costs:

- analysis and rulemaking activities; in particular, regulations to authorize a fish-up
  provision for Community Quota Entities in Area 3A, changes to the medical and
  beneficiary provisions, and authorizing harvest of IFQ halibut in the BSAI using pot gear
- maintenance of the electronic reporting systems, including the catch accounting system
- programming, web design, and maintenance of online applications
- issuance of approximately 2,600 annual IFQ permits, 200 registered buyer permits, and 1,300 hired master permits, which includes responding to questions about those permits
- processing approximately 1,200 transfers of QS and/or IFQ. This includes medical transfers, transfers with right of survivorship, and Guided Angler Fish transfers. Processing transfers also includes responding to questions about the transfers.
- producing an annual transfer report
- determining standard ex-vessel prices using value and volume reports submitted by IFQ Registered Buyers
- fee determination and collection process
- port sampling, primarily personnel costs, but also includes travel and supplies
- processing North Pacific IFQ loan program applications
- inspections, boardings, investigations, outreach and education, and compliance assistance by approximately 20 officers and 10 agents. Additionally, a staff of 6 to 8 data technicians are contracted annually for 7-day per week processing of required reports, such as Product Transfer, Prior Notice of Landing, IFQ Departure, IFQ Overage, and Vessel Activity Reports.

# 15. Explain the reasons for any program changes or adjustments reported in ROCIS.

The following tables show the changes in the number of respondents, responses, time estimates, labor costs, and miscellaneous costs,

and explains the reasons for these changes.

|  | Respo                            | ondents                           | Resp                             | onses                             | Burden Hours                     |                                   |   |  |
|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| Information Collection   | Current<br>Renewal /<br>Revision | Previous<br>Renewal /<br>Revision | Current<br>Renewal /<br>Revision | Previous<br>Renewal /<br>Revision | Current<br>Renewal /<br>Revision | Previous<br>Renewal /<br>Revision | Reason for Change or Adjustment   |  |
| Application for Eligibility to Receive QS/IFQ by Transfer                                | 100                              | 100                               | 100                              | 100                               | 200                              | 200                               | No change   |  |
| Quota Share (QS) Holder: Identification of Ownership<br>Interest                         | 150                              | 150                               | 150                              | 150                               | 300                              | 300                               | No change   |  |
| Application for IFQ/CDQ Hired Master Permit  | 200                              | 200                               | 200                              | 200                               | 200                              | 200                               | No change   |  |
| Application for IFQ/CDQ Registered Buyer Permit  | 235                              | 235                               | 235                              | 235                               | 118                              | 118                               | No change   |  |
| Application for Transfer of QS   | 880                              | 880                               | 440                              | 440                               | 880                              | 880                               | No change   |  |
| Application for Temporary Transfer of Halibut/Sablefish IFQ                              | 742                              | 742                               | 371                              | 371                               | 742                              | 742                               | No change   |  |
| Application for Transfer of QS/IFQ by Self Sweep Up                                      | 58                               | 58                                | 58                               | 58                                | 116                              | 116                               | No change   |  |
| Annual Report for CDQ IFQ Transfers  | 2                                | 2                                 | 2                                | 2                                 | 80                               | 80                                | No change   |  |
| Application For Temporary Military Transfer of IFQ                                       | 0                                | 2                                 | 0                                | 1                                 | 0                                | 2                                 | Removed because it is covered by Application for<br>Temporary Transfer of Halibut/Sablefish IFQ |  |
| Application for Medical Transfer of IFQ  | 420                              | 420                               | 140                              | 140                               | 210                              | 210                               | No change   |  |
| QS/IFQ Beneficiary Designation Form  | 12                               | 12                                | 12                               | 12                                | 6                                | 6                                 | No change   |  |
| Appeals  | 1                                | 1                                 | 1                                | 1                                 | 4                                | 4                                 | No change   |  |
| Application for Replacement of Certificates or Permits                                   | 50                               | 50                                | 50                               | 50                                | 25                               | 25                                | No change   |  |
| IFQ Administrative Waiver  | 235                              | 235                               | 346                              | 346                               | 35                               | 35                                | No change   |  |
| Prior Notice of Landing  | 2,418                            | 2,418                             | 5,594                            | 5,594                             | 1,399                            | 1,399                             | No change   |  |
| IFQ Departure Report   | 26                               | 26                                | 26                               | 26                                | 7                                | 7                                 | No change   |  |
| Transshipment Authorization  | 1                                | 1                                 | 1                                | 1                                 | 1                                | 1                                 | No change   |  |
| Dockside sales   | 235                              | 235                               | 1,175                            | 1,175                             | 118                              | 118                               | No change   |  |
| Application for a Non-profit Corporation to be Designated as a Recreational Quota Entity | 1                                | 1                                 | 1                                | 1                                 | 67                               | 67                                | No change   |  |
| Application for Transfer of Quota Share To or From a Recreational Quota Entity           | 1                                | 1                                 | 20                               | 20                                | 40                               | 40                                | No change   |  |
| Recreational Quota Entity Annual Report  | 1                                | 1                                 | 1                                | 1                                 | 40                               | 40                                | No change   |  |
| Total for Collection   | 2,559*                           | 2,559*                            | 8,923                            | 8,924                             | 4,588                            | 4,590                             |   |  |
| Difference   |                                  | 0                                 | -                                | 1                                 | _                                | 2                                 |   |  |

<sup>\*</sup>Unique respondents. Some participants in the IFQ Program submit more than one instrument in this information collection. Therefore, the number of unique respondents is used to show the estimated number of individual participants who are expected to annually submit information during the renewal period for this information collection. The estimated number of unique respondents consist of the following: 2,412 IFQ permit holders, 6 CDQ permit holders, 140 health care providers, and 1 RQE.

|  | Labo    | r Costs  | Miscellane | eous Costs |   |
|--|---------|----------|------------|------------|---|
| Information Collection   | Current | Previous | Current    | Previous   | Reason for change or adjustment   |
| Application for Eligibility to Receive QS/IFQ by Transfer                                | 4,692   | 4,768    | 1,100      | 1,100      | Labor costs: Adjusted to use 2019 BLS data instead of 2018 data   |
| Quota Share (QS) Holder: Identification of Ownership Interest                            | 7,038   | 7,152    | 509        | 509        | Labor costs: Adjusted to use 2019 BLS data instead of 2018 data   |
| Application for IFQ/CDQ Hired Master Permit  | 4,692   | 4,768    | 282        | 282        | Labor costs: Adjusted to use 2019 BLS data instead of 2018 data   |
| Application for IFQ/CDQ Registered Buyer Permit  | 2,768   | 2,813    | 120        | 120        | Labor costs: Adjusted to use 2019 BLS data instead of 2018 data   |
| Application for Transfer of QS   | 20,644  | 20,979   | 9,680      | 9,680      | Labor costs: Adjusted to use 2019 BLS data instead of 2018 data   |
| Application for Temporary Transfer of Halibut/Sablefish IFQ                              | 17,407  | 17,689   | 8,162      | 8,162      | Labor costs: Adjusted to use 2019 BLS data instead of 2018 data   |
| Application for Transfer of QS/IFQ by Self Sweep Up                                      | 2,721   | 2,765    | 638        | 638        | Labor costs: Adjusted to use 2019 BLS data instead of 2018 data   |
| Annual Report for CDQ IFQ Transfers  | 1,876   | 1,907    | 22         | 22         | Labor costs: Adjusted to use 2019 BLS data instead of 2018 data   |
| Application For Temporary Military Transfer of IFQ                                       | 0       | 48       | 0          | 11         | Removed from this collection because it is covered by the Application for Temporary Transfer of Halibut/Sablefish IFQ |
| Application for Medical Transfer of IFQ  | 6,890   | 6,924    | 112        | 112        | Labor costs: Adjusted to use 2019 BLS data instead of 2018 data   |
| QS/IFQ Beneficiary Designation Form  | 141     | 143      | 10         | 10         | Labor costs: Adjusted to use 2019 BLS data instead of 2018 data   |
| Appeals  | 94      | 95       | 536        | 536        | Labor costs: Adjusted to use 2019 BLS data instead of 2018 data   |
| Application for Replacement of Certificates or Permits                                   | 587     | 596      | 70         | 70         | Labor costs: Adjusted to use 2019 BLS data instead of 2018 data   |
| IFQ Administrative Waiver  | 821     | 834      | 0          | 0          | Labor costs: Adjusted to use 2019 BLS data instead of 2018 data   |
| Prior Notice of Landing  | 32,821  | 33,352   | 0          | 0          | Labor costs: Adjusted to use 2019 BLS data instead of 2018 data   |
| IFQ Departure Report   | 164     | 167      | 0          | 0          | Labor costs: Adjusted to use 2019 BLS data instead of 2018 data   |
| Transshipment Authorization  | 23      | 24       | 0          | 0          | Labor costs: Adjusted to use 2019 BLS data instead of 2018 data   |
| Dockside sales   | 2,768   | 2,813    | 0          | 0          | Labor costs: Adjusted to use 2019 BLS data instead of 2018 data   |
| Application for a Non-profit Corporation to be Designated as a Recreational Quota Entity | 1,572   | 1,597    | 6          | 6          | Labor costs: Adjusted to use 2019 BLS data instead of 2018 data   |
| Application for Transfer of Quota Share To or From a<br>Recreational Quota Entity        | 938     | 954      | 223        | 223        | Labor costs: Adjusted to use 2019 BLS data instead of 2018 data   |
| Recreational Quota Entity Annual Report  | 938     | 954      | 1          | 1          | Labor costs: Adjusted to use 2019 BLS data instead of 2018 data   |
| Total for Collection   | 109,595 | 111,342  | 21,471     | 21,482     |   |
| Difference   | - 1,    | 747      | - 1        | 11         |   |

16. For collections of information whose results will be published, outline plans for tabulation and publication. Address any complex analytical techniques that will be used. Provide the time schedule for the entire project, including beginning and ending dates of the collection of information, completion of report, publication dates, and other actions.

NMFS publishes some information from this collection on the NMFS Alaska Region website, including lists of persons eligible to receive QS by transfer (business name and address, NMFS ID) and registered buyers (business name and address, NMFS ID, registered buyer permit number). Additionally a list of QS holders is posted that includes the business name and address, species, regulatory area, and number of QS units.

Final administrative appeal decisions with redactions are posted on the NMFS National Appeals Office website at <a href="https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/rules-and-regulations/appeals">https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/rules-and-regulations/appeals</a>. Personally identifiable information and confidential business information submitted in an administrative appeal are not released to the public.

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

The OMB control number and the expiration date are not found on the following, which do not have forms: IFQ Administrative Waiver, Prior Notice of Landing, IFQ Departure Report, Transshipment Authorization, and Dockside Sales Receipt. All but the Dockside Sales Receipt are submitted by telephone. The Dockside Sales Receipt is given by the permit holder to the buyer; the mode of this receipt is up to the permit holder. The agency will display the expiration date for OMB approval of the information collection on all other instruments.

18. Explain each exception to the certification statement identified in "Certification for Paperwork Reduction Act Submissions."

# **Certification Statement for Paperwork Reduction Act Submissions**

On behalf of this Federal agency, I certify that the collection of information encompassed by this request complies with <u>5 CFR 1320.9</u> and the related provisions of <u>5 CFR 1320.8(b)</u> (3).

If you are unable to certify compliance with any of these provisions, identify the item and explain the reason in Question 18 of the Supporting Statement.

If there are not exceptions to the certification statement, the following response would apply:

"The agency certifies compliance with 5 CFR 1320.9 and the related provisions of 5 CFR 1320.8(b)(3)."

The agency certifies compliance with 5 CFR 1320.9 and the related provisions of 5 CFR 1320.8(b)(3).