SUPPORTING STATEMENT
U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
Socio-Economic Survey of Hired Captains and Crew in New England, Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Commercial Fisheries
OMB Control No. 0648-0636

Abstract

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS or NOAA Fisheries) Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC) and the Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC) are requesting revisions to this standard collection of information. The proposed revisions would do the following to the currently approved information collection.

1. Expand the geographic scope from New England and the Mid-Atlantic only to include New England, Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico commercial fisheries;
2. Change the title from "Socio-Economic Survey of Hired Captains and Crew in New England and Mid-Atlantic Commercial Fisheries" to "Socio-Economic Survey of Hired Captains and Crew in New England, Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Commercial Fisheries";
3. Make minor revisions to the survey form that address regional differences in fisheries;
4. Increase the burden hours to the sum of the burden hours for all four regions; and
5. Extend it for three years.

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 purpose of this survey is to provide for the ongoing collection of socioeconomic data for regulatory analysis related to fisheries and their communities in the Northeast and Southeast Regions of the United States. NMFS needs the socioeconomic data included in this information collection to be capable of more than cursory efforts to comply with or support the following laws, Executive Orders (EOs) and NOAA Fisheries strategies and policies, which require socioeconomic data and analyses. **See Appendix A for a discussion of their requirements for socioeconomic data and analyses.**

1. The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA)
2. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
3. The Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA)
4. EO 12898 (Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations)
5. EO 13985 (Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government)
6. EO 12866 (Regulatory Planning and Review)
7. EO 13771 (Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs)
8. EO 13840 (Ocean Policy to Advance the Economic, Security, and Environmental Interests of the United States)

9. The NOAA Fisheries Guidelines for Assessment of the Social Impact of Fishery Management Actions
10. The NOAA Fisheries Guidelines for Economic Reviews of Regulatory Actions
11. The NOAA Fisheries Strategic Plan 2019-2022 (Strategic Plan)
12. The NOAA Fisheries Ecosystem-Based Fishery Management (EBFM) Road Map
13. The NOAA Fisheries National Bycatch Reduction Strategy
14. NOAA's Catch Share Policy

There is implicit authority for the proposed information collection in each of those laws and EOs. This survey is critical to provide for the ongoing collection of socioeconomic data related to fisheries and their communities in the Northeast and Southeast Regions. These data are needed to support fishery management social impact assessments and analyses developed by the NEFSC and SEFSC (Clay et al. 2013). No other consistent source of socioeconomic information about commercial fishing vessel crews and hired captains exists in the Northeast or Southeast regions. This survey is essential to assessing the social and economic impacts of various fishery management policies over the near and long term, including catch share systems. Currently, very little other data exist that allow for tracking the social impact of fishery management policies and decisions over time in the Northeast and Southeast Regions, and insufficient economic trend data are available. In implementing policies and management programs, there is a need to understand how such policies and programs will affect the socioeconomic characteristics of those involved in the commercial fishing industry.

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

How will this information be collected?
This information will be collected using a structured interview administered in-person where hired captains and crew (heretofore referred to as crew) tend to congregate such as at docks or by telephone at the request of participants that are not available to complete the survey at the time of intercept.

From whom will the information be collected?

This survey is designed to obtain information from crew in the commercial fishing industry in the Northeast (Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia,) and Southeastern (Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, and North Carolina) U.S.

What will this information be used for?

As noted above, the primary use of these data is to track and assess the impacts of changes in fishery management policies by tracking changes in these socioeconomic indicators before and after implementation of the fishery management policies. Additionally, these data will provide useful inputs into development of policies and strategies by providing representative socioeconomic information on participants in the Northeast and Southeast commercial fishing industries.

NEFSC and SEFSC will develop reports and analyses using these data to examine trends and relationships in the data to inform policy mandates and understanding of the commercial fishing sectors in the Northeast and Southeast Regions. These reports will be provided to the public and to the New England, Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, and Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Councils for use in their decision-making processes.

How has NMFS used the information received from the current collection?

The information received from this current collection has been used to support required Social Impact Assessments (SIA) within the Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) for Frameworks 55[1] and 61[2], and Amendment 23[3], to the Northeast Multispecies (Groundfish) Fisheries Management Plan (FMP). This information has also been used to describe and compare characteristics of commercial fishing crews in two NMFS technical memoranda (Henry and Olson 2014; Silva et al. 2021). In addition to supplying crucial information to the process of fisheries management, the information received from the current collection contributes to scientific research publications currently under development or in review. These data have also been used to inform multiple presentations at academic conferences, including most recently at the annual meetings of the Eastern Sociological Society (Cutler et al., 2019) and the Society for Applied Anthropology (Gentile et al., 2019).

What type of information will be collected?

The survey protocol is organized into sections to help guide the collection of data. In what follows, we provide a brief description of the information being requested from the survey respondents and the reasons for collecting this information.

Primary fisheries, fishing history, and vessel information

The survey asks a series of questions that relate to the respondents' primary fisheries. Specifically, to identify which fishery they consider to be their primary fishery and why. It is important to understand what fishery a respondent considers to be their primary fishery to gauge how management policies affect fishery participation decisions. Additionally, this information is useful in developing more precise sampling approaches in future years by allowing for better estimates of fishery participant populations based on self-reported primary fisheries.

Information on fishing decisions such as trip length, number of crew, and ports are also helpful in understanding how fishery management policies affect the different sectors. Tracking changes in these factors in relation to changes in fishery management policies will allow for assessing how the policies have affected these decisions.

Family involvement

Fishing has long been considered a family-oriented career and generations of families have often been involved in fishing. Thus, a key social aspect of fishing is the trend away from fishing as a family-oriented business and occupation. The survey asks a series of questions about respondents' family involvement in fishing. Tracking changes in family involvement is important to better understand the changing social landscape of fishing. Additionally, fishery management policies may have an impact on the familial nature of fishing and tracking trends in family involvement relative to fishery policies is important.

Crew payment methods

The nature of payment methods for crew on fishing vessels is unique and complex. Fishing crew

1 https://s3.amazonaws.com/nefmc.org/160408_FW55_formal_submission_resubmit_corrected.pdf.
2 https://www.nefmc.org/library/framework-61
3 https://s3.amazonaws.com/nefmc.org/200304_Draft_Groundfish_A23_DEIS_formal_submission_corrected_200312.pdf.

are often paid a percentage of a trip's catch value with deductions for various vessel expenses (e.g., fuel and food). Crew payment methods reflect the contractual employment relation between crew and owners and ultimately the income earned by crew. Collecting this information is important for two reasons. First, a variety of methods are used (e.g., different formulas and deductions) and the NEFSC and SEFSC are seeking to better understand the breadth of payment structures in the industry. Second, these payment methods may change over time (e.g., in response to changes in fishery management policies), which may result in significant impacts on fishing crew livelihoods.

Employment opportunities

The survey asks a number of questions related to employment opportunities such as the difficulty in finding employment, number of years with the same vessel/owner, and how they found their current position. The responses to these questions will allow the NEFSC and SEFSC to track the impact that fishery management policies have on employment opportunities and to track these trends.

Fishing income information

This survey asks about the extent to which commercial fishing represents a key component of respondents' income, other sources of income, and the extent to which current fishing income could sustain respondents' over the short, medium, and long term. The responses to these questions provide essential information for assessing the extent to which fishing represents a viable career for crew.

Insurance

The survey asks a number of questions about respondents' insurance (health, vessel, etc.). Living or operating without insurance represents a risk to commercial fishermen. Not having insurance often indicates an inability to afford the insurance. Tracking trends in the extent to which owners and crew carry insurance provides an indication of the health of the fishing industry and of fishing as an occupation.

Job satisfaction and quality of life

This survey asks a series of questions related to job and career satisfaction and how well respondents perceive their quality of life. Tracking trends in these areas will allow NEFSC and SEFSC to assess the extent to which "life as a fisherman" is improving or worsening and the extent to which fishing management policies are improving or hurting "life as a fisherman."

Governance

Fish are a managed resource and the management process itself is complex and involves significant public participation. The survey asks a series of questions about the extent to which respondents take part in the management process and their view of the process in terms of its characteristics, including equity, understandability, restrictiveness, adaptability, and effectiveness. The responses to these questions will allow the NEFSC and SEFSC to better understand perceptions of the fishery management process for different fisheries, which are governed by different management policies, and to track trends in perceptions over time, especially in relation to changes in management policies.

Conservation attitudes and perceptions of resource health

Crew attitudes toward conservation are important for understanding how well the resource (fish) can be managed through the fishery management process. The survey will allow the NEFSC and SEFSC to track trends in these attitudes over time and to assess how well different management approaches may work and whether changes in management approaches affected attitudes.

Related to conservation attitudes are perceptions of the health of the resource. NMFS collects scientific data on resource health, but perceptions of resource health are also important. Restrictions placed on fisheries where there is a perception that the resource is healthy may involve significant public opposition. Additionally, fishermen perceptions of resource health may provide important information on the actual resource health since they are interacting with the resource on a regular basis.

Demographics

Collecting information on respondent demographics is important for two reasons. First, it will allow for better interpretation of the data that are collected. Second, trends in demographics (e.g., age, income, race and ethnic group) can be tracked to assess how the demographic composition of the industry is changing over time, especially in response to changes in fishery management policies.

<u>Does the respondent have multiple options for providing information?</u>
This survey will be administered with in-person and telephone interviews.

<u>Frequency of information collection?</u>
This survey will be implemented once every three to five years.

<u>Data use and public Dissemination</u>

It is anticipated that the information collected will be disseminated to the public or used to support publicly disseminated information. As explained in the preceding paragraphs, the information gathered has utility. NOAA's NEFSC in Woods Hole, MA, and SEFSC in Miami, FL, will retain control over the information and safeguard it from improper access, modification, and destruction, consistent with NOAA standards for privacy and electronic information. 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.

<u>Data sharing</u>

NMFS will share summaries of the data and the results of its use with other organizations inside and outside the Department of Commerce or the government. NMFS will not share data from individual respondents unless it determines there are adequate mechanisms and agreements to protect the confidentiality of the data from individual respondents.

<u>Have the collection requirements changed over time?</u>

The overall collection requirements have not changed.

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

For this survey, we will conduct in-person and telephone interviews, which are not well suited for respondent submission of electronic responses. However, the data being collected under this survey will involve some use of technology. Specifically, tablets will be used to record respondents' answers to the survey questions. This will not only improve the accuracy of recording respondents' answers but it will also reduce the amount of data cleaning and organizing required to prepare for analysis. NEFSC and SEFSC will utilize freely available survey software in order to implement surveys on tablet computers. This approach involves programming that will streamline survey implementation in the field by incorporating question skip patterns, menus for answer options, and other ease of access features common to survey software programs. We also plan to make the OMB approved survey instrument available online on the NEFSC and SEFSC websites for outreach and information purposes. A report summarizing the salient, aggregated results will be available on the NEFSC and SEFSC websites once the data collection and analysis are completed.

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.**

We are unaware of any other data collection efforts that would duplicate our efforts in the Northeast U.S. However, we are aware of a few different data collection efforts in the Southeast U.S., which have either happened in the recent past or are planned. However, the NEFSC and SEFSC survey does not duplicate the recently completed efforts since all of them were focused on specific fisheries in the Southeast U.S. alone. With regard to those efforts that are planned, none are being conducted at the regional level. Due to the ad hoc nature of the surveys, the fact they were conducted at different periods of time, the use of different questions and narrowly defined focus from a locational and fishery perspective, it would not be possible to use the information from the past studies for the purposes described in Question 2.

<u>Previous Work</u>

In the Southeast region there have been a limited number of different socio-economic surveys that included crew. An economic survey conducted in 1994 and 1995 that targeted commercial reef fish fishermen in the Gulf of Mexico (Waters, 1996) included nine surveys completed by hired captains. Rhodes (1997) conducted a socioeconomic profile of the South Atlantic Snapper Grouper commercial fishery in 1996 that included ten in-person interviews with crew. More significantly, the recent five-year review of the Gulf of Mexico Grouper and Tilefish (G-T) IFQ program included a survey of captains and crew (n=153) to evaluate perceptions and effects of the G-T IFQ program (Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 2018). Two current projects have also been identified. First, research by Dr. David Hoffman (Mississippi State University) and Dr. Rebecca Schewe (Syracuse University) focuses on Vietnamese-American commercial fishermen in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama and includes interviews with Vietnamese speaking crew. Finally, a pilot study led by Dr. Tracy Yandle (Emory University) and Dr. Jennifer Tookes (Georgia Southern University) was conducted to establish a sampling strategy and survey instrument for a future survey of commercial and charter crew focused on wellbeing indicators and included approximately 30 commercial and charter boat crew in South Carolina and Georgia. None of these past surveys represent a systematic comprehensive effort to characterize crew across fisheries and the Gulf of Mexico/South Atlantic regions.

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

NEFSC and SEFSC will use several methods to minimize burden. The survey instrument is designed to request only the minimum data required for the purpose of the collection. Participation in the survey is voluntary and interviews will be conducted at times and places convenient for fishermen. This will minimize any potential disruption to fishermen's fishing practices. The NEFSC and SEFSC will contract with a local fisheries staff or outside contractor with local community connections to conduct interviews. The interviewer is trained to request permission to do a survey. If a fisherman refuses to participate in the interview or if the interviewer senses a fisherman does not want to provide data, the interviewer will terminate the interview immediately and thank the fisherman for his/her time. To minimize the language barrier and burden on non-English speaking intended respondents, NEFSC and SEFSC will provide interviewers who can speak the languages the intended respondents are comfortable with.

6. **Describe the consequences to the 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.**

Not conducting this collection or conducting it less frequently would have the following adverse cascading effects. It would decrease the ability of NMFS and the Management Councils to effectively monitor, explain and predict changes in the socioeconomic performance and impacts of federally managed commercial fisheries. That would prevent more than cursory efforts to comply with or support a variety of laws, Executive Orders and NOAA Fisheries strategies and policies, which require socioeconomic analyses. That would limit their use of a well-informed, science-based approach to the conservation and management of living marine resources and marine habitat in federally managed fisheries.

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

The information collection is consistent with OMB Guidelines for Information Collections.

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 Federal Register Notice published on January 25, 2021 (86 FR 6877) solicited public comments. One comment was received, but was not found pertinent to the PRA requirement of the information collection.

NMFS reached out to fishing industry members in an effort to obtain their views on the availability of data, frequency of collection, the clarity of instructions and recordkeeping, disclosure, or reporting format (if any), and on the data elements to be recorded, disclosed, or reported. No responses were received.

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

No payments or gifts will be provided to respondents.

10. **Describe any assurance of confidentiality provided to respondents and the basis for 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.**

No personally identifying information such as name, address, or telephone number is collected from respondents.

Information collected is protected under the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a), which prohibits disclosing information without the written consent of the subject individual, unless discloser is pursuant to one of twelve statutory exceptions. As stated on the survey instrument, the data collected will be kept anonymous and will not be released for public use except in aggregate statistical form. If the individual data are requested, it will be provided without identification as to its source. Because no proprietary regular business data are collected (i.e., landings or value, fishing grounds), there are no issues of confidentiality with regard to business information.

COMMERCE/NOAA Privacy Act Systems of Records 6 and 19, Fishermen's Statistical Data and Permits and Registrations for United States Federally Regulated Fisheries, respectively, cover the information collected for these fisheries.

Neither a SORN nor a PIA will be required.

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

There are three questions in the currently approved information collection that relate to race/ethnicity and income. While these questions have already been approved we provide here information on how this information helps to satisfy mandated socioeconomic analysis.

One potentially sensitive question is related to income from fishing. Household income can be an important indicator of household socioeconomic resiliency and can be an important factor to consider when evaluating regulatory alternatives. For example, all else being equal, a regulation that disproportionately affects low-income households may be less preferred than one that more widely distributes economic impacts. In addition, combining respondents' income information with primary port or zip code can be used to construct an indicator on community resilience, which may be useful when analyzing socioeconomic impacts on communities as required under National Standard 8 of the MSA [MSA Section 301(a)(8))]. The steps to be taken to increase the response rates for this question include: 1) providing a similar explanation of the use of that information to potential respondents 2) collecting this and other demographic information directly from each individual, and 3) ensuring potential respondents that such information will be treated as confidential.

Another potentially sensitive set of questions included in this information collection are related to race and ethnicity. NEFSC and SEFSC will use race to identify vulnerable communities that could be impacted by regulatory alternatives and issues related to racial/ethnic background, particularly in commercial fisheries with diverse backgrounds. Hence, race and ethnicity are needed when analyzing the socioeconomic impact on communities due to conservation and management measures as required under National Standard 8 of the MSA [MSA Section 301(a)(8))].

Finally, a potentially sensitive question included is about respondents' gender. NEFSC and SEFSC will use gender to identify shifts in the gender dynamics of commercial fisheries over time.

Further, information on minority and low-income populations is needed to conduct analyses mandated by E.O. 12898 (Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations) and E.O. 13985 (Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government). Questions on race and ethnicity follow the OMB Standards for the Classification of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity (https://orwh.od.nih.gov/toolkit/other-relevant-federal-policies/OMB-standards).

12. Provide an estimate in hours of the burden of the collection of information.

Table 1 provides estimates of the total annual number of respondents, responses, burden hours, and the cost of burden hours. The surveys will involve collecting data from 937 respondents with each respondent providing one response. NEFSC and SEFSC estimate that each response will take about 20 minutes to complete, resulting in a total annualized burden hour estimate of 83. The annualized labor cost associated with the estimated burden hours is $1,189.00, based on information from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) (see note [a] below Table 1).

Table 1. Estimates for the total number of respondents, responses, average time per response, burden hours, and total cost for responding.

Information Collection	Type of Respondent (e.g., Occupational Title)	# of Respondents (a)	Annual # of Responses / Respondent (b)	Total # of Annual Responses (c) = (a) x (b)	Burden Hrs / Response (d)	Total Annual Burden Hrs (e) = (c) x	Hourly Wage Rate (for Type of Respondent) (f)	Total Annual Wage Burden Costs (g) = (e

						(d)		)x(f)
Crew, Northeast and Southeast Regions	Crew	937*	0.27	250	20 min.	83	$14.27	$1,189
Totals	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	**250**	[redacted]	**83**	[redacted]	**$1,189**

*total number of respondents (sample size +20% nonresponse) from sample universe of 31,055

[a] Labor costs are derived from BLS https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes450000.htm. The value for crew is taken as the median rate ($14.27). The crew rate is not marked up to include overhead since the crew will be taking the survey on their own time and thus their time will not incur overhead to their employer.

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).**

The information will be collected with in–person and telephone interviews and there are no capital/start-up or ongoing operation/maintenance costs associated with this information collection.

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.**

NEFSC and SEFSC (FTE) employees at each Science Center will have federal oversight, data collection, analysis, report writing, and administrative responsibilities associated with these information collections. We estimate the costs of meeting those responsibilities at each Science Center based on the pay grade of each NMFS employee with those responsibilities and the percentage of each employee's time needed to meet those responsibilities. We estimated the costs of the contracts to administer the surveys based on the costs of similar current or recent contracts. The estimated total cost incurred by the federal government by implementing this information collection is $633,510 which averages $211,170 per year over the three-year authorization period for this information collection. Table 2 provides a detailed breakdown of these costs to the Federal government by Science Center and cost category.

Table 2. Federal Government costs for crew survey implementation.

NEFSC \Cost Descriptions	Grade/ Step	Loaded Salary Cost	% of Effort	Fringe (if Applicable)	Total Cost to Government
Federal Oversight	ZP-4	$204,898	20%		$40,979
Data collection/analysis	ZP-3	$145,824	40%		$58,330
Some other duty					$0
Contractor Cost					$170,000
FTE Travel					$8,000
Other Costs: Tablet/Printing/Postage					$2,500
NEFSC TOTAL					$279,809

SEFSC \Cost Descriptions	Grade/ Step	Loaded Salary Cost	% of Effort	Fringe (if Applicable)	Total Cost to Government
Federal Oversight	ZP-4	$210,219	40%		$84,088
Data collection/analysis	ZP-3	$140,205	55%		$77,113
Some other duty					$0
Contractor Cost					$180,000
FTE Travel					$10,000
Other Costs: Tablet/Printing/Postage					$2,500
SEFSC TOTAL					$353,701
GRAND TOTAL NEFSC & SEFSC					**$633,510**

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

Adjustments to this information collection include:

1. Expand the geographic scope from New England and the Mid-Atlantic only to include New England, Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico commercial fisheries;
2. Increase the burden hours to 250 for all regions (126 in Northeast and 124 in Southeast, annualized to 83 hours per year); and
3. Add seven new questions.

Seven new questions have been added to the protocol. Three of these questions are relevant to the Southeast region due to fisheries that are specific to the Southeast and to significantly higher participation in recreational fisheries than in the Northeast and four of these questions are relevant to both regions.

The three new Southeast specific questions are labeled 1.2 through 1.4 on the survey protocol. **Question 1.2** is specific to the fisheries of the Southeast Region, which differ entirely from the Northeast region's fisheries listed in Question 1.1. **Questions 1.3 and 1.4** are also Southeast-specific questions and ask respondents about their possible participation in recreational fisheries, which are more prominent in the Southeast, and their days at sea spent in each of their top three fisheries.

The four new questions relevant to both regions are labeled 1.5 through 1.7 and question 33 on the survey protocol. **Questions 1.5 and 1.6** ask about participants' employment status with their primary vessels and what kinds of formal qualifications or training they might have, which might be required in some fisheries. **Question 1.7** asks for the zip code and state of their primary residence, the results from which will be used in aggregate fashion to understand how far crews live from the primary ports where they work. This is important because often crew travel between the Northeast and Southeast regions to participate in fisheries outside their home region. **Question 33** asks about participants' gender and allows NEFSC and SEFSC to track gender dynamics in commercial fishing employment over time which may vary by region.

No changes to the wording of the currently approved roster of questions are requested.

Information Collection	Respondents		Responses		Burden Hours		Reason for change or adjustment
	Current Renewal / Revision	Previous Renewal / Revision	Current Renewal / Revision	Previous Renewal / Revision	Current Renewal / Revision	Previous Renewal / Revision	
Crew, Northeast and Southeast Regions	937	1,100	250	1,100	83	367	Administrative error in previous renewal did not annualize predicted burdens as it is only intended to conduct survey once during the 3-year renewal period. Previous total respondents of 452 and total burden of 151 hours if correctly input, would have shown this renewal having an increase in respondents and burden due to increased scope of survey
Total for Collection	**937**	**1,100**	**250**	**1,100**	**83**	**367**	
Difference	-163		-850		-284		

Information Collection	Labor Costs		Miscellaneous Costs		Reason for change or adjustment
	Current	Previous	Current	Previous	
Crew, Northeast and Southeast Regions	$1,189	$4,990	$0	$0	Updated, also impacted by previous administrative error in inputting collection burden
Total for Collection	**$1,189**	**$4,990**	**$0**	**$0**	
Difference	-3,801				

16. For collections whose results will be published, outline the 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.

The NEFSC and SEFSC will develop both reports and tabulations based on the data collected under this information collection. We will tabulate the responses from each survey question and provide cross-tabulations of survey questions in response to policy questions. We will publish the results as a NOAA technical report. These tabulations will be provided on the NEFSC and SEFSC web sites.

In years following this data collection effort, the NEFSC and SEFSC will perform statistical hypothesis tests to determine whether the underlying population values have changed over time. These tests will be standard Students *t* or *F*-statistic tests, depending on the data under consideration.

Further detailed analyses may also be performed on these data. This could include linear regression, analysis of variance, and other more complex statistical methods used to investigate trends and hypotheses in the data. The specific analyses to be performed will be based on the summary statistics that are tabulated and on the analytical needs (e.g., current policy questions needing information). Table 4 provides a summary of the time line for completing the study.

Table 4. Data Collection, Analysis, and Reporting Timeline in Months.

Activity	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**7**	**8**	**9**	**10**	**11**	**12**
Prepare logistics												
Perform Survey												
Clean and Analyze Data												
Prepare Reports and Tabulations												

The implementation timeline for the data collection is as follows:
Data collection period: May 2022-April 2023.
Technical Memoranda creation: Complete April 2023.

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

The collection instrument will display the OMB number and expiration date.

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

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