

(Exempted Fishing Permit 19066), (2) the scope of an Atlantic salmon aquaculture framework that the Council may initiate in September, (3) offshore wind development issues, including strategies for providing effective comments, (4) an ongoing NOAA Fisheries review of two Dedicated Habitat Research Areas designated via Omnibus Habitat Amendment 2, and (5) potential habitat-related work priorities for 2023. Other business may be discussed as necessary.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

### Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Thomas A. Nies, Executive Director, at (978) 465-0492, at least 5 days prior to the date. This meeting will be recorded. Consistent with 16 U.S.C. 1852, a copy of the recording is available upon request.

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

Dated: August 23, 2022.

### Rey Israel Marquez,

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

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Generic Clearance for NOAA Citizen Science and Crowdsourcing Projects (New)

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

**ACTION:** Notice of information collection, request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce, in accordance with the

Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. The purpose of this notice is to allow for 60 days of public comment preceding submission of the collection to OMB.

**DATES:** To ensure consideration, comments regarding this proposed information collection must be received on or before October 25, 2022.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested persons are invited to submit written comments to Adrienne Thomas, NOAA PRA Officer, at [NOAA.PRA@noaa.gov](mailto:NOAA.PRA@noaa.gov). Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or specific questions related to collection activities should be directed to Dr. Joe Terry, Office of Science and Technology, 1315 East West Hwy., Building SSMC3, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3282, (858) 454-2547, [joe.terry@noaa.gov](mailto:joe.terry@noaa.gov).

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### I. Abstract

NOAA is requesting approval for a new generic clearance for its citizen science and crowdsourcing projects and approval for those citizen science and crowdsourcing existing collections in use without an OMB control number. The generic clearance would allow NOAA to do the following: (1) be more responsive to the Citizen Science and Crowdsourcing Act (15 U.S.C. 3724), as well as the other laws and Executive Orders (E.O.) listed under Legal Authority in Section III, (2) more rapidly and efficiently come into compliance with the PRA and, therefore, (3) obtain additional scientific information that supports its mission to understand and predict changes in climate, weather, ocean, and coasts, to share that knowledge and information with others, and to conserve and manage coastal and marine ecosystems and resources.

NOAA relies on scientific information. Citizen science and crowdsourcing techniques will allow NOAA to collect qualitative and quantitative data that might help inform scientific research and monitoring, validate models or tools, support STEM learning, and enhance the quantity and quality of data collected to support NOAA's mission. Information gathered under this generic clearance will be

used by NOAA to support the activities listed above and might provide unprecedented avenues for conducting breakthrough research. Collections under this generic clearance will be from participants who actively seek to participate on their own initiative through an open and transparent process (NOAA does select participants or require participation); collections will be low-cost for both the participants and the Federal Government; and the data will be available to support the scientific research (including assessments, tools, models, etc.) of NOAA and its partners. Its partners include states, tribal or local entities, business or other for-profit organizations, and not-for-profit institutions or organizations. NOAA may, by virtue of collaborating with other federal agencies and/or non-federal entities, sponsor the collection of this type of information in connection with citizen science or crowdsourcing projects. All collections must comply with NOAA policies and the scope of this generic clearance, which includes, but is not limited to, the natural, applied, social, and cultural sciences as they apply to crowdsourcing and citizen science activities. Finally, personally identifiable information (PII) will only be collected when necessary and in accordance with applicable federal procedures and policies. If a new collection is not within the parameters of this generic clearance, NOAA will submit a separate information collection request to OMB for approval of that new collection.

#### III. Data

*OMB Control Number:* 0648-XXXX.

*Form Number(s):* None.

*Type of Review:* Regular submission (new generic clearance for its citizen science and crowdsourcing projects and approval for those citizen science and crowdsourcing existing collections in use without an OMB control number).

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households; Business or other for-profit organizations; Not-for-profit institutions or organization; State, Local, or Tribal government; and Federal government; Farms.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 1,372,414.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 9.0 minutes average with a range from 1 minutes to 8 hours, depending on the project.

*Estimated Total Burden Hours:* 3,116,328.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* \$97,932.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Voluntary.

*Legal Authority:* Crowdsourcing and Citizen Science Act; Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA); Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA); National Marine Sanctuaries Act (NMSA); Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Act (HABHRCA); Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA); Coral Reef Conservation Program (CRCP); Digital Coast Act (DAC); Ocean and Coastal Mapping Integration Act (OCMIA); Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Act (WRFIA); Endangered Species Act (ESA); National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA); The National Environmental Education Act, E.O. 12866 (Regulatory Planning and Review); E.O. 12898 (Environmental Justice); E.O. 13985 (Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities); and E.O. 14008 (Climate Crisis).

#### IV. Request for Comments

We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department/Bureau to: (a) Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the time and cost burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) Evaluate ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. We will include or summarize each comment in our request to OMB to approve this ICR. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

#### Sheleen Dumas,

*Department PRA Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Commerce Department.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XC274]

### Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Exempted Fishing Permit

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

**ACTION:** Notice of receipt of an application for exempted fishing permit; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS announces the receipt of an application for an exempted fishing permit (EFP) from Texas Sea Grant. If granted, the EFP would authorize the testing of new bycatch reduction device (BRD) designs in the commercial shrimp fishery in Federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico (Gulf). The Better BRDs for the Gulf Shrimp Fleet Project is a collaborative effort amongst Louisiana Sea Grant, Texas Sea Grant, NOAA Restoration Center, and NMFS to restore finfish populations impacted by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill (MC252) through the development and certification of new BRDs for the commercial shrimp industry throughout the Gulf.

**DATES:** Written comments must be received on or before September 12, 2022.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments on the application, identified by “NOAA-NMFS-2022-0089” by any of the following methods:

- *Electronic Submission:* Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal. Go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and enter “NOAA-NMFS-2022-0089” in the Search box. Click the “Comment” icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments.
- *Mail:* Frank Helies, Southeast Regional Office, NMFS, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701.

*Instructions:* Comments sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the end of the comment period, may not be considered by NMFS. All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted for public viewing on [www.regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov) without change. All personal identifying information (e.g., name, address), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the sender will be publicly accessible. NMFS will

accept anonymous comments (enter “N/A” in the required fields if you wish to remain anonymous).

Electronic copies of the application and may be obtained from the Southeast Regional Office website at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/southeast/commercial-fishing/better-bycatch-reduction-device-gulf-shrimp-fleet-project/>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Frank Helies, 727-824-5305; email: [frank.helies@noaa.gov](mailto:frank.helies@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The EFP is requested under the authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act; 16 U.S.C 1801 *et seq.*), and regulations at 50 CFR 600.745(b) concerning exempted fishing.

The EFP application submitted to NMFS involves the use of experimental fishing gear (BRDs) in Federal waters. Federal regulations require shrimp vessels to use NMFS approved BRDs while trawling for Gulf shrimp in Federal waters in the Gulf (50 CFR 622.53(a)). The EFP would exempt these research activities from the regulations requiring the use of BRDs in Federal waters of the Gulf at 50 CFR 622.53(a), and would allow the applicant to replace an existing approved BRD with one of six experimental BRDs determined by the applicant. The specific EFP request is further described and summarized below.

The Better BRDs for the Gulf Shrimp Fleet Project is a collaborative effort amongst Louisiana Sea Grant, Texas Sea Grant, NOAA Restoration Center, and NMFS to restore finfish populations injured by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill (MC252) through development and certification of new BRDs for the commercial shrimp industry throughout the Gulf. The project involves the testing of new BRD designs in the commercial shrimp fishery in Federal waters of the Gulf. The new BRD designs could demonstrate a greater reduction in bycatch over the federally certified Fisheye BRD, which may also lead to an overall increase in shrimp catch.

This project would identify and develop new bycatch-reducing technology to minimize commercial shrimp trawl finfish discard mortality. Additionally, the project seeks to advance cost-effective solutions for the Gulf shrimp fleet that would maximize the adoption of improved BRDs.

The project is separated into several phases. The first phase was conducted over the past year and included proof-of-concept testing of new BRD designs