

**SUPPORTING STATEMENT**  
**U.S. Department of Commerce**  
**National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration**  
**Alaska Interagency Electronic Reporting System (IERS)**  
**OMB Control No. 0648-0515**

**SUPPORTING STATEMENT PART A**

**Abstract**

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Alaska Regional Office, requests revision of this currently approved information collection.

This information collection is revised due to the proposed rule to allow the use of longline pot gear and add an exception to the 9-inch tunnel opening requirement for pot gear when directed fishing for Greenland turbot in the Bering Sea subarea for holders of License Limitation Program groundfish licenses that are endorsed for non-trawl gear. (RIN 0648-BM77). This proposed rule is necessary to improve efficiency, provide economic benefits for the hook-and-line catcher/processor subsector, and minimize potential fishery interactions with killer whales.

This collection is revised because the rule would add the Bering Sea Greenland turbot fishery to the recordkeeping and reporting requirements specific to longline pot gear. This revision does not change the respondents, responses, burden hours, or costs for the catcher/processor electronic logbook because the directly regulated entities already complete this logbook, and the current burden estimate allows for differences in the time and cost needed to complete and submit the logbook.

This rule would also affect information collection requirements approved under OMB Control Number 0648-0353. NMFS is submitting a separate request to revise this collection.

**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.**

NMFS, Alaska Region, manages the groundfish and crab fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area (BSAI) and the groundfish fisheries of the Gulf of Alaska (GOA) under fishery management plans (FMPs) for the respective areas. The North Pacific Fishery Management Council prepared, and NMFS approved, the FMPs under the authority of the [Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act](#), 16 U.S.C. 1801, *et seq.* Regulations implementing the FMPs appear at 50 CFR parts [679](#) and [680](#).

Collecting reliable data is essential to the effective conservation, management, and scientific understanding of the fishery resources. NMFS requires vessels and processors participating in federally managed groundfish and crab fisheries off Alaska to provide information on catch, production, effort, and other information necessary for conservation and management of the fisheries.

The IERS is a fisheries data collection system that enables the management of commercial fisheries off Alaska and is supported through a partnership among NMFS, Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(ADF&G), and the International Pacific Halibut Commission. The IERS provides the Alaska fishing industry with a consolidated, electronic means of reporting commercial fish and shellfish information to multiple management agencies. The agencies worked together to implement a system that enables the seafood industry to report landings, production, and effort to fishery management agencies through a single application. The recordkeeping and reporting requirements for the IERS are located at [50 CFR 679.5](#).

Compared with paper forms and conventional logbooks, the IERS is a more convenient, accurate, and timely method of fisheries reporting. Benefits of the IERS include improved data quality, automated processing of data, improved process for correcting or updating information, availability of more timely data for fishery managers, and reduction of duplicative reporting of similar information to multiple agencies. (For more information on the goals of the IERS and progress achieving those goals, see *A Review of the Alaska Interagency Electronic Reporting System [IERS] with an Emphasis on Costs and Benefits to Stakeholders*.<sup>1</sup>)

Additionally, the IERS provides continuous online access to individual accounts by participants. These provisions make recordkeeping and reporting requirements less burdensome by allowing participants to more efficiently monitor their accounts and fishing activities.

### **Revision Due to Rule (RIN 0648-BM77)**

This collection is revised due to the proposed rule to allow hook-and-line catcher/processors to use longline pot gear for the Bering Sea Greenland turbot fishery, and 2) add an exception to the 9-inch maximum pot tunnel opening limitation for longline pot gear when fishing for Greenland turbot. This rule includes proposed additional regulation revisions to facilitate the administration, monitoring, and enforcement of this proposed rule. This proposed rule is necessary to improve efficiency, provide economic benefits for the hook-and-line catcher/processor subsector, and minimize potential fishery interactions with killer whales.

Currently, any vessel with a Federal Fisheries Permit (FFP) for groundfish and the necessary gear (non-trawl) and area endorsements on its License Limitation Program license may fish hook-and-line or pot-and-line gear (i.e., single pots) for Bering Sea Greenland turbot. The non-trawl sector consists of hook-and-line catcher/processors associated with the Freezer Longline Coalition voluntary cooperative primarily targeting BSAI Pacific cod with some members relying on harvest of Greenland turbot and/or sablefish as secondary sources of income. This proposed rule would authorize, but not require, catcher/processors to use longline pot gear in the Bering Sea Greenland turbot fishery. Longline pot gear is an efficient gear type currently allowed in the sablefish IFQ fisheries in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI) and GOA that prevents or reduces whale depredation from occurring and may have the same benefits if authorized for hook-and-line catcher/processors participating in the Bering Sea Greenland turbot fishery.

This proposed rule would add the Bering Sea Greenland turbot fishery to the record keeping and reporting requirements specific to longline pot gear. The use of longline pot gear continues to expand, and these changes are intended improve regulatory consistency, monitoring, and enforcement.

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<sup>1</sup> Northern Economics, Inc. *A Review of the Alaska Interagency Electronic Reporting System (IERS) with an Emphasis on Costs and Benefits to Stakeholders*. Prepared for NMFS Alaska Regional Office and Alaska Department of Fish and Game. September 7, 2015. <https://elandings.atlassian.net/wiki/download/attachments/74809357/IERSReviewNEIFinal.pdf?api=v2>

The recordkeeping and reporting requirements for the vessels might increase slightly under this proposed rule. If a vessel chooses to fish hook-and-line gear and longline pot gear on the same day, then they would be required to fill out two Daily Cumulative Production Logbook pages, one for each gear type. This is not expected to happen very often if at all. The increased effort for this potential reporting requirement is expected to be negligible.

This regulatory amendment would not change the respondents, responses, burden, or costs for the electronic catcher/processor Daily Cumulative Production Logbook because the catcher/processors in the Bering Sea Greenland turbot fishery already complete this logbook due to their participation in other fisheries. No change is made to the burden because the current burden estimate allows for differences in the time and cost needed to complete and submit the logbook. The Freezer Longline Coalition comprises 36 License Limitation Program licenses that are endorsed for Bering Sea or Aleutian Islands hook-and-line catcher/processors fishing for Pacific cod. Historically, only a small portion of these licenses have targeted Greenland turbot in the Bering Sea subarea. Since 2010, not more than nine catcher/processors have targeted Greenland turbot.

This rule would also affect information collection requirements approved under OMB Control Number 0648-0515. NMFS is submitting a separate request to revise this collections.

**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.**

All U.S. vessels harvesting fish in the EEZ and processors receiving EEZ fish are required to hold a Federal permit and thus comply with recordkeeping and reporting requirements. Information is entered into the IERS by participants of the commercial fishing industry, who are collectively referred to as the “Users” of the system. A User, for purposes of the IERS and its components including eLandings and tLandings, means an individual representative of a Registered Buyer; a Registered Crab Receiver; a mothership or catcher/processor that is required to have a Federal Fisheries Permit (FFP) under § 679.4; a shoreside processor or stationary floating processor (SFP) and mothership that receives groundfish from vessels issued an FFP under § 679.4; any shoreside processor or SFP that is required to have a Federal Processor Permit (FPP) under § 679.4; and their designee(s).

Users enter information into the IERS using three main components, depending on their internet access and transmission capability (see <https://alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/fisheries/electronic-reporting> for more information):

- eLandings provides web-based access for shoreside and stationary floating processors to submit landings and production information. eLandings is also used by some catcher/processors and motherships who have access to the internet to submit their data.
- seaLandings is a fishery harvest reporting software program that functions without constant Internet connectivity and is installed on computer workstations. The seaLandings interface targets at-sea vessels with limited access to the web (typically for catcher/processors and motherships that report at sea). Landings, production, and eLog information can be sent from seaLandings via direct transmission (a report file is zipped up and sent over the Internet and processed behind the scenes) or via email. The file is attached to an email that is sent to the email server, [elecprep@noaa.gov](mailto:elecprep@noaa.gov).

- tLandings is a USB-installed program that tenders with no web access can use to enter landings information.

There are four types of collections through the IERS: 1) registration; 2) landing reports; 3) production reports; and 4) electronic logbooks (eLogs). In some cases there are several types of forms within a collection; for example, there are two types of production reports: shoreside production report and at-sea production report.

Table 1 and the following sections provide more information on the collections and the associated forms.

**Table 1. Information Requirements and Needs and Uses of Information Collected**

Item #	Requirement	Statute	Regulation 50 CFR	From whom will the information be collected?	Submission Method	How frequently will the information be collected?	Needs and Uses	Will the information be shared with any other organizations inside or outside the Department of Commerce or the government?
1 Registration	eLandings Registration	16 U.S.C. 1801 <i>et seq.</i>	<a href="#">§ 679.5(e)(2)</a>	New eLandings Users	Electronic and either mail, fax, or delivery	Once, prior to using the eLandings system	Used by the public to request authorization to use eLandings, create a unique User ID, and obtain a password. Used by NMFS to identify the participant and authorize the participant to use eLandings.	Yes – it will be shared with State of Alaska Commercial Fisheries Division.
2 Landing Reports (LR)	Shoreside Processors LR (non IFQ)	16 U.S.C. 1801 <i>et seq.</i>	<a href="#">§ 679.5(e)(5)</a>	The manager of a shoreside processor, SFP, or community quota entity floating processor that receives groundfish from a catcher vessel issued an FFP under § 679.4 and that is required to have an FPP under § 679.4(f)	Electronic	By 1200 hours, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), of the day following completion of the delivery	Used by the manager of a processor to report groundfish deliveries. Used by NMFS to identify the fishery participants, monitor the deliveries of fish to processing facilities, as well as discard and disposition of species, and for management of groundfish and shellfish fisheries.	Yes – it will be shared with State of Alaska Commercial Fisheries Division.
	Registered Buyer LR for IFQ/CDQ and Manual LR (paper backup)	16 U.S.C. 1801 <i>et seq.</i>	<a href="#">§ 679.5(e)(7)</a>	A person who is issued a Registered Buyer permit under § 679.4(d)(3) and who receives individual fishing quota (IFQ) halibut or IFQ sablefish from an IFQ permit holder or who receives community development quota (CDQ) halibut.	Electronic and paper backup	Within six hours after all IFQ halibut, CDQ halibut, and IFQ sablefish are offloaded.	Used by registered buyers to report halibut and sablefish IFQ landings. Used by NMFS to identify the fishery participants, monitor the deliveries of fish to processing facilities, as well as discard and disposition of species, and for management of groundfish and shellfish fisheries.	Yes – it will be shared with State of Alaska Commercial Fisheries Division and the International Pacific Halibut Commission.
	Registered Crab Receiver (RCR) LR for IFQ/CDQ and Manual LR (paper backup)	16 U.S.C. 1801 <i>et seq.</i>	<a href="#">§ 679.5(e)(8)</a>	A person who is issued an RCR permit under § 680.4(i) and who receives IFQ crab from a crab IFQ permit holder or crab IFQ hired master.	Electronic and paper backup	Within 6 hours after all crab is offloaded from the harvesting vessel.	Used by registered crab receivers to report crab IFQ landings. Used by NMFS to identify the fishery participants, monitor the deliveries of fish to processing facilities, as well as discard and	Yes – it will be shared with State of Alaska Commercial Fisheries Division.

Item #	Requirement	Statute	Regulation 50 CFR	From whom will the information be collected?	Submission Method	How frequently will the information be collected?	Needs and Uses	Will the information be shared with any other organizations inside or outside the Department of Commerce or the government?
							disposition of species, and for management of groundfish and shellfish fisheries.	
	Out-of-State LR	16 U.S.C. 1801 <i>et seq.</i>	<a href="#">§ 679.5(e)(5)</a> and <a href="#">(e)(7)</a>	Non-Alaska shoreside processors that receive groundfish harvested in the Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands, or the Gulf of Alaska from catcher vessels.	Fax	By 1200 hours, A.I.t., of the day following the delivery.	Used by a shoreside processor or registered buyer located outside Alaska to report groundfish, IFQ halibut, IFQ sablefish, and CDQ halibut. Used by NMFS to identify the fishery participants, monitor the deliveries of fish to processing facilities, as well as discard and disposition of species, and for management of groundfish and shellfish fisheries.	Yes – it will be shared with State of Alaska Commercial Fisheries Division and the International Pacific Halibut Commission.
	Mothership LR	16 U.S.C. 1801 <i>et seq.</i>	<a href="#">§ 679.5(e)(6)</a>	The operator of a mothership that is issued an FFP under § 679.4(b) that receives groundfish from a catcher vessel required to have an FFP under § 679.4	Electronic	By 2400 hours, A.I.t., of the day following the delivery.	Used by the operator of a mothership to report deliveries from a catcher vessel. Used by NMFS to identify the fishery participants, monitor the deliveries of fish to processing facilities, as well as discard and disposition of species, and for management of groundfish and shellfish fisheries.	Yes – it will be shared with State of Alaska Commercial Fisheries Division.
	Catcher/Processor LR	16 U.S.C. 1801 <i>et seq.</i>	<a href="#">§ 679.5(e)(13)</a>	The operator of a catcher/processor in the partial observer coverage category under § 679.51(a)(3) must submit a catcher/processor landing report to NMFS for each fishing trip.	Electronic	By 2400 hours A.I.t., on the day after the end of the fishing trip.	Used by operator of a catcher/processor to report landings for each fishing trip conducted while it is in the Observer Program partial coverage category. Used by NMFS to link catch data with observer data, to determine how to appropriately assign at-sea discard rates and prohibited species catch rates to unobserved catcher/processors in the Observer	Yes – it will be shared with State of Alaska Commercial Fisheries Division.

Item #	Requirement	Statute	Regulation 50 CFR	From whom will the information be collected?	Submission Method	How frequently will the information be collected?	Needs and Uses	Will the information be shared with any other organizations inside or outside the Department of Commerce or the government?
							Program partial coverage category, and to monitor compliance with Observer Program requirements.	
	Tender LR	16 U.S.C. 1801 <i>et seq.</i>	<a href="#">§ 679.5(e)(14)</a>	The operator of a tender vessel taking delivery of groundfish that is required to be reported to NMFS on a landing report and the User at the shoreside facility that receives the transferred fish.	Electronic	By 1200 hours, A.I.t., of the day following completion of the delivery.	Used by the operator of a tender vessel to report taking a delivery of groundfish. Used by NMFS to identify the fishery participants, monitor the deliveries of fish to processing facilities, as well as discard and disposition of species, and for management of groundfish and shellfish fisheries.	Yes – it will be shared with State of Alaska Commercial Fisheries Division.
3 Production Reports	Shoreside Processor PR	16 U.S.C. 1801 <i>et seq.</i>	<a href="#">§ 679.5(e)(9)</a>	The manager of a shoreside processor or stationary floating processor that is required to have an FPP under § 679.4(f)	Electronic	By 1200 hours A.I.t., each day to record the previous day's production	Used by the manager of the processor to document the previous day's groundfish production. Used by NMFS to identify the participant, monitor the discards and disposition of the product, and monitor the product leaving the facility.	No – the information is not shared.
	At-Sea PR	16 U.S.C. 1801 <i>et seq.</i>	<a href="#">§ 679.5(e)(10)</a>	The operator of a catcher/processor or mothership that is issued an FFP under § 679.4 and that harvests groundfish	Electronic	By 2400 hours A.I.t., each day to record the previous day's production	Used by operator of a catcher/processor or mothership to document the previous day's groundfish production. Used by NMFS to identify the participant, monitor the discards and disposition of the product, and monitor the product leaving the facility.	No – the information is not shared.
4 Electronic Logbooks (eLog)	Catcher Vessel eLog	16 U.S.C. 1801 <i>et seq.</i>	§§ <a href="#">679.5(a)</a> , <a href="#">(f)(1)(i)</a> and <a href="#">(f)(1)(iii)</a>	The operator of a catcher vessel using longline and pot gear or trawl gear	Electronic	By 2400 hours A.I.t., each day to record the previous day's hauls	Used by operator of catcher vessels to report fishing effort, fishing location, and discarded catch. Used by NMFS to provide data about where and when groundfish	No – the information is not shared.

Item #	Requirement	Statute	Regulation 50 CFR	From whom will the information be collected?	Submission Method	How frequently will the information be collected?	Needs and Uses	Will the information be shared with any other organizations inside or outside the Department of Commerce or the government?
							fishing effort occurs and record discard information of prohibited species.	
	Catcher/Processor eLog	16 U.S.C. 1801 <i>et seq.</i>	§§ <a href="#">679.5(c)(3)</a> , <a href="#">(c)(4)</a> , <a href="#">(f)(1)(ii)</a> , and <a href="#">(f)(1)(iv)</a> .	The operator of a catcher/processor using longline and pot gear or trawl gear	Electronic	By 2400 hours A.I.t., each day to record the previous day's hauls	Used by operator of a catcher/processor to report fishing effort, fishing location, and record and report the results and timing of daily flowscale tests to NMFS. Used by NMFS to provide data about where and when groundfish fishing effort occurs, track results and timing of flow scale tests, and record discard information of prohibited species.	No - the information is not shared.
	Mothership eLog	16 U.S.C. 1801 <i>et seq.</i>	<a href="#">§ 679.5(f)(1)(v)</a>	The operator of a mothership receiving groundfish	Electronic	By 2400 hours A.I.t., each day to record the previous day's hauls	Used by operator of a mothership to report groundfish delivery information and record and report the results and timing of daily flowscale tests to NMFS. Used by NMFS to provide data about where and when groundfish deliveries to a mothership occur, and to track results and timing of flow scale tests.	No - the information is not shared.



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. NOAA 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 response to Question 10 of this Supporting Statement for more information on confidentiality and privacy.

### **eLandings Registration [No Change]**

Before using the IERS, a User must request authorization to use the system, create a unique User ID, and obtain a password. This information is necessary for NMFS to identify the participant and to provide authorization for the participant to use eLandings.

The registration is completed online at the eLandings registration page:.

<https://elandings.alaska.gov/elandings/Register>. The User must enter the following information:

- Operation type
- Operation name
- ADF&G processor code
- Federal permit numbers:
  - If a shoreside processor or SFP, enter FPP number
  - If a catcher vessel, catcher/processor, or mothership, enter FFP number
  - If a Registered Buyer, enter the Registered Buyer permit number
  - If a Registered Crab Receiver, enter the RCR permit number
- Port code
- Vessel ADF&G vessel registration number (if applicable)
- Primary User:
  - If user is already registered, enter User ID and password.
  - Otherwise, enter all data including User ID and password, and a new user ID will be created:
    - User ID
    - Password
    - Confirm Password
    - Company name
    - User name
    - City and state
    - Business telephone number, fax number, and e-mail address
    - Security question
    - The answer to the security question

Entering information in the eLandings registration form generates an Operation Authorization Form that needs to be printed, signed, and submitted to NMFS to enable the operation. The User's signature on the registration form means that the User agrees to the following terms:

- Use eLandings access privileges only for submitting legitimate fishery landing reports, production reports, and eLogs;
- Safeguard the User ID and password to prevent their use by unauthorized persons; and
- Ensure that the User is authorized to submit landing reports, production reports, and eLogs for the permit number(s) listed.

The User must submit the signed original Operation Authorization Form by one of the following methods:

- Mail to NMFS Sustainable Fisheries Division eLandings Registration, P. O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668.
- Email to [elandings@alaska.gov](mailto:elandings@alaska.gov).
- Fax to (907) 586-7131 Attn: eLandings Registration.
- Deliver to NMFS Sustainable Fisheries office at 709 W. 9th Street, Suite 401, Juneau, AK 99801.

Upon receipt of the registration information, NMFS verifies that all of the required information is provided in the correct format. NMFS will email confirmation to indicate that the User is registered, authorized to use eLandings, and that the User ID and User's account are enabled.

This process is completed once for each new operation. Once registered, the User is not required to register again unless ownership changes. New ownership requires a new Federal permit and ADF&G processor code.

## **Landing Reports [No Change]**

Information collected on landing reports is needed to identify the fishery participants, to monitor the deliveries of fish to the fish processing facilities, as well as record discard and disposition of species, and for management of groundfish and shellfish fisheries. There are seven types of landing report forms that are required of Users in particular situations and guided by different data entry time limits. The following sections provide more information on the landing reports, and Table 2 summarizes the type of information that is collected on each of the landing report forms. Once data are entered and submitted, Users receive a printed fish ticket and/or an IFQ landing report as a receipt.

### *i. Shoreside Processor Landing Report (non-IFQ)*

Shoreside Processor Landing Reports are required in groundfish fisheries per 50 CFR 679.5(e)(5). NMFS requires all shoreside or stationary floating processors that hold an FPP to use eLandings or other NMFS-approved software to submit landing reports for all groundfish species.

Users must submit shoreside processor landing reports for each groundfish delivery from a specific vessel by 1200 hours A.l.t., of the day following completion of the delivery. If the landed scale weight is not available by this deadline, the user must transmit an estimated weight for each species by 1200 hours, A.l.t., of the day following completion of the delivery and must submit a revised landing report with the landed scale weight for each species by 1200 hours, A.l.t., of the third day following completion of the delivery.

### *ii. Registered Buyer Landing Report for IFQ/CDQ*

Registered Buyer Landing Reports are required for each halibut and sablefish IFQ landing per 50 CFR 679.5(e)(7). Registered Buyers submit landing reports for IFQ species online using eLandings or eFISH. If the eLandings or eFISH systems and/or the Internet are unavailable, Registered Buyers must complete

the Manual Landing Report form. The Manual Landing Report for Halibut & Sablefish IFQ/CDQ is available on the [NMFS Alaska Region website](#). The Manual Landing Report must be used until network connections are restored. When the network is restored, the User must enter this same information into eLandings.

Registered Buyer Landing reports must be submitted within six hours after all IFQ halibut, CDQ halibut, and IFQ sablefish are offloaded from a specific vessel and prior to shipment or transfer of said fish from the landing site.

### *iii. Registered Crab Receiver Landing Report for IFQ/CDQ*

NMFS requires all Registered Crab Receivers to use eLandings or other NMFS-approved software to submit Registered Crab Receiver Landing Reports for each crab IFQ landing per 50 CFR 679.5(e)(8). If the eLandings system and/or the Internet is unavailable, Registered Crab Receivers must complete a manual landing report. The Crab Manual Landing Report form is available on the [NMFS Alaska Region website](#). The manual landing report must be used until network connections are restored. When the network is restored, the User must enter this same information into eLandings.

Registered Crab Receiver Landing reports must be submitted within six hours after all crab is offloaded from the vessel.

### *iv. Out of State Landing Report*

If a shoreside processor or Registered Buyer is not located in Alaska, the manager or permit holder must complete and submit to NMFS an Out-of-State Landing Report for each shipment of groundfish, halibut, or sablefish. The Registered Buyer or manager of a shoreside processor must enter information from a specific vessel by noon of the day following completion of the delivery and submit the completed Out-of-State Landing Report to NMFS by fax to 907-586-7131.

The Out-of-state Landing Report form is available on the [NMFS Alaska Region website](#).

### *v. Mothership Landing Report*

NMFS requires all motherships that hold an FFP to submit mothership landing reports per 50 CFR 679.5(e)(6). A mothership landing report must be submitted by 2400 hours, A.l.t., of the day following the delivery from the catcher vessel.

### *vi. Catcher/Processor Landing Report*

The operator of a catcher/processor placed in the Observer Program partial coverage category must submit a catcher/processor landing report to NMFS for each fishing trip conducted while that catcher/processor is in the partial coverage category. A catcher/processor landing report can be generated in eLandings or seaLandings through a feature called the consolidated report that merges all of the information from the At-sea Production Reports for the period the vessel operator defines as the fishing trip.

NMFS uses information from the catcher/processor landing report to link catch data with observer data, to determine how to appropriately assign at-sea discard rates and prohibited species catch rates to unobserved catcher/processors in the partial coverage category, and to monitor compliance with the requirement for catcher/processors placed in the partial coverage category to log all fishing trips in the Observer Declare and Deploy System (ODDS) (see OMB Control No. 0648-0318).

The operator of a catcher/processor placed in the partial observer coverage category must submit a catcher/processor landing report to NMFS by 2400 hours, A.I.t., on the day after the end of the fishing trip. For purposes of the catcher/processor landing report, fishing trip means the period of time that begins when the vessel departs a port to harvest fish until the vessel returns to port and offloads all processed product.

*vii. Tender Landing Report*

The operator of a tender vessel taking a delivery of groundfish that is required to be reported to NMFS on a landing report under 50 CFR 679.5(e)(5), must submit a tender landing report per 50 CFR 679.5(e)(14). The operator must use tLandings to enter information about each landing of groundfish to a tender. The tLandings application is used locally on the tender and was developed for tender vessels without web access. Tender Landing Reports are created electronically and stored on a USB drive. The tLandings application creates a printable fish ticket, which is printed onboard the tender vessel and signed by the delivering catcher vessel operator.

Once the tender trip is completed, the USB drive is provided to the processor for upload into the eLandings database and submission to NMFS. The tender vessel operator must make the USB drive containing the tender landing report information available to the processor upon commencement or offload of groundfish from the tender vessel to the processor. The processors must upload the tLandings information by 1200 hours, A.I.t., of the day following the completion of the tender offload.

Table 2. Data fields completed on Landing Reports. A check-mark (✓) indicates that the field is submitted by the user on the form.

Data Field	Landing Report (LR) Type						
	Shoreside Processor LR	Registered Buyer LR	Registered Crab Receiver LR	Out-of-State LR	Mothership LR	Catcher/Processor LR	Tender LR
ADF&G vessel number	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
ADF&G vessel gear code	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Crew size	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Number of observers onboard	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Date fishing began, Days fished, Date of landing	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Number of observers onboard	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Date fishing began, Days fished, Date of landing	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
ODDS trip number (if applicable)	✓	✓				✓	✓
Port of landing	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Discard report	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
IFQ reported manually (if applicable)		✓					
ADF&G Processor code	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Federal Processor Permit	✓			✓	✓	✓	
Registered buyer permit		✓		✓			
Registered Crab Receiver			✓				
CFEC permit(s)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Partial delivery (if applicable)			✓				

NMFS ID & IFQ/CDQ permits		✓	✓				
Management program and ID number (if applicable)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
ADF&G statistical area(s) fished	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Itemized catch information (species, weights, conditions and disposition codes)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
IFQ report		✓	✓			✓	

## Production Reports [No Change]

Information collected on a production report is necessary for NMFS to identify the participant, to monitor the discards and disposition product, and to monitor the product leaving the facility.

### *i. Shoreside processor or SFP Production Report*

Shoreside Processor Production Reports are required in groundfish fisheries per 50 CFR 679.5(e)(9). NMFS requires all shoreside and stationary floating processors holding an FPP to submit production reports by 1200 hours, A.l.t, each day to document the previous day's production.

The User must enter the following information on a Shoreside Processor Production Report:

- Automatic information for eLandings production report
  - User name
  - Company name
  - email address
  - Telephone number
  - FPP number
  - ADF&G processor code
- Production information
  - Reporting date
  - Number of observers onsite
- Area of harvest (GOA or BSAI)
  - Product description -- Product by species code, product type, and product code
  - Product weight – actual scale weight (to the nearest pound)
  - Whether no production or no deliveries for the day

### *ii. At-sea production reports (for catcher/processors and motherships)*

At-sea Production Reports are required in groundfish fisheries per 50 CFR 679.5(e)(10). NMFS requires all FPP-holding catcher/processors and motherships to submit production reports by 2400 hours, A.l.t, each day to document the previous day's production.

The User must enter the following information on an At-Sea Production Report:

- Automatic information for eLandings/seaLandings production report
  - User name
  - Company name

- o email address
- o Telephone number
- o FFP number and vessel name
- o ADF&G vessel number
- Production information
  - o Reporting date (mm/dd/yyyy)
  - o At-Sea Port Code
  - o Federal Permit Number
  - o Crew size (including operator)
  - o Management program
  - o Gear type of harvester
  - o Federal reporting area of harvest
  - o ADF&G statistical area
  - o If harvest with trawl gear, whether *C. Opilio* Bycatch Limitation Zone (COBLZ) or Red King Crab Savings Area (RKCSA)
  - o Product by species code, product type, and product code
  - o Product weight (to nearest 0.001 mt)
  - o Whether no production for the day
- Discard or disposition information
  - o Record discard disposition that occurred Prior to, during, or after production
  - o Species code and disposition code
  - o Discard weight of groundfish and prohibited species catch (PSC) herring (to nearest 0.001 mt)
  - o Discard number of PSC Pacific salmon, steelhead trout, Pacific halibut, king crab, and Tanner crab)

### **Electronic logbooks (eLogs) [Revised – Catcher/Processor eLog]**

Electronic logbooks (eLogs) are required for groundfish. Information collected on a logbook is necessary to provide data about where and when fishing effort occurs, track results and timing of flow scale tests, as well as record discard information of prohibited species.

#### *i. Catcher vessel eLog*

Catcher vessels greater than or equal to 60 ft length overall are required to submit fisheries information to NMFS through use of a paper daily fishing logbook (see OMB Control No. 0648-0213). All catcher vessels, including vessels less than 60 ft length overall, participating in the Pacific Cod Trawl Cooperative Program fishery or in the trawl EM category of the Observer Program are required to maintain a daily fishing logbook for trawl gear.

NMFS offers optional use of the eLog for trawl, longline, and pot gear catcher vessels through seaLandings or a NMFS-approved electronic logbook software application. If the catcher vessels use the eLog, the operator is not required to record and submit fisheries information on the paper daily fishing logbook. Use of the eLog increases the speed and accuracy of data transmission to NMFS and assists in providing more accurate quota monitoring. Some basic hardware requirements need to be met, such as having a laptop or personal computer on the vessel with a current Windows Operating system, and a printer to print daily copies of the eLog.

The operator must account for each day of the fishing year, January 1 through December 31, in the eLog and indicate whether the vessel was active or inactive during that period.

*ii. Catcher/processor eLog*

The operator of the following specified groundfish catcher/processors must record all the fields listed in Table 3 on catcher/processor eLogs:

- An American Fisheries Act (AFA) catcher/processor
- Any catcher/processor harvesting pollock in a Western Alaska CDQ fishery
- Any trawl catcher/processor participating in the rockfish fishery
- A hook-and-line catcher/processor named on an LLP license with a Pacific cod catcher/processor hook-and-line endorsement for the Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands, or both the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands and direct harvesting Pacific cod
- A vessel named on an LLP license with a Pacific cod catcher/processor pot gear endorsement for the Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands, or both the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands subareas when using pot gear for groundfish fishing as a catcher/processor in the Bering Sea or Aleutian Islands that chooses the voluntary monitoring option for NMFS-approved total catch weighing scales at § 679.101(c)(3)(i)(C).

In addition, any catcher/processor that is required to weigh catch on a NMFS-approved scale must use a NMFS-approved eLog to record and report the results and timing of daily flowscale tests to NMFS. This allows NMFS staff to continuously monitor daily flowscale tests by vessels when they are at sea and to work with vessel crew to ensure that any bias in the daily tests is discovered and corrected quickly. Allowing NMFS to identify potential scale problems during, rather than after a fishing year, results in more effective analysis of overall trends in scale testing. The respondent must first manually enter the daily flow scale test information onto the paper Record of Daily Scale Tests form (see OMB Control No. 0648-0330). Then the following information from all scale tests, including failed tests, must be reported in the eLog within 24 hours of the testing:

- Time of test
- Flow scale weight (kg)
- Platform scale weight (kg)
- Percent error (the software does the math)
- Observer present
- Comments (optional)

Table 3. Data fields completed on catcher vessel and catcher/processor eLogs. A check-mark (✓) indicates that the field is submitted by the user on the form.

Data Field	Electronic Logbook Type			
	Catcher Vessel		Catcher/Processor	
	Longline	Trawl	Longline	Trawl
Page number	✓	✓	✓	✓
Printed name and signature of operator	✓	✓	✓	✓
ADF&G vessel registration number	✓	✓	✓	✓
FFP number	✓	✓	✓	✓
Federal Crab vessel permit number (if longline)	✓		✓	
IFQ permit number and Operator name	✓		✓	
CDQ permit number and group number	✓		✓	
Gear type	✓	✓	✓	✓
Gear details (including skate length,	✓		✓	

Data Field	Electronic Logbook Type			
	Catcher Vessel		Catcher/Processor	
	Longline	Trawl	Longline	Trawl
book size, hook spacing)				
Dates of inactivity	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dates of activity	✓	✓	✓	✓
Whether harvest occurred in COBLZ or RKCSA (if applicable)		✓		✓
Federal reporting area of catch	✓	✓	✓	✓
Management program	✓	✓	✓	✓
Management program ID (if applicable)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Number of observers onboard	✓	✓	✓	✓
Name and cruise number of observer	✓	✓	✓	✓
Crew size	✓	✓	✓	✓
Set number	✓	✓	✓	✓
Date set, time set	✓		✓	
Date retrieved, time retrieved	✓		✓	
Begin latitude and longitude of set	✓		✓	
Begin and end buoy or bag number (not required)	✓		✓	
End latitude and longitude of set	✓		✓	
Begin and end depth of gear	✓		✓	
Number of skates or pots set and lost	✓		✓	
Target species code	✓	✓	✓	✓
CDQ/IFQ halibut & IFQ sablefish weight in pounds	✓		✓	
IFQ sablefish condition code	✓		✓	
Hail weight	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bird avoidance gear	✓		✓	
CR crab	✓		✓	
Flow scale weight			✓	
Haul number		✓		✓
Time of gear deployment		✓		✓
Date hauled, time hauled		✓		✓
Begin latitude and longitude of haul		✓		✓
Average sea depth		✓		✓
Average gear depth		✓		✓
Date and time of haul retrieval		✓		✓
End latitude and longitude of haul		✓		✓
Check mark if moved to avoid Chinook salmon bycatch (If applicable)		✓		✓
IRIU and prohibited species catch	✓	✓	✓	✓



This proposed rule would amend [§ 679.5\(c\)\(3\)\(v\)\(G\)\(2\)\(i\) and \(ii\)](#), which defines logbook recordkeeping and reporting requirements for longline pot gear, to add the Bering Sea Greenland turbot fishery. The current regulations at § 679.5(c)(3)(v)(G)(2)(i) and (c)(3)(v)(G)(2)(ii) require the operator of a vessel using longline pot gear in the Gulf of Alaska to enter the length of longline pot set to the nearest foot; the size of pot in inches (width by length by height or diameter); spacing of pots to the nearest foot; the number of pots deployed in each set; and the number of pots lost when the set is retrieved (optional, but may be required by International Pacific Halibut Commission regulations, see 50 CFR 300.60 through 300.65). This regulatory amendment does not change the respondents, responses, burden, or costs for the catcher/processor eLog because the directed regulated entities already submit this logbook due to their participation in other fisheries. No change is made to the burden because the current burden for this logbook allows for differences in the time and cost needed to complete and submit the logbook.

### *iii. Mothership eLog*

The operator of a mothership that is required to have an FFP under § 679.4(b) must use a NMFS-approved mothership eLog to record and report the following information:

- Page number
- Printed name and signature of operator
- Vessel information
  - Name of mothership
  - FFP or FPP number
  - ADF&G processor code
- Date
- Crew size
- Gear type
- Federal reporting areas
- COBLZ or RKCSA area
- Number of Observers onboard
- Name of observer
- Observer cruise number
- Management program
- Delivery information
  - Type of delivery (CV or TV)
  - Non-Submittal of discard report
  - Name of vessel
  - ADF&G vessel registration number
  - Receipt time
  - Beginning position of receipt of fish (lat/long coordinates)
  - Hail weight
  - IR/IU species
  - ADF&G fish ticket number

In addition, motherships must use a NMFS-approved eLog to daily record and report the results and timing of daily flowscale tests to NMFS. The respondent must enter the information from all scale tests, including failed tests, within 24 hours of the testing using the eLog.

**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.**

This collection is estimated to be 99 percent electronic. The eLandings registration, landing reports, production reports, and eLogs are submitted online through eLandings, the interagency electronic reporting system for commercial fishery landings in Alaska, at <https://elandings.alaska.gov/>. Catcher/processors and motherships that do not have reliable Internet service, can use a desktop client application (seaLandings) to generate report files for submitting by email. Tender vessels that do not have access to email or the Internet can enter the information electronically on a USB drive that is later uploaded to eLandings over the Internet.

**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**

The IERS provides the Alaska fishing industry with a consolidated means of reporting commercial fish and shellfish information to NMFS, ADF&G, and the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC). A result of the IERS has been to reduce or eliminate duplicative reporting of the same information to multiple agencies. Prior to the IERS, there were State and Federal requirements to report the same information, and each agency had their own data collection systems. The IERS provides a single data entry point that allows the data to be entered once and then ADF&G, NMFS, and IPHC can all access the reports and extract the data necessary to meet their management mandates.

Paper logbooks for catcher vessels and catcher/processors are approved under OMB Control No. 0648-0213. Vessel operators who complete an eLog, are not required to complete the paper logbooks.

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

This proposed rule (RIN 0648-BM77) does not impact small entities. None of the vessels are considered small entities due to cooperative affiliation. For the purpose of the Regulatory Flexibility Analysis conducted for this action, NMFS believes that all of the entities directly regulated are large entities.

This information collection impacts small entities but does not impose a significant effect on them. NMFS attempts to minimize the burden of this collection on all respondents. NMFS, in cooperation with ADF&G and IPHC, provides resources to reduce the impact of this collection:

- Multiple NMFS and ADF&G staff dedicated to IERS User support are available to answer questions via email and telephone. A centralized support email address ensures that an agency response can occur quickly.
- In addition to agency support staff, two Help Desk phone numbers are staffed outside of business hours. One is available 24/7 and provides first-level support. A second is available 6 a.m. to midnight daily that provides targeted assistance for Registered Crab Receiver, Registered Buyer, and Manual Landing Reports to support the short submission time requirements for these reports.
- An online [User's Manual](#) provides comprehensive step-by-step instructions for Users to follow when reporting and submitting information in the IERS.
- IERS training events are held every year in several locations throughout Alaska and in Seattle to provide Users with information about the application and to provide an opportunity for hands-on practice.

- Users can access a Training instance of the IERS application along with published [training scenarios](#) so they can practice using the software at any time.
- The agencies supporting the IERS send regular email notifications and newsletters to share information on new features, regulatory changes, upcoming training events, and tips and tricks.

**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.**

Through IERS, NMFS collects information on landings, production, and effort for groundfish and crab species. This information collection is necessary to improve recordkeeping and reporting efficiency for vessels and processors, and to improve the quality of data obtained by NMFS, ADF&G, and IPHC for fishery management purposes. Advances in technology, public expectations, Congress's mandate in the Government Paperwork Elimination Act, and Administration policy all require that agencies of the United States government move expeditiously to adopt electronic processes. If this collection were not conducted, the quality of NMFS fishery data would be greatly reduced and negatively impact NMFS management of fisheries.

**7. Explain any special circumstances that would cause an information collection to be conducted in a manner inconsistent with OMB guidelines.**

Other than the eLandings registration, the collections in this package may require respondents to report information to the agency more often than quarterly. Landing reports, production reports, and electronic logbooks must be submitted by the required time following harvest or production, which could result in information being submitted more often than quarterly. NMFS uses this information for inseason and inter-season management decisions and is necessary to monitor and manage the fisheries.

This collection does not require respondents to prepare a written response to a collection of information in fewer than 30 days after receipt of it.

This collection does not require respondents to submit more than an original and two copies of any document.

This collection does not require respondents to retain records, other than health, medical, government contract, grant-in-aid, or tax records for more than three years.

This collection is not in connection with a statistical survey, that is not designed to produce valid and reliable results that can be generalized to the universe of study.

This collection does not require the use of a statistical data classification that has not been reviewed and approved by OMB.

This collection does not include a pledge of confidentiality that is not supported by authority established in statute or regulation, that is not supported by disclosure and data security policies that are consistent with the pledge, or which unnecessarily impedes sharing of data with other agencies for compatible confidential use.

This collection does not require respondents to submit proprietary trade secret, or other confidential information unless the agency can demonstrate that it has instituted procedures to protect the information's confidentiality to the extent permitted by law.

**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-BM77) soliciting public comments will be published coincident with this submission.

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

No payment or gift to respondents 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 Notices (SORNs) that cover this information collection is [COMMERCE/NOAA-6, Fishermen's Statistical Data](#).

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.**

This proposed rule (RIN 0648-BM77) would amend logbook recordkeeping and reporting requirements for longline pot gear to add the Bering Sea Greenland turbot fishery. No changes are made to the respondents, responses, burden, or costs for the catcher/processor eLog because the directed regulated entities already submit this logbook due to their participation in other fisheries. No change is made to the burden because the current burden for this logbook allows for differences in the time and cost needed to complete and submit the logbook.

The hourly wage rate is the most current rate available (May 2023) from the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics for the Alaska mean hourly wage for Occupation Code 45-0000 (Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations; [https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes\\_ak.htm#:~:text=1.5%25,-45%2D0000,5.7%25,-45%2D1011](https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_ak.htm#:~:text=1.5%25,-45%2D0000,5.7%25,-45%2D1011))).

\*Due to rounding numbers/decimals will display as whole numbers in ROCIS.

Information Collection		Type of Respondent (e.g., Occupational Title)	# of Respondents/Year (a)	Annual # of Responses / Respondent (b)	Total # of Annual Responses (c) = (a) x (b)	Burden Hrs / Response (d)	Total Annual Burden Hrs (e) = (c) x (d)	Hourly Wage Rate (for Type of Respondent) (f)	Total Annual Wage Burden Costs (g) = (e) x (f)
1. Registration	eLandings Registration	Office staff at seafood processing company	15	1	15	15 min.	3.8	\$24.21	92
2. Landing Reports (LRs)	Shoreside Processors LR (non IFQ)	Office staff at seafood processing company	53	Annual averages are calculated for these reports instead of average per entity.	6,249	30 min.	3,124.5	\$24.21	75,644
	Registered Buyer LR for IFQ/CDQ and Manual LR (paper back up)	Office staff at seafood processing company	98		3,899	Electronic: 1 hr. Paper: 1 hr.	3,899.0	\$24.21	94,395
	Registered Crab Receiver (RCR) LR for IFQ/CDQ and Manual LR (paper backup)	Office staff at seafood processing company	32		818	Electronic: 1 hr. Paper: 1 hr.	818.0	\$24.21	19,804
	Out-of-State LR	Fishing Vessel Owner/Operator	1		22	20 min.	7.3	\$24.21	177
	Mothership LR	Fishing Vessel Owner/Operator	13		4,112	10 min.	685.3	\$24.21	16,591
	Catcher/Processor LR	Fishing Vessel Owner/Operator	2		22	30 min.	11.0	\$24.21	266
	Tender LR	Fishing Vessel Owner/Operator	30		680	35 min.	396.7	\$24.21	9,604
	3. Production Reports (PRs)	Shoreside Processor PR	Office staff at seafood processing company		47	5,403	10 min.	900.5	\$24.21
At-Sea PR		Fishing Vessel Owner/Operator	68	13,853	20 min.	4,617.7	\$24.21	111,795	
4. Electronic Logbooks (eLogs)	Catcher Vessel eLog	Fishing Vessel Owner/Operator	36	244	8,784	15 min.	2,196	\$24.21	53,165
	Catcher/Processor eLog	Fishing Vessel Owner/Operator	51	146	7,443	15 min.	1,860.8	\$24.21	45,050
	Mothership eLog	Fishing Vessel Owner/Operator	10	70	699	15 min.	174.8	\$24.21	4,232
					<b>51,999</b>		<b>18,695</b>		<b>\$452,616</b>

**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).**

This proposed rule (0648-BM77) would not change the annual cost burden to respondents or recordkeepers. The public completes an electronic form in the IERS and then prints a copy of the report. In some cases, three copies need to be printed as a receipt for the shoreside processor, the fishermen, and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. For Registered Buyer and Registered Crab Receiver Landing reports, there is also an IFQ Receipt that is printed.

Information Collection		# of Respondents/year (a)	Annual # of Responses / Respondent (b)	Total # of Annual Responses (c) = (a) x (b)	Cost Burden / Response (h)	Total Annual Cost Burden (i) = (c) x (h)
1. Registration	eLandings Registration	15	1	15	Print paper copy of report: 0.10 x 1 copy = 0.10 Postage: 0.58, Total 0.68	\$10
2. Landing Reports (LRs)	Shoreside Processors LR (non IFQ)	53	Annual averages are calculated for these reports instead of average per entity.	6,249	Print paper copy of report: 0.10 x 3 copies = 0.30	\$1,875
	Registered Buyer LR IFQ/CDQ and Manual LR (paper back up)	98		3,899	Print paper copy of report: 0.10 x 6 copies = 0.60	\$2,339
	Registered Crab Receiver (RCR) LR for IFQ/CDQ and Manual LR (paper backup)	32		818	Print paper copy of report: 0.10 x 6 copies = 0.60	\$491
	Out-of-State LR	1		22	Print paper copy of report: 0.10 x 1 copy = 0.10	\$2
	Mothership LR	13		4,112	Print paper copy of report: 0.10 x 1 copy = 0.10	\$411
	Catcher/Processor LR	2		22	Print paper copy of report: 0.10 x 1 copy = 0.10	\$2
	Tender LR	30		680	Print paper copy of report: 0.10 x 3 copy = 0.30	\$204
3. Production Reports (PRs)	Shoreside Processor PR	47		5,403	Print paper copy of report: 0.10 x 1 copy = 0.10	\$540
	At-Sea PR	68		13,853	Print paper copy of report: 0.10 x 1 copy = 0.10	\$1,385
4. Electronic Logbooks (eLogs)	Catcher Vessel eLog	36		244	8,784	Photocopy: 0.10 x 1 copy = 0.10
	Catcher/Processor eLog	51	146	7,443	Photocopy: 0.10 x 1 copy = 0.10	\$744
	Mothership eLog	10	70	699	Photocopy: 0.10 x 1 copy = 0.10	\$70
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>203*</b>		<b>51,999</b>		<b>\$8,951</b>

\* Unique Respondents. Some respondents submit more than one type of collection instrument in this information collection. Therefore, the number of unique respondents is used to show the estimated annual number of separate participants who are expected to submit information during the 3-year renewal period of this information collection. Due to rounding numbers/decimals will display as whole numbers in ROCIS.

**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.**

The agency costs for the IERS are not solely borne by the Federal Government and instead are divided among the three partner agencies that support the IERS: NMFS, ADF&G, and IPHC. Agency costs include salaries and benefits for employees and contractors that provide help-desk support, user support, and training; application development; system architecture; and project management. Other agency costs include server hosting and software licenses. The NMFS-portion of the estimated costs for IERS are provided in the table below.

The Magnuson-Stevens Act authorizes and requires the collection of cost recovery fees for the CDQ Program and limited access privilege programs. Limited access privilege programs are those that allocate a percentage of the total allowable catch of a fishery for exclusive use by a person. Cost recovery fees recover the actual costs directly related to the management, data collection, and enforcement of the programs. The IERS supports data collection under the CDQ and other limited access programs including IFQ, crab IFQ, Amendment 80, and American Fisheries Act. Thus NMFS recovers costs associated with the IERS under cost recovery programs associated with these management programs.

Cost Descriptions	Grade/Step <sup>1</sup>	Loaded Salary/Cost <sup>2</sup>	% of Effort	Fringe (if Applicable)	Total Cost to Government
<b>Federal Oversight - Program Manager</b>	ZP-0401-4 (GS 13/14)	\$272,761	100		\$272,761
Agency project coordination, training, user support	ZP-0401-2 (GS 9/10)	\$147,393	50		\$73,697
Agency Technical Lead	ZP-2210-3 (GS 11/12)	\$194,101	50		\$97,051
Agency Application Programmer	ZP-2210-3 (GS 11/12)	\$194,101	50		\$97,051
<b>Contractor Cost for user support, software testing, and application development</b>		—	—	—	\$ 850
<b>Travel</b>					—
<b>Other Costs:</b> Server hosting, software licenses, and Technical Training					\$ 57
<b>TOTAL</b>				—	<b>\$ 541,467</b>

<sup>1</sup> The grade and step are from the Department of Commerce Alternative Personnel System (CAPS) 2024 pay tables (<https://www.commerce.gov/hr/practitioners/caps/pay-administration>). The general schedule grade equivalent for CAPS is included in parentheses.

<sup>2</sup> Salaries based on the capped out salary of an FTE Step 3. Fully loaded salary costs include 52% of the salary to account for benefits and other overhead costs (e.g., \$127,698 \* 1.52 = \$194,101 loaded salary).

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

This collection is revised because this proposed rule (RIN 0648-BM77) would amend logbook recordkeeping and reporting requirements for longline pot gear to add the Bering Sea Greenland turbot fishery. No significant changes were made to the respondents, responses, burden, or costs in this information collection because the directed regulated entities already submit the catcher/processor electronic logbook due to their participation in other fisheries. A minor change made to the burden

because the current burden for this logbook allows for differences in the time and cost needed to complete and submit the logbook. (A small rounding error occurred in ROCIS that displayed a change difference of 1 whole number).

**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.**

The information collected will not be published.

**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 agency plans to display the expiration date for OMB approval of the information collection on all instruments.

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

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