

Vessel Departure Notification Requirements

1. The vessel permit holder of each permitted vessel must notify the Administrator, West Coast Region, or the IATTC contact designated by the Administrator, West Coast Region, at least 5 days in advance of the vessel's departure on a fishing trip to allow for observer placement on every trip. If the vessel permit holder would like to use an IATTC and Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) cross-endorsed observer when fishing in the IATTC Convention Area, the notification must also include a request for the placement of a cross-endorsed observer pursuant to the Memorandum of Cooperation between the IATTC and WCPFC.
2. The vessel permit holder must notify the Administrator, West Coast Region, or the IATTC contact designated by the Administrator, West Coast Region, of any change of vessel operator at least 48 hours prior to departing on a fishing trip. In the case of a change in operator due to an emergency, notification must be made within 72 hours of the change.

Data Release: By using a permit, the permit holder authorizes the release to NMFS and the IATTC of all data collected by observers aboard purse seine vessels during fishing trips under the IATTC observer program or another international observer program approved by the Administrator, West Coast Region. The permit holder must furnish the international observer program with all release forms required to authorize the observer data to be provided to NMFS and the IATTC. Data obtained under such releases will be used for the same purposes as would data collected directly by observers placed by NMFS and will be subject to the same standards of confidentiality.

Mortality and serious injury reports: The Administrator, West Coast Region, will provide to the public periodic status reports summarizing the estimated incidental dolphin mortality and serious injury by U.S. vessels of individual species and stocks.

Public Burden Statement

A Federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, nor shall a person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with an information collection subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 unless the information collection has a currently valid OMB Control Number. The approved OMB Control Number for this information collection is 0648-0387. Without this approval, we could not conduct this information collection. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the information collection. All responses to this information collection are mandatory for U.S. tuna purse seine vessel permit holders pursuant to 50 CFR § 216.24(b)(8)(iv) and the

Marine Mammal Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 1371). The purpose of this notification is to require vessel permit holders to notify the NMFS West Coast Region or designated IATTC contact at least 5 days in advance of departing on a fishing voyage (including requests for cross-endorsed observers or notifications of operator changes) to coordinate observer placement on every trip. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this information collection, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to National Marine Fisheries Service at: Permits Office, West Coast Region, 501 West Ocean Boulevard, Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802, or via email to wcr.permit@noaa.gov.