

Sunk Status Request

Under [50 CFR 300.22\(b\)\(4\)\(iii\)\(D\)](#), when a purse seine tuna vessel sinks, the owner or managing owner must submit a Sunk Status Request to formally update the IATTC Regional Vessel Register. If this request is not filed, the NMFS West Coast Regional Administrator may automatically remove the vessel from the register.

Steps to Complete a Sunk Status Request

1. You must submit the request **within 30 days** of the vessel's sinking to ensure the vessel's status is accurately recorded and to protect associated registry priorities.
2. Prepare a formal statement or document containing your vessel details. The submission must be provided:
 - o The vessel's official name and documentation numbers.
 - o The date, location, and circumstances of the sinking.
 - o The owner or managing owner's business email address (required by NMFS for all active/inactive status modifications).
3. Transmit the details to the NMFS West Coast Region (WCR) Highly Migratory Species branch. Submissions are typically processed by emailing the documentation directly to **WCR.HMS@noaa.gov**.
4. The NMFS West Coast Regional Administrator will review the case details (the review process typically averages around 30 minutes of administrative burden per response) and officially transition the vessel's classification on the register.

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 5 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 purse seine vessel owners or managing owners within 30 days of a vessel's sinking pursuant to 50 CFR § 300.22(b)(4)(iii)(D) and the Tuna Conventions Act (16 U.S.C. 951 *et seq.*). The purpose of this information collection is to allow vessel owners or managing owners to formally notify NMFS when a purse seine vessel has sunk, ensuring the vessel's status is accurately updated on the IATTC Regional Vessel Register and protecting registry priorities. 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: Sustainable Fisheries Division, West Coast Region, 501 West Ocean Boulevard, Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802, or via email to WCR.HMS@noaa.gov.