DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).


Title: Foreign Fishing Vessel Permits, Vessel, and Gear Identification, and Reporting Requirements.

OMB Control Number: 0648–0075.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Request: Regular (extension of a currently approved information collection).

Number of Respondents: 7.

Average Hours per Response:
- For permit applications: One and one half hours for an application for a directed fishery; two hours for a joint venture application, and 45 minutes for a transshipment permit; for fishing activity reporting: 6 minutes for a joint venture report; 30 minutes per day for joint venture record-keeping; and 7.5 minutes per day for record-keeping by transport vessels; for weekly reports, 30 minutes per response; for foreign vessel and gear identification marking: 15 minutes per marking.

Burden Hours: 82.

Needs and Uses: This request is for extension of a currently approved information collection.

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) issues permits, under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.; MSA), to foreign fishing vessels fishing or operating in United States’ (U.S.) waters. MSA and associated regulations at 50 CFR part 600 require that vessels apply for fishing permits, that vessels and certain gear be marked for identification purposes, that observers be embarked on selected vessels, and that permit holders report their fishing effort and catch or, when processing fish under joint ventures, the amount and locations of fish received from U.S. vessels. These requirements apply to all foreign vessels fishing, transshipping, or processing fish in U.S. waters. Information is collected from persons who operate a foreign fishing vessel under MSA authority may be required to submit information for a permit, mark their vessels and gear, or submit information about their fishing activities. To facilitate observer coverage, foreign fishing vessel operators must provide a quarterly schedule of fishing effort and upon request must also provide observers with copies of any required records. For foreign fishing vessels that process fish in internal waters, the information collected varies somewhat from other foreign fishing vessels that participate in a directed fishery or a joint venture operation. In particular, these vessels may not be required to provide a permit application or mark their vessels. The information submitted in applications is used to determine whether permits should be used to authorize directed foreign fishing, participation in joint ventures with U.S. vessels, or transshipments of fish or fish products within U.S. waters. The display of identifying numbers on vessels and gear aid in fishery law enforcement and allows other fishermen to report suspicious activity. Reporting of fishing activities allows monitoring of fish received by foreign vessels.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Frequency: Annually, weekly and on occasion.

Respondent’s Obligation: Required to obtain or retain benefits.

This information collection request may be viewed at reginfo.gov. Follow the instructions to view Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov or fax to (202) 395–5806.


Sarah Brabson,
NOAA PRA Clearance Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648–XF440

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC); Public Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice of a public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold public meetings of the Council and its Committees.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 6 through Thursday, June 8, 2017. For agenda details, see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

**ADDRESSES:** The meetings will be held at: Hilton Norfolk The Main, 100 East Main Street, Norfolk, VA 23510; telephone: (757) 763–6200.

**Council address:** Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 800 N. State Street, Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901; telephone: (302) 674–2331 or on their Web site at: www.mafmc.org.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Christopher M. Moore, Ph.D., Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; telephone: (302) 526–5255.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The following items are on the agenda, though agenda items may be addressed out of order (changes will be noted on the Council’s Web site when possible).

**Agenda**

**Tuesday, June 6, 2017**

SARC Presentation—Surfclam/Ocean Quahog Assessments

Surfclam/Ocean Quahog Specifications

Develop recommendations for 2018—2020 specifications.

Surfclam/Ocean Quahog Excessive Shares Amendment

Approve scoping document.

Lobster Standardized Bycatch Reporting Methodology Framework

Discuss alternatives.

Risk Policy Framework—First Meeting

Review and approve options for potential revision to current MAFMC Risk Policy and ABC Control Rules.

Climate Velocity Over the 21st Century and Its Implications for Fisheries Management in the Northeast U.S.

Review climate-velocity-driven species distribution projections for 2020 through 2100 and identify potential propriety species for adaptation of fisheries management to climate change.

Cooperative Research in the Mid-Atlantic

Review of NEFSC Cooperative Research and response to MAFMC request and the Mid-Atlantic Council approach to collaborative research.

**Wednesday, June 7, 2017**

Mackerel, Squid, Butterfish Committee, Meeting as a Committee of the Whole—Specifications

Review fishery performance and make recommendations for 2018–20 specifications, including butterfish cap.

Shad/River Herring (RH/S) Committee, Meeting as a Committee of the Whole

Review RH/S cap operation and RH/S progress update and make recommendations for RH/S cap amount modification if necessary.

Mackerel, Squid, Butterfish Committee, Meeting as a Committee of the Whole—Squid Amendment

Review alternatives, public comments, and staff recommendations and select preferred alternatives and adopt amendment.

Law Enforcement Reports

NOAA Office of Law Enforcement and the U.S. Coast Guard.

Data Modernization in the Northeast Region

Habitat Update

EFH review progress and Mid-Atlantic fish habitat assessment project.

**Thursday, June 8, 2017**

Business Session

The day will conclude with the SSC Committee Report, the Executive Director’s Report, the Science Report, brief reports from the National Marine Fisheries Service’s GARFO and the Northeast Fisheries Science Center, NOAA’s Office of General Counsel, the ASMFC, the New England and South Atlantic Fishery Council’s liaisons and the Regional Planning Body Report, and discuss any continuing and/or new business.

**Special Accommodations**

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to M. Jan Saunders, (302) 526–5251, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

**Dated:** May 17, 2017.

**Tracey L. Thompson.**

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

**COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS**

**Request for Public Comment on a Commercial Availability Request Under the U.S.-Bahrain Free Trade Agreement**

**AGENCY:** Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA).

**ACTION:** Request for public comments concerning a request for modification of the U.S.-Bahrain Free Trade Agreement (USBFTA) rules of origin for certain knit and woven apparel made from certain knit and woven fabrics.

**SUMMARY:** The Government of the United States received a request from the Government of Bahrain, submitted on March 23, 2017, to initiate consultations under Article 3.2.3 of the USBFTA. The Government of Bahrain is requesting that the United States and Bahrain (“the Parties”) consider revising the rules of origin for certain knit and woven apparel to address availability of supply of certain knit and woven fabrics in the territories of the Parties. The President of the United States may proclaim a modification to the USBFTA rules of origin for textile and apparel products after the United States reaches an agreement with the Government of Bahrain on a modification under Article 3.2.5 of the USBFTA to address issues of availability of supply of fibers, yarns, or fabrics in the territories of the Parties. CITA hereby solicits public comments on this request, in particular with regard to whether certain knit and woven fabrics can be supplied by the U.S. domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted by July 21, 2017 to the Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements, Room 30003, United States Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20230.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Homer Boyer, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482–5156.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Authority:** Section 202(j)(2)(B) of the United States-Bahrain Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act (19 U.S.C. 3805 note) (USBFTA Implementation Act); Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended.

**Background:** Article 3.2.3 of the USBFTA provides that, on the request of either Party, the Parties shall consult to consider whether the rules of origin applicable to a particular textile or apparel good should be revised to address issues of availability of supply...