

other than the Eastern North Pacific Northern Resident stock of killer whale, the number of takes proposed for

authorization would be considered small relative to the relevant stocks' abundances, even in the unlikely

scenario that each estimated taking occurred to a new individual.

TABLE 1—ESTIMATED TAKE OF KILLER WHALES FROM THE SPECIFIED ACTIVITIES

Stock	Level B harassment	SAR abundance	Instances of take as a percentage of population
Eastern North Pacific Alaska Resident	106	1,920	5.5
Eastern North Pacific Gulf of Alaska, Aleutian Islands and Bering Sea Transient		587	18.1
Eastern North Pacific Northern Resident		302	35.1
West Coast Transient		349	30.1

The Eastern North Pacific Northern Resident stock of killer whale occurs from Washington State through part of Southeast Alaska. Movements of killer whales, for both transient and resident stocks, between widely separated geographical areas have been documented; however, given the relatively sheltered location of the project site in Southeast Alaska, it is unlikely that numerous discrete groups of individuals sufficient to exceed one-third of the stock abundance would occur within the immediate vicinity of the project. It is more likely that individual groups that occur in the area would remain for periods of time and potentially be resighted on multiple days. As such, and given that the authorized takes would be allocated among four distinct killer whale stocks, the numbers of individuals taken would likely comprise less than one-third of the best available population abundance estimate of the Eastern North Pacific Northern Resident stock of killer whale.

Finally, a rounding error in the calculation of estimated take by Level B harassment of humpback whales was corrected to 60 takes by Level B harassment, which is a reduction of 1 take from the estimated take of marine mammals in the proposed authorization. This correction led to a reduction in the number of estimated takes of the Hawai'i stock of humpback whales by 1, thus, the authorized take of the Hawai'i stock of humpback whales is 59 takes by Level B harassment.

National Environmental Policy Act

To comply with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and NOAA Administrative Order (NAO) 216–6A, NMFS must review our proposed action (*i.e.*, the issuance of an IHA) with respect to potential impacts on the human environment.

This action is consistent with categories of activities identified in Categorical Exclusion B4 (IHAs with no anticipated serious injury or mortality)

of the Companion Manual for NAO 216–6A, which do not individually or cumulatively have the potential for significant impacts on the quality of the human environment and for which we have not identified any extraordinary circumstances that would preclude this categorical exclusion. Accordingly, NMFS has determined that the issuance of the modification of the IHA continues to qualify to be categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

Endangered Species Act

Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) requires that each Federal agency ensures that any action it authorizes, funds, or carries out is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered or threatened species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated critical habitat. To ensure ESA compliance for the issuance of IHAs, NMFS consults internally whenever we propose to authorize take for endangered or threatened species, in this case with the NMFS Alaska Regional Office.

There are two marine mammal species (Western DPS Steller sea lion and Mexico-North Pacific stock of humpback whale) with confirmed occurrence in the project area that are listed under the ESA. The NMFS Alaska Regional Office Protected Resources Division issued a Biological Opinion on July 28, 2026, under section 7 of the ESA, on the issuance of an IHA modification to the USCG under section 101(a)(5)(D) of the MMPA by the NMFS Permits and Conservation Division. The Biological Opinion concluded that the proposed action is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of Western DPS Steller sea lion or Mexico North Pacific stock of humpback whale, and is not likely to destroy or adversely modify critical habitat for Western DPS Steller sea lion or Mexico North Pacific stock of humpback whale.

Authorization

Accordingly, consistent with the requirements of section 101(a)(5)(D) of the MMPA, NMFS has issued a modified IHA to the USCG for authorization to take marine mammals incidental to construction of a FRC homeporting dock in Sitka.

Dated: August 3, 2026.

Kimberly Damon-Randall,

*Director, Office of Protected Resources,
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; West Coast Region Vessel Monitoring Requirement in the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery

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 5, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments to Adrienne Thomas, NOAA PRA Officer, at NOAA.PRA@noaa.gov. Please reference OMB Control Number 0648–0573 in the subject line of your comments. All comments received are part of the public record and will generally be posted on <https://www.regulations.gov> without change. 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: Karen Palmigiano, West Coast Region (WCR) Permits Specialist, at NOAA WCR, 7600 Sand Point Way NE—Building 1, Seattle, Washington (WA) 98155, (562) 980–4238, or karen.palmigiano@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

This is a request for renewal of the existing reporting requirements of the approved collection of information, *West Coast Region Vessel Monitoring Requirement in the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery (0648–0573)*.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has established large-scale depth-based management areas, referred to as Groundfish Conservation Areas (GCAs), where groundfish fishing is prohibited or restricted. These areas were specifically designed to reduce the catch of species while allowing healthy fisheries to continue in areas and with gears where little incidental catch of overfished species is likely to occur. Because NOAA needs methods to effectively enforce area restrictions, certain commercial fishing vessels are required to install and use a vessel monitoring system (VMS) that automatically position reports every 15 minutes. Exemptions from the reporting requirement are available for inactive vessels or vessels operating outside the monitored area. The vessels are also required to declare what gear will be used. To ensure the integrity of the GCAs and Rockfish Conservation Areas, a pilot VMS program was implemented on January 1, 2004. The pilot program required vessels registered to Pacific Coast groundfish fishery limited entry permits to carry and use VMS transceiver units while fishing off the coasts of Washington, Oregon and California. On January 1, 2007, the VMS program coverage was expanded to include all open access fisheries in addition to the limited entry fisheries.

Finally, in 2010, NMFS expanded the declaration reports to include several more limited entry categories.

II. Method of Collection

The installation/activation reports are available over the internet. Due to the need for the owner's signature, installation reports must be faxed or mailed to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Hourly position reports are automatically sent from VMS transceivers installed aboard vessels. Exemption reports and declaration reports are submitted via a toll-free telephone number.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0648–0573.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Review: Regular submission (extension of a currently approved collection).

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations; individuals or households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 650.

Estimated Time per Response: VMS installation: 4 hours; VMS maintenance: 4 hours; installation, exemption and activation reports: 5 minutes each; and declaration reports: 4 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 929 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$22,877.

Respondent's Obligations: Mandatory.

Legal Authority: NMFS and the Pacific Fisheries Management Council (Council) manage the groundfish fisheries in the exclusive economic zone seaward of California, Oregon, and Washington under the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP). The Council prepared the FMP under the authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA), 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.* Regulations governing U.S. fisheries and implementing the FMP appear at 50 CFR parts 660.

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 information collection request. 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,

Departmental PRA Compliance Officer, Office of the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, Commerce Department.

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COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement List; Deletions

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Deletions from the Procurement List.

SUMMARY: This action deletes product(s) and service(s) from the Procurement List that were furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

DATES: *Date added to and deleted from the Procurement List:* September 6, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, 250 E Street SW, Suite 3100, Washington DC, 20024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information or to submit comments contact: Michael R. Jurkowski, Telephone: (703) 489–1322, or email CMTEFedReg@AbilityOne.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Deletions

On July 2, 2026 (91 FR 40518), the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled published notice of proposed deletions from the Procurement List. This notice is published pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 8503(a)(2) and 41 CFR 51–2.3.