e.g., location and color. Law endorsement personnel rely on this information to assure compliance with fisheries management regulations. Gear that is not properly identified is confiscated. The identifying number on fishing gear is used by NMFS, the U.S. Coast Guard, and other marine agencies in issuing violations, prosecutions, and other enforcement actions. Gear marking helps ensure that a vessel harvests fish only from its own traps/pots/other gear and that traps/pots/other gear are not illegally placed. Gear violations are more readily prosecuted, and this allows for more cost-effective enforcement. Cooperating fishermen also use the number to report placement or occurrence of gear in unauthorized areas. Regulation-compliant fishermen ultimately benefit as unauthorized and illegal fishing is deterred and more burdensome regulations are avoided.

These requirements are currently cleared under OMB Control Number 0648–0305, which dealt with all NOAA gear-marking requirements, but those requirements will now be submitted on a regional basis.

II. Method of Collection

The physical marking of fishing buoys is done by the affected public (fishers in the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery) according to regulation.

III. Data

OMB Number: New Number to be Assigned.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular Submission.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit (fishers in the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery).

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,835.

Estimated Time Per Response: 15 minutes per marking (with an average of 11.20 buoy markings per vessel).

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 5,140.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: $5,140 for materials to make markings (e.g. paint and paintbrush or permanent ink applicator, possibly a stencil; or a commercially available plastic tag that is fastened to the trap/pot).

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: May 12, 1998.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.

[FR Doc. 98–12958 Filed 5–14–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Northwest Region Vessel Identification Requirements; Proposed Collection

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104–13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before July 14, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to William L. Robinson, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115, 206–526–6140.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The success of fisheries management programs depends significantly on regulatory compliance. The vessel identification requirement is essential to facilitate enforcement. The ability to link fishing or other activity to the vessel owner or operator is crucial to enforcement of regulations issued under the authority of the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act to govern domestic and foreign fishing, the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act, and the South Pacific Tuna Act of 1988. A vessel's official number (or international radio call sign—IRCS—if a foreign vessel or if fishing in the South Pacific Tuna Fisheries), under most regulations, is required to be displayed on the port and starboard sides of the deckhouse or hull, and on a weather deck. It identifies each vessel and should be visible at distances at sea and in the air.

Vessels that qualify for particular fisheries are readily identified, gear violations are more readily prosecuted, and this allows for more cost-effective enforcement. Cooperating fishermen also use the number to report suspicious activities that they observe. Regulation-compliant fishermen ultimately benefit as unauthorized and illegal fishing is deterred and more burdensome regulations are avoided.

These requirements are currently cleared under OMB Control Number 0648–0306, which dealt with all NOAA vessel-marking requirements, but those requirements will now be submitted on a regional basis.

II. Method of Collection

Fishing vessel owners physically mark vessel with identification numbers in three locations per vessel.

III. Data

OMB Number: New Number to be Assigned.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular Submission.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit (fishers in the Open Access and Limited Entry Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery).

Estimated Number of Respondents: 2,026.

Estimated Time Per Response: 45 minutes (15 minutes per marking).

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 1,519 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: $60,780 ($30 per vessel).

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information

on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: May 12, 1998.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.

[FR Doc. 98–12959 Filed 5–14–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of the Census

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

DOC has submitted 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).

Agency: Bureau of the Census.

Title: 1999 American Community Survey.

Form Number(s): ACS–1, –1(GQ), –3(GQ), –10, –12(L), –13(L),–14(L), –16(L), –20, –30.

Agency Approval Number: 0607–0810.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Burden: 227,500 hours.

Number of Respondents: 425,000.

Avg Hours Per Response: 32 minutes.

Needs and Uses: The Census Bureau is developing a methodology to produce ''long-form'' data on a continual basis that we traditionally have collected once a decade as part of the decennial census. This methodology is called continuous measurement (CM). Since the Census Bureau collects the long-form data only once every ten years, the data become out of date over the course of the decade. Also, there is an increasing need for data describing lower geographic detail. CM will provide current data throughout the decade for small areas and small subpopulations.

The American Community Survey (ACS) is the data collection vehicle for CM. The Census Bureau began a test and demonstration of the capabilities of the survey collection and processing system in 1995. Four sites around the country were originally selected. This number has increased slightly through 1998 (presently nine sites). The 1999 ACS will be conducted in 45 sites, including the current nine sites. Over the next three years (1999—2001), we will be greatly expanding the number of sites covered and comparing ACS results to those of the long form which will be administered in the Census 2000. This 3-year period will help us to understand the differences between the ACS and the Census 2000 long form. Current plans are to put the ACS fully in place in 2003.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Frequency: One-time.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

Legal Authority: Title 13 USC, Section 182.

OMB Desk Officer: Nancy Kirkendall, (202) 395–7313.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Linda Engelmeier, DOC Forms Clearance Officer, (202) 482–3272, Department of Commerce, room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to Nancy Kirkendall, OMB Desk Officer, room 10201, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: May 12, 1998.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.

[FR Doc. 98–12955 Filed 5–14–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–07–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program: Proposed Findings Document, Environmental Assessment, and Finding of No Significant Impact

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, and The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice of availability of proposed findings document, environmental assessment, and finding of no significant impact on approval of the coastal nonpoint pollution control program for Hawaii.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the availability of the Proposed Findings Document, Environmental Assessment (EA), and Finding of No Significant Impact for the Hawaii Coastal Nonprofit Pollution Control Program (CNPCP). Coastal states and territories were required to submit their coastal nonprofit programs to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for approval in July 1995. The Findings document was prepared by NOAA and EPA to provide the rationale for the agencies' decision to approve the State coastal nonpoint pollution control program

Section 6217 of the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments (CZARA), 16 U.S.C. section 1455b, requires States and territories with coastal zone management programs, approved under section 306 of the Coastal Zone Management Act, to develop and implement coastal nonpoint pollution control programs. These programs shall be developed in close coordination with State and local water quality plans and programs required under the Clean Water Act (CWA) and will provide an update to the State's nonpoint source program. The EA was prepared by NOAA, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) 42 U.S.C. sections 4321 *et seq.*, to assess the environmental impacts associated with the approval of the coastal nonpoint pollution control program submitted to NOAA and EPA by Hawaii.

NOAA and EPA have proposed to approve, with conditions, the coastal nonpoint pollution control program submitted by Hawaii on June 28, 1996. The requirements of 40 CFR Parts 1500–1508 (Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations to implement the National Environmental Policy Act) apply to the preparation of the Environmental Assessment. Specifically, 40 CFR section 1506.6 requires agencies to provide public notice of the availability of environmental documents. This notice is part of NOAA's action to comply with this requirement.

Introduction

Nonprofit source pollution from agriculture, urban development, forestry, wetlands, marinas and recreational boating, and hydromodification is a major cause of water quality impairment nationally and in Hawaii. The State of Hawaii, along with various Federal, State and local agencies, private non-profit groups, private citizens, and landowners are involved in many efforts to reduce and prevent nonpoint source pollution.