

Effective Date: December 9, 1998.

**Morton Schnabel,**

*Director, Office of Export Trading Company Affairs.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**International Trade Administration**

**Participation in Overseas Trade Mission**

**AGENCY:** International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce invites U.S. companies to participate in the following overseas trade mission: Ambassador David Aaron's Oil, Gas, and Petrochemicals Mission the Middle East; Location: Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait; Date: April 17-21, 1999.

Under Secretary for International Trade, Ambassador David Aaron, will lead an oil, gas, and petrochemicals trade mission to Dhahran, Saudi Arabia; Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates; and Kuwait City, Kuwait. The mission will include representatives from U.S. energy companies and energy equipment and service providers interested in entering the Arabian Gulf energy market or in expanding their presence in the region.

Time frame for applications: Applications may be submitted immediately to Joseph Ayoub, Energy Division—Basic Industries, U.S. Department of Commerce, Room H4056, Washington, 20230. Telephone: (202) 482-0313. Facsimile: (202) 482-0170 or 5361. Internet:

Joseph\_Ayoub@ita.doc.gov

All applications must be received by March 17, 1999. Applications received after that date will be considered on a space available basis.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Joseph Ayoub, Department of Commerce Tel: 202-482-0681 Fax: 202-482-0304.

Dated: March 2, 1999.

**Tom Nisbet,**

*Director, Promotion Planning and Support Division Office of Export Promotion Coordination.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[I.D. 030299C]

**Large Pelagics Fishing Survey**

**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, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before May 7, 1999.

**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 Christopher Rogers, Highly Migratory Species Management Division (F/SF1), Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910; (301) 713-2347.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Abstract**

For randomly selected vessels permitted in the Atlantic tunas, billfish, swordfish or shark fisheries, the vessel's owner would be required to respond to telephone and dockside surveys regarding fishing effort directed at, and catch of, Atlantic highly migratory species (HMS). Whether permitted or not, the vessel's owner would be required to make catch of HMS available for inspection and collection of scientific information during dockside intercepts. Other components of the telephone or dockside surveys would be voluntary (e.g., questions addressing social and economic issues). International treaty obligations pertaining to catch monitoring and provision of scientific information for stock assessments for these fisheries require a comprehensive reporting program.

**II. Method of Collection**

The information sought will be collected through computer-assisted

telephone interviews, in-person interviews, and/or mail surveys. For the telephone surveys, respondents will be selected at random from permit lists. For dockside surveys, respondents will be selected at random upon return to the docks after fishing trips. Mail-back surveys will distributed at random during dockside intercepts or by random selection from permit lists.

**III. Data**

*OMB Number:* None

*Form Number:* None

*Type of Review:* Regular submission

*Affected Public:* Individuals, businesses or other for-profit.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 20,000

*Estimated Time Per Response:*

Average response times are estimated at 8 minutes per telephone interview, 5 minutes per dockside intercept with a follow-up telephone call (1.5 minutes each) for validating 10 percent of dockside intercepts, 3 minutes per occurrence for the socio-economic questionnaire as a telephone or dockside add-on, 5 minutes each for independent socio-economic interview of charter/headboat clients, 1 minute per intercept for supplemental biological sampling, and 8 minutes per telephone or on-board interview of selected headboat captains.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 4,085

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* \$0 (no capital expenditures)

**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.