

NOTICE OF OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET ACTION

Diana Hynek
Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer
Office of the Chief Information Officer
14th and Constitution Ave. NW.
Room 6625
Washington, DC 20230

02/22/2006

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, OMB has taken the following action on your request for the extension of approval of an information collection received on 10/26/2005.

TITLE: NMFS Alaska Region Scale & Catch Weighing Requirements

AGENCY FORM NUMBER(S): None

ACTION : APPROVED WITHOUT CHANGE
OMB NO.: 0648-0330
EXPIRATION DATE: 02/28/2009

BURDEN:	RESPONSES	HOURS	COSTS(\$,000)
Previous	17,896	11,716	339
New	23,439	6,904	339
Difference	5,543	-4,812	0
Program Change		0	0
Adjustment		-4,812	0

TERMS OF CLEARANCE: None

OMB Authorizing Official	Title
Donald R. Arbuckle	Deputy Administrator, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT SUBMISSION

Please read the instructions before completing this form. For additional forms or assistance in completing this form, contact your agency's Paperwork Clearance Officer. Send two copies of this form, the collection instrument to be reviewed, the supporting statement, and any additional documentation to: Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Docket Library, Room 10102, 725 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20503.

1. Agency/Subagency originating request	2. OMB control number b. <input type="checkbox"/> None a. _____ - _____
3. Type of information collection (<i>check one</i>) a. <input type="checkbox"/> New Collection b. <input type="checkbox"/> Revision of a currently approved collection c. <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of a currently approved collection d. <input type="checkbox"/> Reinstatement, without change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired e. <input type="checkbox"/> Reinstatement, with change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired f. <input type="checkbox"/> Existing collection in use without an OMB control number For b-f, note Item A2 of Supporting Statement instructions	4. Type of review requested (<i>check one</i>) a. <input type="checkbox"/> Regular submission b. <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency - Approval requested by _____ / _____ / _____ c. <input type="checkbox"/> Delegated
7. Title	5. Small entities Will this information collection have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
8. Agency form number(s) (<i>if applicable</i>)	6. Requested expiration date a. <input type="checkbox"/> Three years from approval date b. <input type="checkbox"/> Other Specify: _____ / _____
9. Keywords	
10. Abstract	
11. Affected public (<i>Mark primary with "P" and all others that apply with "x"</i>) a. ___ Individuals or households d. ___ Farms b. ___ Business or other for-profit e. ___ Federal Government c. ___ Not-for-profit institutions f. ___ State, Local or Tribal Government	12. Obligation to respond (<i>check one</i>) a. <input type="checkbox"/> Voluntary b. <input type="checkbox"/> Required to obtain or retain benefits c. <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory
13. Annual recordkeeping and reporting burden a. Number of respondents _____ b. Total annual responses _____ 1. Percentage of these responses collected electronically _____ % c. Total annual hours requested _____ d. Current OMB inventory _____ e. Difference _____ f. Explanation of difference 1. Program change _____ 2. Adjustment _____	14. Annual reporting and recordkeeping cost burden (<i>in thousands of dollars</i>) a. Total annualized capital/startup costs _____ b. Total annual costs (O&M) _____ c. Total annualized cost requested _____ d. Current OMB inventory _____ e. Difference _____ f. Explanation of difference 1. Program change _____ 2. Adjustment _____
15. Purpose of information collection (<i>Mark primary with "P" and all others that apply with "X"</i>) a. ___ Application for benefits e. ___ Program planning or management b. ___ Program evaluation f. ___ Research c. ___ General purpose statistics g. ___ Regulatory or compliance d. ___ Audit	16. Frequency of recordkeeping or reporting (<i>check all that apply</i>) a. <input type="checkbox"/> Recordkeeping b. <input type="checkbox"/> Third party disclosure c. <input type="checkbox"/> Reporting 1. <input type="checkbox"/> On occasion 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Semi-annually 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Annually 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Biennially 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe) _____
17. Statistical methods Does this information collection employ statistical methods <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	18. Agency Contact (person who can best answer questions regarding the content of this submission) Name: _____ Phone: _____

19. Certification for Paperwork Reduction Act Submissions

On behalf of this Federal Agency, I certify that the collection of information encompassed by this request complies with 5 CFR 1320.9

NOTE: The text of 5 CFR 1320.9, and the related provisions of 5 CFR 1320.8(b)(3), appear at the end of the instructions. *The certification is to be made with reference to those regulatory provisions as set forth in the instructions.*

The following is a summary of the topics, regarding the proposed collection of information, that the certification covers:

- (a) It is necessary for the proper performance of agency functions;
- (b) It avoids unnecessary duplication;
- (c) It reduces burden on small entities;
- (d) It used plain, coherent, and unambiguous terminology that is understandable to respondents;
- (e) Its implementation will be consistent and compatible with current reporting and recordkeeping practices;
- (f) It indicates the retention period for recordkeeping requirements;
- (g) It informs respondents of the information called for under 5 CFR 1320.8(b)(3):
 - (i) Why the information is being collected;
 - (ii) Use of information;
 - (iii) Burden estimate;
 - (iv) Nature of response (voluntary, required for a benefit, mandatory);
 - (v) Nature and extent of confidentiality; and
 - (vi) Need to display currently valid OMB control number;
- (h) It was developed by an office that has planned and allocated resources for the efficient and effective management and use of the information to be collected (see note in Item 19 of instructions);
- (i) It uses effective and efficient statistical survey methodology; and
- (j) It makes appropriate use of information technology.

If you are unable to certify compliance with any of the provisions, identify the item below and explain the reason in Item 18 of the Supporting Statement.

Signature of Senior Official or designee

Date

Agency Certification (signature of Assistant Administrator, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Line Office Chief Information Officer, head of MB staff for L.O.s, or of the Director of a Program or StaffOffice)

Signature

Date

Signature of NOAA Clearance Officer

Signature

Date

SUPPORTING STATEMENT

NMFS ALASKA REGION SCALE & CATCH WEIGHING REQUIREMENTS OMB NO. 0648-0330

INTRODUCTION

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) manages the groundfish fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area (BSAI) and Gulf of Alaska (GOA) under the Fishery Management Plans (FMPs) for groundfish in the respective areas. NMFS manages the crab fisheries in the waters off the coast of Alaska under the Fishery Management Plan for Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Crab. The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) prepared, and NMFS approved, the FMPs under the authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.* Regulations implementing the FMPs appear at 50 CFR part 679 and part 680.

NMFS manages the commercial groundfish harvest off Alaska using an annual total allowable catch for each species based on “round” weight, or the weight of the fish prior to processing. However, much of the fish harvested off Alaska is harvested by catcher/processors that process the catch at-sea. NMFS estimates the total weight of fish harvested by those trawl gear catcher/processors by requiring the vessel to weigh all or part of their catch on a motion-compensated scale. Trawl gear catcher/processors and motherships under the American Fisheries Act (AFA) and motherships under the Western Alaska Community Development Quota Program (CDQ) are required to weigh all catch at-sea. Non-trawl catcher/processors that harvest CDQ are not required to weigh all catch, but are required to weigh samples of catch. The non-AFA, trawl catcher/processors regulated under the annual Groundfish Retention Standard (GRS) are required to use NMFS-approved scales to determine the weight of total catch. Then, calculate the percent of groundfish retained as a specified ratio of the round weight equivalent of total retained groundfish to total groundfish. The participants in the Crab Rationalization (CR) crab fisheries must weigh all crab prior to processing.

This action is a renewal request that combines the scale and catch weighing requirements for AFA, CDQ, GRS, and CR crab participants into one document.

A. JUSTIFICATION

1. Explain the circumstances that make the collection of information necessary.

Scale and catch weighing requirements address performance standards designed to ensure that all catch delivered to the processor is accurately weighed and accounted for. Scale and catch-weighing monitoring is required for CDQ catcher/processors, AFA catcher/processors, AFA motherships, AFA inshore processors (shoreside processors and stationary floating processors),

non-AFA trawl catcher/processors regulated under the annual GRS, and Crab Rationalization (CR) crab catcher/processors and Registered Crab Receivers (RCRs).

2. Explain how, by whom, how frequently, and for what purpose the information will be used. If the information collected will be disseminated to the public or used to support information that will be disseminated to the public, then explain how the collection complies with all applicable Information Quality Guidelines.

NMFS has identified three primary objectives for monitoring catch. First, monitoring must ensure independent verification of catch weight, species composition, and location data for every delivery by a catcher vessel or every pot by a catcher/processor. Second, all catch must be weighed accurately using NMFS-approved scales to determine the weight of total catch. Third, the system must provide a verifiable record of the weight of each delivery. Operators of these vessels must ensure that each haul is observed by a NMFS-approved observer for verification that all fish are weighed. Each vessel is required to provide a single collection point for observers (observer sampling station) to collect samples for the purpose of reducing the potential of sample bias. Observer sampling of each haul is necessary to determine the percentage of the total catch that is comprised of groundfish. To effectively manage fisheries, NMFS must have data that will provide reliable independent estimates of the total catch.

Although the catch management goals established by NMFS are similar for the inshore and offshore sectors, there are important differences between these sectors. First, inshore processors vary more in size, facilities, and layout than do catcher/processors or motherships. Second, the State of Alaska (State) is responsible for approving scales used for trade by inshore processors and has developed an effective program for their inspection and approval.

The catch weighing and monitoring system developed by NMFS for catcher/processors and motherships is based on the vessel meeting a series of design criteria. Because of the wide variations in factory layout for inshore processors, NMFS requires a performance-based catch monitoring system for inshore processors. NMFS has developed the following catch monitoring regulations for each sector.

OFFSHORE PROCESSORS CATCH-WEIGHING & MONITORING SYSTEM

In order to be approved by NMFS, a scale used to weigh catch at sea must meet the type evaluation requirements set forth at § 679.28(b)(1) and the initial inspection and annual reinspection requirements set forth in § 679.28(b)(2). Once a scale is installed on a vessel and approved by NMFS for use to weigh catch at sea, it must be reinspected annually. The scale must be tested daily and meet the maximum permissible error (MPE) requirements described in § 679.28(b)(3).

a. Scale type evaluation (Belt scale, automatic hopper scale, platform scale)

Before an offshore processor may use a scale onboard, the model of scale must be listed by NMFS at http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/cdq/scales.html#Link_4 as a scale eligible to be approved

for weighing catch at sea. Type evaluation and testing must be conducted by a laboratory accredited by the government of the country in which the tests are conducted. Before NMFS can approve a model of scale for use, the manufacturer must submit the scale to a certified laboratory for evaluation and testing to insure that the scale meets international scale standards. Scales must meet the performance and technical requirements specified in appendix A to 50 CFR part 679. The number of hours required to document a scale's characteristics varies, depending on the type of scale and the similarity to models that have already been approved.

A separate application must be completed by the manufacturer or manufacturer's representative for each scale model that is submitted for approval.

Evaluation information identifies and describes the scale, sets forth contact information regarding the manufacturer, and sets forth the results of required type evaluations and testing. This information is collected once for each scale type or model. It is used by NMFS scale-evaluation staff to determine if a model of scale meets the requirements for type approval.

1. Scale type evaluation: Platform and hanging scales

Block I. Information about the scale tested.

This block supplies basic background and contact information so that NMFS can maintain accurate contact records.

- Name, mailing address, telephone number, and fax number of scale manufacturer
- Name, mailing address (if different from manufacturer), telephone and FAX numbers of manufacturer's representative
- Model and serial number of scale submitted for evaluation.

Block II. Information about all scales.

Frequently scale manufacturers produce the same basic scale with different sizes, capacities or model numbers. This block allows the manufacturer to describe a "family" of similar scales so that all can be approved at one time. It also sets out the basic meterological characteristics of the scales.

Provide information about the scale submitted for evaluation at #1. Identify all other models of scales of the same type of scale that will be covered by laboratory evaluation.

- Model designation
- Maximum capacity
- Value of scale divisions
- Number of scale divisions
- Minimum load
- Accuracy class

Block III. Information about the certifying laboratory.

This block gives NMFS information on the independent laboratory that evaluated the scale. The information allows us to contact the lab directly if we need clarification.

- Name of laboratory
- Mailing address, telephone and FAX numbers of laboratory
- Name and Address of Government Agency accrediting laboratory

Block IV. Certification of compliance with NMFS at-sea scale requirements.

This block is to certify that the manufacturer's representative believes the scale or scale component is in compliance with regulations at 50 CFR 679 as indicated in the checklist and test report forms.

- Signature of representative
- Date
- Printed Name of representative

Block V. List of Attachments.

This block is a checklist of attachments intended to help the manufacturer's representative include the correct documentation that NMFS needs to approve the scale.

Written description and diagrams of the scale indicating primary features of the scale, how the scale operates, and how the scale compensates for vessel motion.

Describe the difference between the scale submitted for laboratory evaluation and all other scales for which the laboratory evaluation will apply.

Laboratory test results

List of adjustments included in the audit trail

Other (please list)

Block VI. General Requirements Checklist

This helps the manufacturer's representative to review the requirements for approval and to note any possible problems.

2. Scale type evaluation: Belt scale

Block I. Information about the scale tested.

This block supplies basic background and contact information so that NMFS can maintain accurate contact records.

Name, mailing address, telephone number, and fax number of scale manufacturer

Name, mailing address (if different from manufacturer), telephone and FAX numbers of manufacturer's representative

Model and serial number of scale submitted for evaluation.

Block II. Information about all scales.

Frequently scale manufacturers produce the same basic scale with different sizes, capacities or model numbers. This block allows the manufacturer to describe a "family" of similar scales so that all can be approved at one time. It also sets out the basic meteorological characteristics of the scales.

Provide information about the scale submitted for evaluation at #1. Identify all other models of scales of the same type of scale that will be covered by laboratory evaluation.

Model designation

Maximum capacity

Value of scale divisions

Maximum flow rate, minimum flow rate, minimum totalized load

Belt speed

Weigh length

Maximum capacity

Block III. Information about the certifying laboratory.

This block gives NMFS information on the independent laboratory that evaluated the scale. The information allows us to contact the lab directly if we need clarification.

Name of laboratory

Mailing address, telephone and FAX numbers of laboratory

Name and Address of Government Agency accrediting laboratory

Block IV. Certification of compliance with NMFS at-sea scale requirements.

This block is to certify that the manufacturer's representative believes the scale or scale component is in compliance with regulations at 50 CFR 679 as indicated in the checklist and test report forms.

Signature of manufacturer's representative

Date

Printed Name of manufacturer representative

Block V. List of Attachments.

This block is a checklist of attachments intended to help the manufacturer's representative include the correct documentation that NMFS needs to approve the scale.

Written description and diagrams of the scale indicating primary features of the scale, how the scale operates, and how the scale compensates for vessel motion.

Describe the difference between the scale submitted for laboratory evaluation and all other scales for which the laboratory evaluation will apply.

Laboratory test results

List of adjustments included in the audit trail

Other (please list)

Block VI. General Requirements Checklist – Belt scale.

This helps the manufacturer's representative to review the requirements for approval and to note any possible problems.

3. Scale type evaluation: Automatic hopper scales

A scale manufacturer or their representative may request that NMFS approve a custom built automatic hopper scale under the following conditions:

- The scale electronics are the same as those used in other scales on the Regional Administrator's list of scales eligible for approval;
- Load cells have received Certificates of Conformance from National Type Evaluation Program (NTEP) or International Organization of Legal Metrology (OIML);
- The scale compensates for motion in the same manner as other scales made by that manufacturer which have been listed on the Regional Administrator's list of scales eligible for approval;
- The scale, when installed, meets all of the requirements set forth in paragraph 3 of appendix A to § 679.28, except those requirements set forth in paragraph 3.2.1.1.

Block I. Information about the scale tested.

This block supplies basic background and contact information so that NMFS can maintain accurate contact records.

Name, mailing address, telephone number, and fax number of scale manufacturer

Name, mailing address (if different from manufacturer), telephone and FAX numbers of manufacturer's representative

Model and serial number of scale submitted for evaluation.

Block II. Information about all scales.

Frequently scale manufacturers produce the same basic scale with different sizes, capacities or model numbers. This block allows the manufacturer to describe a "family" of similar scales so that all can be approved at one time. It also sets out the basic meterological characteristics of the scales.

Provide information about the scale submitted for evaluation at #1. Identify all other models of scales of the same type of scale that will be covered by laboratory evaluation.

Model designation

Maximum capacity

Value of scale divisions

Number of scale divisions

Minimum weightment

Minimum totalized load

Block III. Information about the certifying laboratory.

This block gives NMFS information on the independent laboratory that evaluated the scale. The information allows us to contact the lab directly if we need clarification.

Name of laboratory

Mailing address, telephone and FAX numbers of laboratory
 Name and Address of Government Agency accrediting laboratory

Block IV. Certification of compliance with NMFS at-sea scale requirements.

This block is to certify that the manufacturer's representative believes the scale or scale component is in compliance with regulations at 50 CFR 679 as indicated in the checklist and test report forms.

Signature of manufacturer's representative
 Date
 Printed Name of manufacturer representative

Block V. List of Attachments.

This block is a checklist of attachments intended to help the manufacturer's representative include the correct documentation that NMFS needs to approve the scale.

Written description and diagrams of the scale indicating primary features of the scale, how the scale operates, and how the scale compensates for vessel motion.
 Describe the difference between the scale submitted for laboratory evaluation and all other scales for which the laboratory evaluation will apply.
 Laboratory test results
 List of adjustments included in the audit trail
 Other (please list)

Block VI. General Requirements Checklist – Automatic hopper scale.

This helps the manufacturer's representative to review the requirements for approval and to note any possible problems.

Scale Type Evaluation, Respondent	
Number of respondents	1
Total annual responses (1/3)	0.3
Frequency of response = 1	
Responses per respondent = 1	
Total burden hours (70 hr x 0.3)	21 hr
Time per response (420/6 types of scale = 70 hr)	
Time burden, Platform scale, unique model = 80 hr	
Time burden Platform scale, similar to a model that has already been approved = 20 hr	
Time burden, Belt scale, unique model = 190 hr	
Time burden, Belt scale, similar to a model that has already been approved = 30 hr	
Time burden, Automatic hopper scale, unique model = 80 hr	
Time burden, Automatic hopper scale, similar to a model that has already been approved = 20 hr	
Total personnel cost	\$525
Personnel cost per hr = \$25	
Total miscellaneous costs	\$14016
Cost for Scale evaluation by an independent laboratory=10000	
Total capital and startup cost = \$2000	
Miscellaneous supplies (binders, printer paper) =15	
Miscellaneous costs (photocopying, FAX) =1	
Laboratory Testing costs	
(scale model \$10,000 with market life of 5 yr = annual cost of \$2,000/yr)	

Scale Type Evaluation, Federal Government	
Total burden hours review submissions (80 hr) maintain list of approved scales (20 hr)	100 hr
Total Personnel cost Personnel cost = \$25	\$2,500
Total miscellaneous cost	0

b. Scales

Sixteen non-AFA, trawl catcher/processors regulated under the annual Groundfish Retention Standard (GRS) were added to this collection of information in a recent revision. All GRS regulated vessels are required to use NMFS-approved scales to determine the weight of total catch. In addition all vessels must obtain sufficient observer coverage to ensure each haul is observed for verification that all fish are weighed.

NMFS-approved flow scales, Respondent	
Number of respondents (16 – 9) 16 vessels required to have scales 9 already have scales; 7 need to purchase scales	7
Total annual responses	7
Total initial capital costs NMFS-approved flow scale @ \$50,000 ea x 7 = \$350,000 Equipment Installation = \$20,000 to \$100,000 = \$60,000 ea x 7 = \$770,000 Total = \$770,000/3 yr = \$257,000	\$257,000
Total burden hours	0
Total personnel costs	0
Total annual miscellaneous	0

NMFS-approved flow scales, Federal Government	
Total burden hours	0
Total personnel cost	0
Total miscellaneous cost	0

c. Observer sampling station

Each of the new 16 GRS vessels is required to provide a single location for observers to collect samples. Observer sampling of each haul is necessary to determine the percentage of the total catch that is comprised of groundfish. This information is used to estimate total groundfish weight used in the denominator of the GRS calculation.

Observer sampling station, Respondent	
Number of respondents	7
16 vessels required to have observer sampling stations 9 already have; 7 need to purchase observer sampling stations	
Total annual responses	7
Total initial capital costs	\$63000
Observer sampling station equipment \$6,000 to \$12,000 = \$9,000 ea x 7	
Total burden hours	0
Total personnel cost	0
Total miscellaneous costs	0

Observer sampling station, Federal Government	
Total burden hours	0
Total personnel cost	0
Total miscellaneous cost	0

d. Inspection Request At-sea Scales

Once a scale is installed on a vessel and approved by NMFS for use to weigh catch at sea, the scale must be inspected and approved annually by a NMFS-approved scale inspector to determine if the scale meets all of the applicable performance and technical requirements. An inspection is a visual assessment and test of a scale after it is installed on the vessel and while the vessel is tied up at a dock and not under power at sea. A scale will be approved by the inspector if it meets all of the applicable performance and technical requirements in § 679.28(b)(2) and appendix A to §679.28.

The owner or operator annually must submit an inspection request to NMFS for each vessel that is required to have approved scales. The request is used by NMFS-authorized scale inspectors to schedule and conduct a scale inspection on belt scales, automatic hopper scales, and platform scales. Each scale must be inspected and approved before the vessel may participate in any fishery requiring the weighing of catch at sea with an approved scale. A request for a scale inspection must be submitted at least 10 working days in advance of the requested inspection. Scale inspections will be conducted in Dutch Harbor, Alaska, or the Puget Sound area of Washington State. At the time of scale inspection, the scale must be installed in a rigid and level manner; the display and printer must be connected and operational; the belts leading to the scale must be connected and operational (not applicable to platform and hanging scales); test weights and test weight certification documents must be available for inspection (platform scales only); and a crew member must be available to help the inspector transport test materials and conduct the testing

The inspector will check whether the scale is properly installed and that all components of the scale are functioning (printer, display, software). The performance test consists of weighing a known quantity of test material (sand in bags) and making sure that the scale being tested weighs the material accurately. In order to perform this test on a flow scale, NMFS passes the test material across the scale in the same manner that fish would pass across the scale, so infeed belts must be operational before the test can be done.

Inspection Request, At-sea Scales

General

- Company name
- Vessel name
- Mailing address
- Vessel location
- Contact person on board
- Telephone and FAX numbers for contact person
- Requested inspection date
- Today's date
- Telephone number on vessel where inspector may be contacted during inspection

Scales To Be Inspected

- Manufacturer name and model
- Indicate YES or NO whether repair company will be onsite at time of inspection
- Repair company name
- Contact person name and telephone number

Inspection Request, At-sea Scales, Respondent	
Number of respondents 8 crab + 29 AFA, CDQ + 15 GRS	52
Total annual responses Responses per respondent = 1	52
Total burden hours (52 x 0.1 = 5.2) Time per response = 0.1 hr	5
Total personnel cost (5 x \$25) Personnel cost = 25	\$125
Total miscellaneous cost (52 x \$5) Photocopy, FAX or electronic = 5	\$260

Inspection Request, At-sea Scales, Federal Government	
Total burden hours	4 hr
Total personnel cost Personnel cost = 25	\$100
Total miscellaneous cost	0

e. Observer sampling station inspection request form.

Each vessel is required to provide observer sampling stations that meet specifications for size, location, and content. These stations provide a location where observers can work safely and effectively. Each observer sampling station must be inspected and approved by NMFS annually. An observer sampling station inspection request form provides the basic information needed to schedule and conduct an inspection.

Upon approval of the scale, an Observer Platform Scale Inspection Report is completed by the inspector and issued to the operator. This report must be maintained on board the vessel or at the plant when use of the observer sampling station is required and made available to authorized NMFS and USCG personnel.

Observer sampling station inspection request form

Attach a scaled diagram of observer sampling station

Company name

Vessel name

Federal fisheries permit number

Mailing address

Vessel location, including street address, pier, and city

Name, telephone number, and FAX number for contact person on vessel

Requested inspection date

Today's date

Applicant's signature

Indicate YES or NO whether received and passed a scale inspection

If NO, indicate YES or NO whether requesting observer sample station and scale inspections at the same time

Request for Observer station inspection, Respondent	
Number of respondents 8 crab + 29 AFA, CDQ + 15 GRS	52
Total annual responses Responses per respondent = 1	52
Total burden hours Time per response = .17 hr	9 hr
Total personnel cost Personnel cost = 25	\$225
Total miscellaneous cost (52 x \$9) Photocopy, FAX or electronic = 9	\$468

Request for Observer station inspection, Federal Government	
Total burden hours Time per response = 0.11 hr	6 hr
Total personnel cost Personnel cost=25	\$150
Total miscellaneous cost	0

f. Scale inspection report/sticker.

After the vessel owner installs a NMFS-approved scale and has requested a scale inspection, he or she must make the vessel and scale available for inspection by the NMFS-authorized scale inspector. The owner must also:

- Provide a copy of the scale manual supplied by the scale manufacturer to the inspector at the beginning of the inspection.
- Transport test weights, test material, and equipment required to perform the test to and from the inspector's vehicle and the location on the vessel where the scale is installed.
- Apply test weights to the scale or convey test materials across the scale, if requested by the scale inspector.
- Assist the scale inspector in performing the scale inspection and testing.

A scale is approved for use when the scale inspector completes and signs a scale inspection report verifying that the scale meets all of the requirements specified in § 679.28(b)(2) and

appendix A. Annually, one sticker is completed by the NMFS scale inspector for each scale approved. The owner or operator must ensure that a “NMFS approved scale” sticker is on each approved scale and that the scale sticker remains legible. The sticker lists the month and year the scale was approved.

The scale inspector must provide the original inspection report to the vessel owner. The vessel owner or operator must ensure that the scale approval report is available for inspection by authorized personnel (NMFS staff or observers, United States Coast Guard personnel).

The time per respondent response is changed from 6 minutes to 2 hours, because a member of the crew must assist the inspector during the approval process.

At-sea Scale approval report/sticker, Respondent	
Number of respondents 8 crab + 29 AFA, CDQ + 15 GRS	52
Total annual responses	52
Responses per respondent = 1	
Total burden hours (52 x 2)	104 hr
Time per response = 2 hr	
Total personnel cost	\$2600
Personnel cost per hr = \$25	
Total miscellaneous cost	0

At-sea Scale approval report/sticker, Federal Government	
Total burden hours	4 hr
replace lost stickers (2 hr/yr)	
maintain test records (2 hr/yr)	
Total personnel cost	\$100
Personnel cost per hr = \$25	
Total miscellaneous cost	0

g. Application to inspect scales on behalf of NMFS (removed; no longer used)

h. Notification to Observers of scale tests

Each vessel operator must notify the observer 15 minutes before the time that a scale test will be conducted and must conduct the test while the observer is present. This notice consists of vessel personnel verbally informing the observer that a scale test is scheduled.

Notification to Observers of scale tests, Respondent	
Number of respondents 8 crab + 29 AFA, CDQ + 15 GRS	52
Total annual responses (52 x 135)	7020
Frequency of response = 135	
Total burden hours (7020 x 0.03 hr)	211
Hours per response (2 min /60 min= 0.03)	
Total personnel cost (\$25 x 211hr)	5275
Total miscellaneous cost	0

Notification to Observer of scale tests, Federal Government	
Total burden hours	0
Total personnel cost	0
Total miscellaneous cost	0

i. Records of at-sea scale tests

To verify that each scale used to weigh total catch meets the Maximum Permissible Error (MPE) specified in § 679.28(b)(3), the vessel operator must test each scale or scale system used to weigh total catch one time during each 24-hour period when use of the scale is required and that the test is recorded on a test report form. The vessel owner must ensure that these tests are performed and recorded in an accurate and timely manner.

The observer must be notified at least 15 minutes before the time that the test will be conducted, and the test must be conducted while the observer is present.

The daily test information may be recorded on either a “pdf” format file or an “excel” spreadsheet, available from the Alaska Region home page at http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/cdq/scales.html#Link_1. Although not submitted to NMFS, the forms must be available for inspection on board or onsite until the end of the fishing year during which the tests were conducted and retained by the owner for three years after the test occurred.

Information from the form is used by NMFS observers, enforcement staff, and scale program staff to ensure regulatory compliance and to monitor the accuracy of the scales.

1. Records of daily flow scale tests.

vessel name;
month, day, and year of test; and
time test started to the nearest minute

I. Weigh fish on observer platform scale

Collect approximately 400 kg of fish in baskets and weigh it on the platform scale. Record the weight of each basket of fish (basket plus fish)

II. Calculate percent error of flow scale

Record the total weight of all baskets plus fish in the first box

Record the weight of the baskets in the second box.

Subtract the weight of the baskets from the total weight of fish plus baskets to determine the weight of the fish only; record this weight in the third box. This is the platform scale weight of the fish (A).

Record the weight displayed on the flow scale before and after the test fish are weighed.

Weigh the fish from the baskets on the flow scale. Record the weight in the fourth box (B).

Calculate error of flow scale by subtracting the platform scale weight (A) from the flow scale weight (B).

Record the error (C) in the fifth box

Calculate percent error by dividing the error (C) by the known weight of the fish (A) and multiplying by 100.

Record this information in the last box of Section II. When tested, the total catch weighing scale and the observer sampling station scale must agree within 3 percent. If the scale fails the daily test, it may be re-tested at any time. However, it may not be used to weigh fish until it passes the daily test. The scale is weighing within 3 percent error if the result is between -3.0% and +3.0%.

III. Sea Conditions (Beaufort Scale) at Time of Scale Test (Check One)

Record Beaufort Scale sea conditions at time of test.

Signatures of vessel operator and observer.

Records of daily flow scale tests, Respondent	
Number of respondents 29 AFA, CDQ + 15 GRS	44
Total annual responses (44 x 135)	5940
Frequency of response = 135	
Total burden hours (5940 x 0.75)	4455
Time per response (45 min/60 min=0.75)	
Total personnel cost	\$111375
Personnel cost per hr = 25	
Total miscellaneous costs (44 x \$35)	\$1540
Binders, printer paper=35	

Records of daily flow scale tests, Federal Government	
Total burden hours	0 hr
Total personnel cost	\$0
Total miscellaneous cost	0

2. Record of Daily Automatic Hopper Scale Tests.

Vessel name

Vessel operator signature

Date of test

Time test started

Minimum capacity of scale

Test weights

Weight on scale indicator

Error

% Error

Maximum capacity of scale

Test weights

Weight on scale indicator

Error

% Error

Sea conditions (Beaufort scale) at time of scale test

Records of daily automatic hopper scale tests, Respondent	
Number of respondents	8
Total annual responses (8 x 135)	1080
Frequency of response =135	
Total burden hours (1080 x 0.75)	810 hr
Hours per response (45 min/60 min= 0.75)	
Total personnel cost (\$25 x 810)	\$20250
Personnel cost per hr = 25	
Total miscellaneous costs (8 x \$35)	\$280
Binders, printer paper=35	

Records of daily automatic hopper scale tests, Federal Government	
Total burden hours	0 hr
Total personnel cost	\$0
Total miscellaneous costs	0

j. Printed output of scales used to weigh catch at sea

The printed output of scale weights is used by NMFS staff, observers, and NOAA Enforcement personnel to maintain accurate records of catch and to ensure compliance with quotas. The printout also forms the basis of an audit trail for each haul that can be used to resolve inconsistencies in catch reports submitted by the observer and the vessel or processor. These printouts are not submitted to NMFS, but they must be available for inspection on board the vessel or onsite during the fishing year and retained by the vessel or plant owner for three years after the test occurred.

Each scale used to weigh catch must be equipped with a printer. A printout(s) showing the total weight of each delivery must be generated after each delivery has been weighed. Reports must be printed at least once every 24 hours when use of the scale is required. Reports must be printed before any information stored in the scale computer memory is replaced. For vessels using scales only when CDQ fishing, this is between 2 and 60 printouts per year. For catcher/processors and motherships authorized to harvest AFA pollock, this is approximately 200 printouts per year. The required information on the printout is programmed into the scale software, and printing is nearly automatic.

The printouts of the scale weight of each haul, set, or delivery must be made available upon request by the authorized scale inspector at each scale inspection and must also be printed at any time upon request of the observer, the scale inspector, NMFS staff, or an authorized officer at the time printouts are generated and thereafter upon request for the duration of the fishing year.

Printed output from the at-sea scale

- Vessel name
- Federal fisheries permit number
- Haul or set number
- Total weight of the haul or set
- Total cumulative weight of all fish or other material weighed on the scale

Printed output, Respondent	
Number of respondents 8 crab + 29 AFA, CDQ + 15 GRS	52
Total annual responses (52 x 135)	7020
Frequency of response = 135	
Total burden hours (7020 x 0.02)	140 hr
Time per response (1 min/60 min=0.02)	
Total personnel cost	\$3500
Personnel cost per hr = 25	
Total miscellaneous cost (52 x \$35)	\$1820
Binders, paper = \$35	

Printed output, Federal Government	
Total burden hours	0 hr
Total personnel cost	0
Total miscellaneous cost	0

k. Certified bins for volumetric estimates of catch weight (no longer used)

The Regional Administrator declared that the requirement for use of certified bins in the fisheries of the EEZ off the coast of Alaska was replaced with the requirement to use at-sea scales. No fisher currently uses certified bins and the use of certified bins in the future is not anticipated.

l. Notification of observer of offloading schedule for delivery of BSAI pollock.

The plant manager or plant liaison must notify the observer of the offloading schedule for each delivery of BSAI pollock by an AFA catcher vessel at least 1 hour prior to offloading. An observer must monitor each delivery of BSAI pollock from an AFA catcher vessel and be on site the entire time the delivery is being weighed or sorted.

Observer notification, Respondent	
Number of respondents	8
Total annual responses	1,080
Responses per respondent =135	
Total burden hours	86 hr
Time per response (5 min/60 min=0.08)	
Total personnel cost (\$25 x 86)	\$2150
Personnel cost per hr=25	
Total miscellaneous cost	0

Observer notification, Federal Government	
Total burden hours	0
Total personnel cost	0
Total miscellaneous cost	\$0

m. CRAB CATCH MONITORING PLAN (CMP)

The catch monitoring system developed by NMFS for CR crab RCRs is based on the approval of an individually developed performance-based plan. Because of the wide variation among RCRs, NMFS believes a performance-based catch monitoring system is more appropriate for this sector. Under this system, each RCR is required to submit a Catch Monitoring Plan (CMP) to NMFS for approval. The CMP would detail how the RCR would meet NMFS' catch monitoring standards for each location where crab would be received. An RCR that processes only CR crab harvested under a CPO or CPC IFQ permit is not required to prepare a CMP.

CMP Approval.

NMFS will approve a CMP if it meets all the performance standards specified in § 680.23(g)(5). The location or vessel identified in the CMP may be inspected by NMFS prior to approval of the CMP to ensure that the location conforms to the elements addressed in the CMP. If NMFS disapproves a CMP, the plant owner or manager may resubmit a revised CMP or file an administrative appeal as set forth under the administrative appeals procedures described in § 680.43.

CMP Inspection Scheduling.

The time and place of a CMP inspection may be arranged by submitting a written request for an inspection to NMFS, Alaska Region. An inspection must be requested no less than 10 working days before the requested inspection date. NMFS staff will conduct CMP inspections in any port located in the United States that can be reached by regularly scheduled commercial air service.

CMP inspection request

Name and signature of the person submitting the application and the date of the application;

Address, telephone number, facsimile number, and e-mail address (if available) of the person submitting the application; and

A proposed CMP detailing how the RCR will meet each of the NMFS standards.

Approval Period.

NMFS will approve a CMP for 1 year if it meets the performance standards specified in § 680.23(e)(2). An owner or manager must notify NMFS in writing if changes are made in plant operations or layout that do not conform to the CMP.

Changing an Approved CMP.

An RCR may change an approved CMP by submitting a CMP addendum to NMFS. Depending on the nature and magnitude of the change requested, NMFS may require an additional CMP inspection.

CMP addendum

Name and signature of the person submitting the addendum;

Address, telephone number, facsimile number and e-mail address (if available) of the person submitting the addendum; and

A complete description of the proposed CMP change.

CMP standards.

Crab sorting and weighing requirements. All crab, including crab parts and crab that are dead or otherwise unmarketable, delivered to the RCR must be sorted and weighed by species. The CMP must detail how and where crab are sorted and weighed.

Scales used for weighing crab. The CMP must identify by serial number each scale used to weigh crab and describe the rationale for its use.

Scale testing procedures. Scales identified in the CMP must be accurate within the limits specified in § 680.23(f)(4)(i).

Scale testing plan

Describes the procedure the plant will use to test the scale;

Lists the test weights and equipment required to test the scale;

Lists where the test weights and equipment will be stored; and

Lists the names of the personnel responsible for conducting the scale testing.

Printed record. An RCR must ensure that the scale produces a complete and accurate printed record of the weight of each species in a landing. All of the crab in a delivery must be weighed on a scale capable of producing a complete printed record as described in paragraph (e)(3) of this section. A printed record of each landing must be printed before the RCR submits a CR crab landing report (see OMB 0648-0515).

Observation area. Each CMP must designate an observation area. The observation area is a location designated on the CMP where an individual may monitor the offloading and weighing of crab. The observation area must meet the following standards:

Access to the observation area. The observation area must be freely accessible to NMFS staff or NMFS-authorized personnel at any time during the effective period of the CMP.

Monitoring the offloading and weighing of crab. From the observation area, an individual must have an unobstructed view or otherwise be able to monitor the entire offload of crab between the first location where crab are removed from the boat and a location where all sorting has taken place and each species has been weighed.

Other Requirements. The observation area must be sheltered from the weather and not exposed to unreasonable safety hazards.

Plant liaison. The CMP must designate a plant liaison. The plant liaison is responsible for: Orienting new observers to the plant; assisting in the resolution of observer concerns; and informing NMFS if changes must be made to the CMP.

Drawing to scale of delivery location. The CMP must be accompanied by a drawing to scale of the delivery location or vessel showing:

Where and how crab are removed from the delivering vessel;

Observation area;

Location of each scale used to weigh crab; and

Each location where crab is sorted.

Single geographic location. All offload and weighing locations detailed in a CMP must be located on the same vessel or in the same geographic location. If a CMP describes facilities for the offloading of vessels at more than one location, it must be possible to see both locations simultaneously.

NMFS-approved platform scale. The observer work area for sampling retained crab must be provided with a NMFS-approved platform scale located within 5 meters of the work area. Clear and unobstructed passage must be provided between the scale and the observer work area.

The scale must be accompanied by approved test weights sufficient to test the scale at 10, 25, and 50 kg (or 25, 50, and 100 lb if scale is denominated in lb). The scale may be used by vessel crew but must be available to the observer at all times.

Both observer work areas must be protected from extreme weather and unreasonable safety hazards. Vessel crew may use the observer work areas, but the entire area must be available to the observer whenever the observer is working in the area.

Diagram. The vessel owner must prepare a diagram, drawn to scale, showing the location of both observer work areas. The diagram must be retained on board the vessel whenever the vessel is harvesting or processing crab quota.

Crab CMP, Respondent	
Number of RCR respondents	43
Total annual responses	43
Responses per respondent = 1	
Total burden hours (43 x 16)	688 hr
Hours per response = 16	
Total personnel cost (\$25 x 688)	\$17,200
Total miscellaneous cost	\$43
Postage (\$1 x 43)	

Crab CMP, Federal Government	
Total burden hours (16 x 43)	688
Hours per response = 16	
Total personnel cost (\$25 x 688)	\$17,200
Total miscellaneous cost	0

INSHORE PROCESSORS CATCH MONITORING AND CONTROL PLAN (CMCP)

Each inshore processor annually must submit a Catch Monitoring and Control Plan (CMCP) to NMFS for approval. NMFS will inspect each inshore processor to ensure that:

- the plant layout conforms to the elements of the plan;
- the CMCP has been implemented; and
- the performance standards continue to be met.

If changes are made in plant operations or layout during the approval year, the inshore processor must submit a revised CMCP for approval to NMFS.

NMFS anticipates that plant management will work closely with NMFS staff before making any modifications to the plant layout or purchasing equipment. NMFS staff will review draft CMCPs and will pre-inspect inshore processors as requested by plant management.

n. Inspection Request, Inshore CMCP

The time and place of a CMCP inspection may be arranged by submitting a written request for a CMCP inspection. An inspection will be scheduled within 10 working days after NMFS receives a complete application for an inspection.

The costs for submitting the CMCP and CMCP Addendum are included in the miscellaneous costs for the inspection requests.

Inspection Request, Inshore CMCP

- Name and signature of the person submitting the application
- Date of the application;
- Address, telephone number, FAX number, and e-mail address (if available) of the person submitting the application;
- A proposed CMCP (see below)

Inspection Request, Inshore CMCP, Respondent	
Number of respondents	8
Total annual responses	8
Frequency of response = 1	
Total burden hours (0.08 x 8 = 0.64)	1 hr
Time per response (5min/60 min = 0.08)	
Total personnel cost	\$25
Personnel cost	
Total miscellaneous cost (\$13 x 8)	\$104
Photocopying = 5	
Mailing=8	

Inspection Request, Inshore CMCP, Federal Government	
Total burden hours	4 hr/yr
Total personnel cost	\$100
Total miscellaneous cost	0

o. Printed output from the State of Alaska scale

Each scale identified in the CMCP must produce a complete and accurate printed record of the weight in each delivery, or portion of a delivery, weighed on that scale. If approved by NMFS as part of the CMCP, scales that are not designed for automatic bulk weighing may be exempted from part or all of the printed record requirements.

Printed output from the State of Alaska scale

- Processor name
- Weight of each load in the weighing cycle
- Total weight of fish in each delivery, or portion of the delivery that was weighed on that scale
- Total cumulative weight of all fish or other material weighed on the scale since the last annual inspection
- Date and time the information is printed
- Name and ADF&G number of the vessel making the delivery (This information may be written on the scale printout in pen by the scale operator at the time of delivery.)

Printed output, Respondent	
Number of respondents	8
Total annual responses	1080
Frequency of response = 135	
Total burden hours (1080 x 0.02)	22 hr
Time per response (1 min/60 min= 0.02)	
Total personnel cost (25 x 22)	\$550
Personnel cost per hr = 25	
Total miscellaneous cost (8 x 35)	\$280
Binders, paper = 35	

Printed output, Federal Government	
Total burden hours	0 hr
Total personnel cost	0
Total miscellaneous cost	\$0

p. Proposed CMCP

The CMCP is a plan submitted annually by the owner or manager of an inshore processor detailing how the processor will meet each of the performance standards at 50 CFR 679.28(g).

Proposed CMCP

Scale drawing of inshore processor plant

Each CMCP must be accompanied by a scale drawing of the plant showing

- The delivery point
- The observation area
- The observer work station
- The location of each scale used to weigh catch
- Each location where catch is sorted

Catch Sorting and weighing

All groundfish delivered to the plant must be sorted and weighed by species. The CMCP must detail the amount and location of space for sorting catch, the number of staff devoted to catch sorting, the maximum rate that catch will flow through the sorting area.

Scales used for weighing groundfish.

The CMCP must identify by serial number each scale used to weigh groundfish and describe the rationale for its use

Scale testing plan

For each scale identified in the CMCP a testing plan must be developed that:

- Describes the procedure the plant will use to test the scale
- Lists the test weights and equipment required to test the scale
- Lists where the test weights and equipment are stored
- Lists the plant personnel responsible for conducting the scale testing
- Each scale must display a valid State sticker indicating that the scale was inspected and approved within the previous 12 months. The State is the primary authority responsible for approving and testing inshore processor scales. Under State regulations, inshore processors are required to weigh all catch that is being bought or sold on State-approved scales.

If approved by NMFS as part of the CMCP, scales that are not designed for automatic bulk weighing may be exempted from part or all of the printed record requirements.

Request for exemption must include:

- Identification of any scale that cannot produce a complete printed record
- Explain how the processor will use the scale, and
- Explain how the plant intends to produce a complete record of the total weight of each delivery.
- Printouts must be retained and made available to NMFS-authorized personnel including observers

Delivery point

Each CMCP must identify a single delivery point, which is the first location where fish removed from a delivering catcher vessel can be sorted or diverted to more than one location.

- If the catch is pumped from the hold of a catcher vessel or a codend, the delivery point normally is the location the pump first discharges the catch.
- If catch is removed from a vessel by brailing,, the delivery point normally is the bin or belt where the brailer discharges the catch.

Observation area.

Each CMCP must designate an observation area, which is the location where an individual may monitor the flow of fish during a delivery. The observation area must meet the following standards:

- Must be freely accessible to NMFS staff or NMFS-authorized personnel at any time a valid CMCP is required.
- Must be located near the observer work station.
- Must have an unobstructed view or otherwise be able to monitor the entire flow of fish between the delivery point and a location where all sorting has taken place and each species has been weighed

Observer work station

- Must identify and include an observer work station for the exclusive use of NMFS-certified observers.
- Unless otherwise approved by NMFS, the work station must meet the following criteria;
 - Must be located in an area protected from the weather where the observer has access to unsorted catch.
 - Must provide a platform scale of at least 50 kg capacity
 - Must include a workspace at least 4.5 sq m, a table, and a secure and lockable cabinet or locker of at least 0.5 cu m.

Communication with observer

Each CMCP must describe what communication equipment (such as radios, pagers or cellular telephones) is used to facilitate communications within the plant and provide the NMFS-certified observer with the same communications equipment used by plant staff.

Plant liaison

- Each CMCP must designate a plant liaison responsible for
 - Orienting new observers to the plant
 - Assisting in the resolution of observer concerns
 - Informing NMFS if changes must be made to the CMCP

CMCP, Respondent	
Number of respondents	8
Total annual responses	8
Responses per respondent = 1	
Total burden hours	320 hr
Time per response = 40 hr	
Total personnel cost (\$25 x 320)	\$8,000
Personnel cost per hr = 25	
Total miscellaneous cost	0

CMCP, Federal Government

Total burden hours Time per response = 5 hr	40
Total personnel cost	\$1,000
Total miscellaneous cost	0

q. CMCP Addendum

An owner or manager must notify NMFS in writing if changes are made in plant operations or layout that do not conform to the CMCP. An owner and manager may change an approved CMCP by submitting a CMCP addendum to NMFS. NMFS will approve the modified CMCP if it continues to meet the performance standards.

CMCP Addendum

- Name and signature of the person submitting the addendum;
- Address, telephone number, FAX number and email address (if available) of the person submitting the addendum;
- A complete description of the proposed CMCP change.

CMCP Addendum, Respondent	
Number of respondents	4
Total annual responses	4
Responses per respondent	
Total burden hours	32 hr
Time per response = 8 hr	
Total personnel cost (\$25 x 32)	\$800
Personnel cost per hr = 25	
Total miscellaneous cost	0

CMCP Addendum, Federal Government	
Total burden hours	4
Total personnel cost	\$100
Total miscellaneous cost	0

Focused Outreach Campaign

OMB recently requested that NMFS Alaska Region conduct a "focused outreach campaign" to validate burden estimates and elicit suggestions from the regulated community for reducing the burden for three different collections. NMFS; response to that request is twofold: a summary of initial outreach (see Appendix) and detailed response to a focused campaign (see below).

NMFS Alaska Region chose to focus on two fishing associations and two large fishing companies. NMFS requested from those entities that the members and/or operators be provided with this request for information. The four entities chosen were Groundfish Forum, United Fishermen of America, Trident Seafoods Company, and American Seafoods Company.

NMFS message by e-mail stated:

Scale & Catch Weighing Requirements – including record of daily scale tests, printed output of at-sea weight, and monitoring plan, to name a few items in this collection. This collection is identified as OMB 0648-0330 and may be read at <http://www.cio.noaa.gov/itmanagement/0330rsub.pdf>

Could you please help us out by requesting responses from your [_____ membership] or [vessel operators] at their earliest convenience for those items with which they are familiar. Responses may be sent by e-mail, fax, or telephone, to my attention. Responses should be general, by collection, unless they have comments about a specific form or logsheet within a collection. Thanks

1. Do you generally agree with the burden (time) estimates NMFS provides for applications, forms, and other support documentation described in this collection? YES or NO, explain.
2. Could you provide suggestions for reducing the burden of this program? If YES, explain.

NMFS received no responses.

It is anticipated that the information collected will be disseminated to the public or used to support publicly disseminated information. As explained in the following paragraphs, the information gathered has utility. NOAA Fisheries will retain control over the information and safeguard it from improper access, modification, and destruction, consistent with NOAA standards for confidentiality, privacy, and electronic information. See response #10 of this Supporting Statement for more information on confidentiality and privacy. The information collection is designed to yield data that meet all applicable information quality guidelines. Prior to dissemination, the information will be subjected to quality control measures and a pre-dissemination review pursuant to Section 515 of Public Law 106-554.

3. Describe whether, and to what extent, the collection of information involves the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological techniques or other forms of information technology.

The at-sea scale inspection request form and observer sampling station request form can be completed online at <http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/cdq/scales.html> or submitted by FAX.

The required printed output format is programmed into each scale. Complying with NMFS' requirements is either automatic when the scale operator changes memories or requires only invoking the "print" command on the scale display.

The daily scale test form is available as a Microsoft Excel template that can be installed on the vessel's computer if the operator wishes to do so. The daily scale test form also is available on the web page indicated above.

The scale type evaluation package is not available electronically. Because of the complexity of this process, we prefer that an applicant directly contact the program manager so that he can work with them personally on completing the package.

4. Describe efforts to identify duplication.

None of the information collected as part of this information collection duplicates other collections. This information collection is part of a specialized and technical program that is not like any other.

5. If the collection of information involves small businesses or other small entities, describe the methods used to minimize burden.

This collection of information does not impose a significant impact on small entities.

6. Describe the consequences to the Federal program or policy activities if the collection is not conducted or is conducted less frequently.

Without the scale type approval information collections, NMFS would be unable to properly evaluate new models or types of scales as they are developed. This could prevent vessel owners from obtaining a better product. It would also prevent scale manufacturers from having the most recent versions of their scales approved for use.

Without the inspection request forms, NMFS would be unable to coordinate and schedule scale inspections expeditiously.

Without the daily scale test results and the printed output from the scale, NMFS would be unable to effectively audit catch in fisheries requiring use of scales. Without the daily scale testing and printed output frequency, NMFS would not be as confident of the accuracy of the scales. Given that scales are used only in fisheries where there are expectations of highly accurate catch monitoring, this would not be acceptable.

7. Explain any special circumstances that require the collection to be conducted in a manner inconsistent with OMB guidelines.

No special circumstances are associated with this information collection.

8. Provide a copy of the PRA Federal Register notice that solicited public comments on the information collection prior to this submission. Summarize the public comments received in response to that notice and describe the actions taken by the agency in response to those

comments. Describe the efforts to consult with persons outside the agency to obtain their views on the availability of data, frequency of collection, the clarity of instructions and recordkeeping, disclosure, or reporting format (if any), and on the data elements to be recorded, disclosed, or reported.

NMFS published a notice in the Federal Register [70 FR 34089, June 13, 2005](#) soliciting public comments on the information collection. No comments were received.

9. Explain any decisions to provide payments or gifts to respondents, other than remuneration of contractors or grantees.

No plans exist to provide any payment or gift to respondents.

10. Describe any assurance of confidentiality provided to respondents and the basis for assurance in statute, regulation, or agency policy.

The information collected under Magnuson-Stevens Act (16 U.S.C. 1801, *et seq.*) is confidential under section 402(b).

11. Provide additional justification for any questions of a sensitive nature, such as sexual behavior and attitudes, religious beliefs, and other matters that are commonly considered private.

This information collection does not involve information of a sensitive nature.

12. Provide an estimate in hours of the burden of the collection of information.

Total estimated unique respondents: 103 (52 vessels, 8 inshore processors, 43 RCRs), up from 97. Total estimated responses: 23,439, up from 17,896. Total estimated time burden: 6,904 hours, down from 11,716. Total estimated personnel cost: \$172,600, down from \$293,881. Personnel labor costs are estimated to the average wage equivalent to a GS-7 employee in Alaska, including COLA, at \$25 per hour.

13. Provide an estimate of the total annual cost burden to the respondents or record-keepers resulting from the collection (excluding the value of the burden hours in #12 above).

Total estimated miscellaneous costs: \$18,881, up from \$18,697. Total initial, one-time costs: \$320,000.

14. Provide estimates of annualized cost to the Federal government.

Total estimated time burden: 850 hr, down from 993. Total personnel cost: \$21,250, down from \$24,790. No estimated miscellaneous costs.

15. Explain the reasons for any program changes or adjustments reported in Items 13 or 14 of the OMB 83-I.

Adjustments were made to the number of respondents and some burden hours, as shown in the following tables:

NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS			
Element Changed	from	to	Form
respondents	59	44	Records of daily flow scale tests
respondents	6	8	Records of daily automatic hopper scale tests
respondents	59	52	Printed output, at-sea scales
respondents	0	8	Printed output, inshore scales
respondents	2	1	Scale type evaluation
respondents	51	52	Inspection request, at-sea scales
respondents	51	52	Scale approval report/sticker
respondents	45	52	Inspection request, observer station
respondents	1	0	Application to inspect by non-NMFS
respondents	22	52	Notification to observer of scale tests

BURDEN HOURS			
Element Changed	from	to	Form
Time per response	45 min	1 min	Printed output, inshore scales
Time per response	6 min	2 hr	Scale approval report/sticker

The time changes for “Printed output, inshore scales” (-968 hours) and for “Scale approval report/sticker (+99 hours) resulted in a net decrease of 869 burden hours. The decrease in respondents for “Records of daily flow scale tests” resulted in a further decrease of 1519 hours. The additional net savings of 2,424 hours came from several other adjustments to respondent numbers, as listed above.

16. For collections whose results will be published, outline the plans for tabulation and publication.

No plans exist to tabulate the results of this information collection

17. If seeking approval to not display the expiration date for OMB approval of the information collection, explain the reasons why display would be inappropriate.

The expiration date is shown on all forms, except scale printouts and at-sea scale approval sticker. Because of size constraints, the expiration date is not shown on the scale approval sticker; however, the expiration date is shown on the scale approval form that is given to the vessel owner with the sticker

18. Explain each exception to the certification statement identified in Item 19 of the OMB 83-I.

The certification statement is shown on all forms except scale printouts and at-sea scale approval report/sticker. These exceptions are caused by formats that are not conducive to printing this information.

B. COLLECTIONS OF INFORMATION EMPLOYING STATISTICAL METHODS

This collection does not employ statistical methods.

<p>Scale Type Evaluation Platform and Hanging Scales</p>	<p>National Marine Fisheries Service P.O. Box 21668 Juneau, AK 99802-1668 (907) 586-7228 FAX (907) 586-7465</p>
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I. INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCALE TESTED	
Name of Scale Manufacturer:	Name of Manufacturer's Representative:
Mailing Address of Scale Manufacturer:	Mailing Address of Representative, if different:
Model of Scale Submitted for Evaluation:	Telephone Number of Representative:
Serial Number of Scale Submitted for Evaluation:	FAX Number of Representative:

II. INFORMATION ABOUT ALL SCALES						
Provide information about the scale submitted for evaluation at #1. Identify all other models of scales of the same type of scale that will be covered by laboratory evaluation.						
#	Model Designation	Maximum Capacity	Value of Scale Divisions	Number of Scale Divisions	Minimum Load	Accuracy Class
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						

III. INFORMATION ABOUT THE CERTIFYING LABORATORY

Name of Laboratory:	Name and Address of Government Agency Accrediting Laboratory:
Mailing Address of Laboratory:	
Telephone: FAX:	

IV. CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH NMFS AT-SEA SCALE REQUIREMENTS

I certify that I have examined the scale or scale component described above and found it to be in compliance with the performance and technical requirements in 50 CFR 679 (§679.28(b)(3) and Appendix A) as indicated in the attached checklist and test report forms.

Signature of Manufacturer's Representative:	Date
Printed Name of Manufacturer Representative:	

V. LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

- A. Written description and diagrams of the scale indicating primary features of the scale, how the scale operates, and how the scale compensates for vessel motion.
- B. Describe the difference between the scale submitted for laboratory evaluation and all other scales for which the laboratory evaluation will apply.
- C. Laboratory test results
- D. List of adjustments included in the audit trail
- D. Other (please list)

VI. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST--PLATFORM OR HANGING SCALE

Appendix A reference	Title	+	-	Remarks
4.3.1.1	General: Indicators and Printers			
4.3.1.2	Values Defined			
4.3.1.3	Units			
4.3.1.4	Value of the Scale Division			
4.3.1.5	Printed Information			
4.3.1.6	Permanence of Markings			
4.3.1.7	Power Loss			
4.3.1.8(a)	Security Means			
4.3.1.8(b)	Audit Trail			
4.3.1.9	Zero-load Adjustment			
4.3.1.9.1	Manual			
4.3.1.9.2	Semi-automatic			
4.3.1.10	Damping Means			
4.3.2.1	Overload Protection			
4.3.2.2	Adjustable Components			
4.3.2.3	Motion Compensation			
4.3.4	Marking			
4.3.4.1	Presentation			

PUBLIC REPORTING BURDEN STATEMENT

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 80 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to Sue Salveson, Assistant Regional Administrator, Sustainable Fisheries Division, Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802 (Attn: Lori Durall).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Before completing this form please note the following: 1) NMFS cannot conduct or sponsor this information request, and you are not required to respond to this information request, unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number; 2) this information is being used to manage the At-Sea Scales Program; 3) Federal law and regulations require and authorize NMFS to manage commercial fishing effort; 4) Submission of this information is required for scales approved by NMFS to weigh catch at sea; 5) Responses to this information request are not confidential.

Instructions

Scale Type Evaluation PLATFORM & HANGING SCALES

Block I. Information about the scale tested .

This block supplies basic background and contact information so that NMFS can maintain accurate contact records.

Name and mailing address of scale manufacturer
Name, mailing address (if different from manufacturer), telephone and FAX number of manufacturer's representative
Model and serial number of scale submitted for evaluation.

Block II. Information about all scales.

More than one model of scale may be evaluated at the same time. However, the models may differ from the model submitted for evaluation only in the elements of the scale that perform motion compensation, the size or capacity of the scale, and the software used by the scale. If other elements differ, a separate application must be completed.

Model Designation: Enter the model name or number that will be visible to the scale inspector and will allow him to clearly determine that the scale he is inspecting is on the list of approved scales.

Maximum capacity: Report in kilograms.

Value of scale divisions: Enter the smallest division displayed by the scale.

Number of scale divisions: Is the maximum capacity divided by the value of scale divisions.

Minimum Load: As designated by the manufacturer, enter 20d for a Class III scale or enter 10d for a Class IIII scale.

Accuracy Class: As designated by the manufacturer, enter accuracy class III and class IIII.

Block III. Information about the certifying laboratory

Information about the laboratory which performed the laboratory evaluation and type testing. The laboratory must be accredited by the government of the country in which testing was conducted.

Name of laboratory
Mailing address, telephone and FAX of laboratory

Name and address of government agency accrediting the laboratory

Block IV. Certification of compliance

This block is to certify that the manufacturer's representative believes the scale or scale component is in compliance with regulations at 50 CFR 679 as indicated in the checklist and test report forms.

Signature and printed name of representative. Enter name and signature of person responsible for evaluation of the scale

Date of signature

Block V. List of attachments

This block is a checklist of attachments intended to help the manufacturer's representative include the correct documentation that NMFS needs to approve the scale. The information provided must be sufficient to allow NMFS to judge whether the scale is appropriate for its intended use on a vessel at-sea. Requirements for motion compensation are specifically described in Appendix A, section 2.3.2.6.

Each scale listed in Block II must be described.

Written description and diagrams of the scale indicating primary features of the scale, how the scale operates, and how the scale compensates for vessel motion.

Describe the difference between the scale submitted for laboratory evaluation and all other scales for which the laboratory evaluation will apply.

Laboratory test results. Verification of test results that a scale meets the laboratory evaluation and testing requirements in appendix A to 50 CFR part 679 and each of the influence quantity and disturbance tests as specified in the annex to appendix A that:

Led to an International Organization of Legal Metrology (OIML) certificate of conformance or

Demonstrates that the scale meets all test requirements in Appendix A or the annex to Appendix A of 50 CFR 679.28. An National Type Evaluation Program (NTEP) certificate will be accepted only for the specific influence factor tests which were conducted to receive the NTEP certificate additional information must be submitted to verify compliance with the laboratory tests that are not performed under the NTEP.


List of adjustments. Enter a list of types of scale adjustments that will be recorded on the audit trail, including the name of the adjustment as it will appear on the audit trail, and a written description of the adjustment. An audit trail in the form of an event logger must be provided to document changes made using adjustable components.

Other.

This should include any supporting information that will assist NMFS in determining if the scale meets the performance and technical standards.

Block VI. General Requirements checklist

This checklist is provided for your own convenience and does not need to be submitted to NMFS. Each item on this list is required before a scale may be approved by NMFS. For each item on the checklist, there is a reference to a paragraph of Appendix A to 50 CFR 679.28 (attached). If the scale being evaluated meets that criterion, place a mark in the plus column. If a scale does not meet the criterion, or you are not certain whether it meets the criterion, place a mark in the minus column.

<p>Scale Type Evaluation Belt scale</p>	<p>National Marine Fisheries Service P.O. Box 21668 Juneau, AK 99802-1668 (907) 586-7228 FAX (907) 586-7465</p>	
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I. INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCALE TESTED	
Name of Scale Manufacturer:	Name of Manufacturer's Representative:
Mailing Address of Scale Manufacturer:	Mailing Address of Representative, if different:
Model of Scale Submitted for Evaluation:	Telephone Number of Representative:
Serial Number of Scale Submitted for Evaluation:	FAX Number of Representative:

II. INFORMATION ABOUT ALL SCALES								
Provide information about the scale submitted for evaluation at #1. Identify all other models of scales of the same type of scale that will be covered by laboratory evaluation.								
#	Model Designation	Value of Scale Divisions	Max. Flow Rate	Min. Flow Rate	Min. Totalized Load	Belt Speed	Weigh Length	Max. Capacity
1								
2								
3								
4								
5								
6								
7								
8								
9								

III. INFORMATION ABOUT THE CERTIFYING LABORATORY

Name of Laboratory:	Name and Address of Government Agency Accrediting Laboratory:
Mailing Address of Laboratory:	
Telephone: FAX:	

IV. CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH NMFS AT-SEA SCALE REQUIREMENTS

I certify that I have examined the scale or scale component described above and found it to be in compliance with the performance and technical requirements in 50 CFR 679 (§679.28(b)(2) and Appendix A) as indicated in the attached checklist and test report forms.

Signature of Manufacturer's Representative:	Date
Printed Name of Manufacturer Representative:	

V. LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

- A. Written description and diagrams of the scale indicating primary features of the scale, how the scale operates, and how the scale compensates for vessel motion.
- B. Describe the difference between the scale submitted for laboratory evaluation and all other scales for which the laboratory evaluation will apply.
- C. Laboratory test results
- D. List of adjustments included in the audit trail
- E. Other (please list)

VI. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST--BELT SCALE

Appendix A reference	Title	+	-	Remarks
2.3.1.1	Indicators and Printers: General			
2.3.1.2	Values Defined			
2.3.1.3	Units			
2.3.1.4	Value of the Scale Division			
2.3.1.5	Range of Indication			
2.3.1.6	Resettable and non-resettable values			
2.3.1.7	Rate of Flow Indicator			
2.3.1.8	Printed Information			
2.3.1.9	Permanence of Markings			
2.3.1.10	Power Loss			
2.3.1.11	Adjustable Components			
2.3.1.12	Audit Trail			Written description must be attached
2.3.2.1	Speed Measurement			
2.3.2.2	Conveyor Belt			
2.3.2.3	Overload Protection			
2.3.2.4	Speed Control			
2.3.2.5	Adjustable Components			
2.3.2.6	Motion Compensation			Written description must be attached
2.3.4	Marking			
2.3.4.1	Presentation			

PUBLIC REPORTING BURDEN STATEMENT

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 190 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to Sue Salvesson, Assistant Regional Administrator, Sustainable Fisheries Division, Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802 (Attn: Lori Durall).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Before completing this form please note the following: 1) NMFS cannot conduct or sponsor this information request, and you are not required to respond to this information request, unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number; 2) this information is being used to manage the At-Sea Scales Program; 3) Federal law and regulations require and authorize NMFS to manage commercial fishing effort; 4) Submission of this information is required for scales approved by NMFS to weigh catch at sea; 5) Responses to this information request are confidential under section 402(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act (16 U.S.C.1801, *et seq.*).

Instructions

Scale Type Evaluation BELT SCALE

Block I. Information about the scale tested.

This block supplies basic background and contact information so that NMFS can maintain accurate contact records.

Name and mailing address of scale manufacturer
Name, mailing address (if different from manufacturer), telephone and FAX number of manufacturer's representative
Model and serial number of scale submitted for evaluation.

Block II. Information about all scales.

More than one model of scale may be evaluated at the same time. However, the models may differ from the model submitted for evaluation only in the elements of the scale that perform motion compensation, the size or capacity of the scale, and the software used by the scale. If other elements differ, a separate application must be completed.

Model Designation: Enter the model name or number that will be visible to the scale inspector and will allow him to clearly determine that the scale he is inspecting is on the list of approved scales.

Value of Scale Divisions: Enter the smallest division displayed by the scale.

Maximum Flow Rate: Report in metric tons per hour or kilograms per hour.

Minimum Flow Rate: Report in metric tons per hour or kilograms per hour. This must not be greater than 35 percent of the maximum flow rate.

Minimum Totalized Load: Report in kilograms per hour.

Belt Speed: Report in meters per hour. This is the speed at which the belt travels when the scale is at its maximum flow rate.

Weigh Length: Enter either the length of the weighing plate or the distance between the two imaginary lines at the half distance between the axes of the end weighing rollers and the axes of the nearest carrying rollers. When there is only one weighing roller, the weigh length is equal to half the distance between the axes of the nearest carrying rollers on either side of the weighing roller.

Maximum capacity: Report in kilograms.

Block III. Information about the certifying laboratory

Information about the laboratory which performed the laboratory evaluation and type testing. The laboratory must be accredited by the government of the country in which tests were conducted.

Name of laboratory
Mailing address, telephone and FAX of laboratory

Name and address of government agency accrediting the laboratory

Block IV. Certification of compliance

This block is to certify that the manufacturer's representative believes the scale or scale component is in compliance with regulations at 50 CFR 679 as indicated in the checklist and test report forms.

Signature and printed name of representative. Enter name and signature of person responsible
for evaluation of the scale
Date of signature

Block V. List of attachments

This block is a checklist of attachments intended to help the manufacturer's representative include the correct documentation that NMFS needs to approve the scale. The information provided must be sufficient to allow NMFS to judge whether the scale is appropriate for its intended use on a vessel at-sea. Requirements for motion compensation are specifically described in Appendix A, section 2.3.2.6.

Each scale listed in Block II must be described.

Written description and diagrams of the scale indicating primary features of the scale, how the scale operates, and how the scale compensates for vessel motion.

Describe the difference between the scale submitted for laboratory evaluation and all other scales for which the laboratory evaluation will apply.

Laboratory test results: Verification of test results that a scale meets the laboratory evaluation and testing requirements in appendix A to 50 CFR part 679 and each of the influence quantity and disturbance tests as specified in the annex to appendix A that:

Led to an International Organization of Legal Metrology (OIML) certificate of conformance or

Demonstrates that the scale meets all test requirements in Appendix A or the annex to Appendix A of 50 CFR 679.28. An National Type Evaluation Program (NTEP) certificate will be accepted only for the specific influence factor tests which were conducted to receive the NTEP certificate additional information must be submitted to verify compliance with the laboratory tests that are not performed under the NTEP.

List of adjustments. Enter a list of types of scale adjustments that will be recorded on the audit trail, including the name of the adjustment as it will appear on the audit trail, and a written description of the adjustment. An audit trail in the form of an event logger must be provided to document changes made using adjustable components.

Other.

This should include any supporting information that will assist NMFS to determine if the scale meets the performance and technical standards.

Block VI. General Requirements checklist

This checklist is provided for your own convenience and does not need to be submitted to NMFS. Each item on this list is required before a scale may be approved by NMFS. For each item on the checklist, there is a reference to a paragraph of Appendix A to 50 CFR 679.28 (attached). If the scale being evaluated meets that criterion, place a mark in the plus column. If a scale does not meet the criterion, or you are not certain whether it meets the criterion, place a mark in the minus column.

<p>Scale Type Evaluation Automatic Hopper Scales</p>	<p>National Marine Fisheries Service P.O. Box 21668 Juneau, AK 99802-1668 (907) 586-7228 FAX (907) 586-7465</p>
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I. INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCALE TESTED	
Name of Scale Manufacturer:	Name of Manufacturer's Representative:
Mailing Address of Scale Manufacturer:	Mailing Address of Representative, if different:
Model of Scale Submitted for Evaluation:	Telephone Number of Representative:
Serial Number of Scale Submitted for Evaluation:	FAX Number of Representative:

II. INFORMATION ABOUT ALL SCALES						
Provide information about the scale submitted for evaluation at #1. Identify all other models of scales of the same type of scale that will be covered by laboratory evaluation.						
#	Model Designation	Maximum Capacity	Value of Scale Divisions	Number of Scale Divisions	Minimum Weight	Minimum Totalized Load
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						

III. INFORMATION ABOUT THE CERTIFYING LABORATORY

Name of Laboratory:	Name and Address of Government Agency Accrediting Laboratory:
Mailing Address of Laboratory:	
Telephone: Fax:	

IV. CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH NMFS AT-SEA SCALE REQUIREMENTS

I certify that I have examined the scale or scale component described above and found it to be in compliance with the performance and technical requirements in 50 CFR 679 (§679.28(b)(3) and Appendix A) as indicated in the attached checklist and test report forms.

Signature of Manufacturer's Representative:	Date
Printed Name of Manufacturer Representative:	

V. LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

- A. Written description and diagrams of the scale indicating primary features of the scale, how the scale operates, and how the scale compensates for vessel motion.
- B. Describe the difference between the scale submitted for laboratory evaluation and all other scales for which the laboratory evaluation will apply.
- C. Laboratory test results
- D. List of adjustments included in the audit trail
- D. Other (please list)

VI. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST--AUTOMATIC HOPPER SCALE				
Appendix A reference	Title	+	-	Remarks
3.3.1.1	General: Indicators and Printers			
3.3.1.2	Values Defined			
3.3.1.3	Units			
3.3.1.4	Value of the Scale Division			
3.3.1.5	Weighing Sequence			
3.3.1.6	Printing Sequence			
3.3.1.7	Printed Information			
3.3.1.8	Permanence of Markings			
3.3.1.9	Range of Indication			
3.3.1.10	Non-Resettable Values			
3.1.1.11	Power Loss			
3.3.1.12	Adjustable Components			
3.3.1.13	Audit Trail			
3.3.1.14.1	Manual Zero Load Adjustment			
3.3.1.14.2	Semi-automatic Zero Load Adjustment			
3.3.1.15	Damping Means			
3.3.1.16	Adjustments to Scale Weights			
3.3.2	Interlocks and Gate Control			
3.3.3	Overfill Sensor			
3.3.4.1	Overload Protection			
3.3.4.2	Adjustable Components			
3.3.4.3	Motion Compensation			
3.3.6	Marking			
3.3.6.1	Presentation			

PUBLIC REPORTING BURDEN STATEMENT
<p>Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 80 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to Sue Salveson, Assistant Regional Administrator, Sustainable Fisheries Division, Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802 (Attn: Lori Durall).</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</p> <p>Before completing this form please note the following: 1) NMFS cannot conduct or sponsor this information request, and you are not required to respond to this information request, unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number; 2) this information is being used to manage the At-Sea Scales Program; 3) Federal law and regulations require and authorize NMFS to manage commercial fishing effort; 4) Submission of this information is required for scales approved by NMFS to weigh catch at sea; 5) Responses to this information request are confidential under section 402(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act (16 U.S.C.1801, <i>et seq.</i>).</p>

Instructions

Scale Type Evaluation AUTOMATIC HOPPER SCALES

Block I. Information about the scale tested .

This block supplies basic background and contact information so that NMFS can maintain accurate contact records.

Name and mailing address of scale manufacturer
Name, mailing address (if different from manufacturer), telephone and FAX number
of manufacturer's representative
Model and serial number of scale submitted for evaluation.

Block II. Information about all scales.

More than one model of scale may be evaluated at the same time. However, the models may differ from the model submitted for evaluation only in the elements of the scale that perform motion compensation, the size or capacity of the scale, and the software used by the scale. If other elements differ, a separate application must be completed.

Model Designation: Enter the model name or number that will be visible to the scale inspector and will allow him to clearly determine that the scale he is inspecting is on the list of approved scales.

Maximum capacity: Report in kilograms.

Value of scale divisions: Enter the smallest division displayed by the scale.

Number of scale divisions: Is the maximum capacity divided by the value of scale divisions.

Minimum Weighment: This must not be less than 20 percent of the maximum capacity or less than 100 scale intervals (except the final weighment of a lot).

Minimum Totalized Load: This may not be less than 4 weighments, and should be reported in kilograms.

Block III. Information about the certifying laboratory

Information about the laboratory which performed the laboratory evaluation and type testing. The laboratory must be accredited by the government of the country in which testing was conducted.

Name of laboratory
Mailing address, telephone and FAX of laboratory
Name and Address of Government Agency accrediting the laboratory

Block IV. Certification of compliance

This block is to certify that the manufacturer's representative believes the scale or scale component is in compliance with regulations at 50 CFR 679 as indicated in the checklist and test report forms.

Signature and printed name of representative. Enter name and signature of person responsible for evaluation of the scale

Date of signature

Block V. List of attachments

This block is a checklist of attachments intended to help the manufacturer's representative include the correct documentation that NMFS needs to approve the scale. The information provided must be sufficient to allow NMFS to judge whether the scale is appropriate for its intended use on a vessel at-sea. Requirements for motion compensation are specifically described in Appendix A, section 2.3.2.6.

Each scale listed in Block II must be described.

Written description and diagrams of the scale indicating primary features of the scale, how the scale operates, and how the scale compensates for vessel motion.

Describe the difference between the scale submitted for laboratory evaluation and all other scales for which the laboratory evaluation will apply.

Laboratory test results: Verification of test results that a scale meets the laboratory evaluation and testing requirements in appendix A to 50 CFR part 679 and each of the influence quantity and disturbance tests as specified in the annex to appendix A that:

Led to an International Organization of Legal Metrology (OIML) certificate of conformance or

Demonstrates that the scale meets all test requirements in Appendix A or the annex to Appendix A of 50 CFR 679.28. An National Type Evaluation Program (NTEP) certificate will be accepted only for the specific influence factor tests which were conducted to receive the NTEP certificate additional information must be submitted to verify compliance with the laboratory tests that are not performed under the NTEP.

List of adjustments. Enter a list of types of scale adjustments that will be recorded on the audit trail, including the name of the adjustment as it will appear on the audit trail, and a written description of the adjustment. An audit trail in the form of an event logger must be provided to document changes made using adjustable components.

Other.

This should include any supporting information that will assist NMFS in determining if the scale meets the performance and technical standards.

Block VI. General Requirements checklist

This checklist is provided for your own convenience and does not need to be submitted to NMFS. Each item on this list is required before a scale may be approved by NMFS. For each item on the checklist, there is a reference to a paragraph of Appendix A to 50 CFR 679.28 (attached). If the scale being evaluated meets that criterion, place a mark in the plus column. If a scale does not meet the criterion, or you are not certain whether it meets the criterion, place a mark in the minus column.

Record of Daily Flow Scale Tests

Vessel Name: _____

Date: _____ Time test started: _____

I. Weigh Fish on Observer Platform Scale Basket

Basket #	Wt Fish + # Basket (kg)	Basket #	Wt Fish + # Basket (kg)	Basket #	Wt Fish + # Basket (kg)	Basket #	Wt Fish + # Basket (kg)	
1		8		15		21		
2		9		16		22		
3		10		17		23		
4		11		18		24		
5		12		19		25		
6		13		20		26		
7		14	Total weight all fish + baskets					

II. Calculate Percent Error of Flow Scale

Scale Indicator: _____ Begin Test: _____ kg

End Test: _____ kg

Total weight fish and baskets (kg)	- Weight of Baskets	= Platform scale weight of fish	Weight of Fish on Flow Scale (kg)	Error (B) - (A)	% Error = (C) ÷ (A) x 100
		(A)	(B)	(C)	

III. Sea Conditions (Beaufort Scale) at Time of Scale Test (Check One):

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Signature of vessel operator
I observed this test and to the best of my knowledge it was conducted in accordance with 50 CFR 679.28 (b)(3)
Signature of observer

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Collect approximately 400 kg of fish in baskets and weigh the baskets of fish on the platform scale.
Record the weight of each basket of fish (basket plus fish) in Section I.
2. Record the total weight of all baskets plus fish in the first box in Section II.
3. Record the weight of the baskets in the second box. Subtract the weight of the baskets from the total weight of fish plus baskets to determine the weight of the fish only, record this weight in the third box in Section II. This is the platform scale weight of the fish (A).
4. Record the weight displayed on the flow scale before and after the test fish are weighed.
5. Weigh the fish from the baskets on the flow scale. Record the weight in the fourth box of Section II (B).
6. Calculate error of flow scale by subtracting the platform scale weight (A) from the flow scale weight (B). Record the error (C) in the fifth box of Section II.
7. Calculate percent error by dividing the error (C) by the known weight of the fish (A) and multiplying by 100. Record this information in the last box of Section II. The scale is weighing within 3 percent error if the result is between -3.0% and +3.0%.
8. Record Beaufort Scale sea conditions at time of test.
9. Have form signed by vessel operator and observer.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- A daily scale test must be conducted once every 24 hours when the scale is being used to weigh catch at-sea.
- If the scale fails the daily test, it may be re-tested at any time. However, it may not be used to weigh fish until it passes the daily test.
- This form must be maintained on board the vessel until the end of the fishing year in which it was completed. It must be retained by the vessel owner for three years, and must be made available to NMFS personnel, observers or authorized officers when requested.

- Questions or comments concerning this form or the daily test can be directed to:
Alan Kinsolving Scales Program Coordinator
National Marine Fisheries Service
P.O. Box 21668
Juneau, AK 99801

Phone: (907)-586-7237

Fax: (907)-586-7465

Email alan.kinsolving@noaa.gov

PUBLIC REPORTING BURDEN STATEMENT

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 45 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to Sue Salveson, Assistant Regional Administrator, Sustainable Fisheries Division, Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802 (Attn: Lori Durall).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Before completing this form please note the following: 1) NMFS cannot conduct or sponsor this information request, and you are not required to respond to this information request, unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number; 2) this information is being used to manage the At-Sea Scales Program; 3) Federal law and regulations require and authorize NMFS to manage commercial fishing effort; 4) Submission of this information is required for scales approved by NMFS to weigh catch at sea; 5) Responses to this information request are not confidential except as required under the Privacy Act.

Automatic Hopper Scale Record of Daily Scale Tests

Vessel Name: _____

Vessel Operator Signature: _____

Date:				Time Test Started:								
Minimum Capacity of Scale				Maximum Capacity of Scale								
Test Weights	Weight on Scale Indicator	Error (B) – (A)	% Error = (C) / (A) x 100	Test Weights	Weight on Scale Indicator	Error (B) – (A)	% Error = (C) / (A) x 100					
(A)	(B)	(C)		(A)	(B)	(C)						
Sea Conditions (Beaufort Scale) at Time of Scale Test (Circle One):												
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

Date:				Time Test Started:								
Minimum Capacity of Scale				Maximum Capacity of Scale								
Test Weights	Weight on Scale Indicator	Error (B) – (A)	% Error = (C) / (A) x 100	Test Weights	Weight on Scale Indicator	Error (B) – (A)	% Error = (C) / (A) x 100					
(A)	(B)	(C)		(A)	(B)	(C)						
Sea Conditions (Beaufort Scale) at Time of Scale Test (Circle One):												
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

Date:				Time Test Started:								
Minimum Capacity of Scale				Maximum Capacity of Scale								
Test Weights	Weight on Scale Indicator	Error (B) – (A)	% Error = (C) / (A) x 100	Test Weights	Weight on Scale Indicator	Error (B) – (A)	% Error = (C) / (A) x 100					
(A)	(B)	(C)		(A)	(B)	(C)						
Sea Conditions (Beaufort Scale) at Time of Scale Test (Circle One):												
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Record the date and time the scale test is started. Multiple days are provided on one page.
2. Record the weight of test weights equal to the minimum capacity of the scale (A).
3. Record the weight displayed on the scale indicator after the test weights are added to the bottom of the scale (B).
4. Calculate error of the scale by subtracting the weight of test weights (A) from the weight indicated on the scale (B). Record the error (C).
5. Calculate percent error by dividing the error (C) by the known weight (A) and multiplying by 100. Record this information in the last box. The scale is weighing within 2 percent error if the result is between -2.0% and +2.0%.
6. Repeat steps 1 to 5 for the maximum capacity of the scale.
7. Record Beaufort Scale sea conditions at time of test.
8. Have form signed by vessel operator.

Additional Information

- ✓ A daily scale test must be conducted once every 24 hours when the scale is being used to weigh catch at-sea.
- ✓ If the scale fails the daily test, it may be re-tested at any time. However, it may not be used to weigh crab until it passes the daily test.
- ✓ This form must be maintained on board the vessel until the end of the fishing year in which it was completed. It must be retained by the vessel owner for three years, and must be made available to NMFS personnel, observers or authorized officers when requested.
- ✓ Questions or comments concerning this form or the daily test can be directed to:
 - Alan Kinsolving
 - Scales Program Coordinator
 - National Marine Fisheries Service
 - P.O. Box 21668
 - Juneau, AK 99801
 - Phone: (907)-586-7237
 - Fax: (907)-586-7465
 - Email alan.kinsolving@noaa.gov

PUBLIC REPORTING BURDEN STATEMENT

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 45 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to Sue Salveson, Assistant Regional Administrator, Sustainable Fisheries Division, Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802 (Attn: Lori Gravel).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Before completing this form please note the following: 1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information, subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number; 2) This information is mandatory and is required to manage commercial fishing efforts under 50 CFR part 680, under section 402(a) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act (16 U.S.C. 1801, *et seq.*) and under 16 U.S.C. 1862(j); 3) Responses to this information request are confidential under section 104(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act (16 U.S.C. 1801, *et seq.*) They are also confidential under NOAA Administrative Order 216-100, which sets forth procedures to protect confidentiality of fishery statistics

OBSERVER SAMPLING STATION INSPECTION REQUEST FORM		Fax or mail completed forms and diagrams to: Jason Stern North Pacific Groundfish Observer Program 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Bldg 4 Seattle, WA 98115 Ph: 206-526-4518 Fax: 206-526-4066 e-mail: station.inspections@noaa.gov
Vessel Name		
Federal Fishery Permit Number	Location of vessel including street address and city	
Mailing Address		
Contact Person On Vessel	Telephone Number for Contact Person	
Requested Inspection Date	Fax Number for Contact Person	
Today's Date	Requesting Person's Signature	

1. For scale inspections, please contact Alan Kinsolving at (907) 586-7237 for scheduling.
2. Have you received and passed a scale inspection? [] YES [] NO
3. If YES, what is the date of the most recent inspection? _____

Sample station inspections will be scheduled within ten (10) working days of receiving a request. Requests for inspections in Dutch Harbor will be scheduled within ten (10) days, but may be delayed several days due to weather or logistics.

<p>DIAGRAMS</p> <p>Please include your diagrams drawn to scale with your application.</p> <p>For catcher/processors using trawl gear and motherships, a diagram drawn to scale showing the location(s) where all catch will be weighed, the location where observers will sample unsorted catch, and the location of the observer sampling station.</p> <p>For all other vessels, a diagram drawn to scale showing the location(s) where catch comes on board the vessel, the location where observers will sample unsorted catch, the location of the observer sampling station, including the observer sampling scale, and the name of the manufacturer and model of the observer sampling scale.</p>
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PUBLIC REPORTING BURDEN STATEMENT

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing the instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service, Alaska Region, Attn: Assistant Regional Administrator, Sustainable Fisheries Division, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668 (Attn: Lori Durall).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Before completing this form please note the following: 1) NMFS may not conduct or sponsor this information request, and you are not required to respond to this information request, unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number; 2) This information is being used to manage the At-Sea Scales Program; 3) Federal law and regulations require and authorize NMFS to manage commercial fishing effort; 4) Submission of this information is required for scales approved by NMFS to weigh catch at sea; 5) Responses to this information request are not confidential.

INSPECTION REQUEST At-Sea Scales		NOAA/National Marine Fisheries Service P.O. Box 21668 Juneau, AK 99802-1668 Telephone: (907) 586-7228 FAX: (907) 586-7465	
GENERAL			
Company name:		Vessel name:	
Mailing address:		Exact location of vessel:	
Contact person on board:		Telephone Number for contact person:	
Requested Inspection date:		FAX Number for contact person:	
Today's date:		Please give a telephone number on the vessel where the inspector may be contacted during the inspection:	
SCALES TO BE INSPECTED			
	Manufacturer	Model	
1			
2			
Will the repair company be on site at time of inspection? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>			
Company name:		Contact person and phone:	

At the time of scale inspection please make sure that:

- 1) the scale is installed in a rigid and level manner,
- 2) the display and printer are connected and operational,
- 3) belts leading to the scale are connected and operational
(not applicable to platform and hanging scales),
- 4) test weights and test weight certification documents are available for inspection
(platform scales only),
- 5) a crew member will be available to help the inspector transport test materials and conduct the testing.

For more information contact:
 Alan Kinsolving,
 At-sea scales program coordinator,
 Telephone: (907)-586-7237
 Email: alan.kinsolving@noaa.gov

PUBLIC REPORTING BURDEN STATEMENT

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 6 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to Sue Salveson, Assistant Regional Administrator, Sustainable Fisheries Division, Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802 (Attn: Lori Durall).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Before completing this form please note the following: 1) NMFS cannot conduct or sponsor this information request, and you are not required to respond to this information request, unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number; 2) this information is being used to manage the At-Sea Scales Program; 3) Federal law and regulations require and authorize NMFS to manage commercial fishing effort; 4) Submission of this information is required for scales approved by NMFS to weigh catch at sea; 5) Responses to this information request are not confidential except as required under the Privacy Act.

§ 679.28 Equipment and operational requirements

§ 679.28 *Equipment and operational requirements.*

(a) Applicability.

This section contains the requirements for scales, observer sampling stations, bins for volumetric estimates, and vessel monitoring system hardware. This section does not require any vessel or processor to provide this equipment. Such requirements appear elsewhere in this part.

(b) Scales used to weigh catch at sea.

In order to be approved by NMFS a scale used to weigh catch at sea must meet the type evaluation requirements set forth in paragraph (b)(1) of this section and the initial inspection and annual reinspection requirements set forth in paragraph (b)(2) of this section. Once a scale is installed on a vessel and approved by NMFS for use to weigh catch at sea, it must be reinspected annually and must be tested daily and meet the maximum permissible error (MPE) requirements described in paragraph (b)(3) of this section.

(1) List of scales eligible for approval.

The model of scale must be included on the Regional Administrator's list of scales eligible to be approved for weighing catch at sea before an inspector will schedule or conduct a scale inspection under paragraph (b)(2) of this section. A scale will be included on the list when the Regional Administrator receives the information specified in paragraphs (b)(1)(i) through (iv) of this section. This information identifies and describes the scale, sets forth contact information regarding the manufacturer, and sets forth the results of required type evaluations and testing. Type evaluation and testing must be conducted by a laboratory accredited by the government of the country in which the tests are conducted.

(i) Information about the scale.

(A) Name of scale manufacturer.

(B) Name of manufacturer's representative.

(C) Mailing address of scale manufacturer and manufacturer's representative.

(D) Telephone and fax number of manufacturer's representative.

(E) Model and serial number of the scale tested.

(F) A written description of the scale and diagrams explaining how the scale operates and how it compensates for motion.

(G) A list of the model numbers of all scales for which type evaluation results are applicable, identifying the differences between the model evaluated in the laboratory and other models listed. The scales may differ only in the elements of the scale that perform motion compensation, the size or capacity of the scale, and the software used by the scale.

(H) A list of types of scale adjustments that will be recorded on the audit trail, including the name of the adjustment as it will appear on the audit trail, and a written description of the adjustment.

(ii) Information about the laboratory.

(A) Name of laboratory.

(B) Mailing address of laboratory.

(C) Telephone and fax number of laboratory's representative.

(D) Name and address of government agency accrediting the laboratory.

(E) Name and signature of person responsible for evaluation of the scale and the date of signature.

(iii) Checklist. A completed checklist indicating that all applicable technical and performance standards in appendix A to this part and the laboratory tests in the annex to appendix A to this part have been met.

(iv) Verification of test results. Verification that a scale meets the laboratory evaluation and testing requirements in appendix A of this part and each of the influence quantity and disturbance tests as specified in the annex to appendix A to this part:

(A) Test results and data on forms supplied by NMFS;

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(B) National Type Evaluation Program (NTEP) Certificates of Conformance, test results and data for a component of a scale or for the entire device. NTEP Certificates of Conformance, test results, and data may be submitted only in lieu of the specific influence factor tests conducted to obtain the NTEP Certificates of Conformance. Additional information must be submitted to verify compliance with the laboratory tests that are not performed under the NTEP; and/or

(C) International Organization of Legal Metrology (OIML) Certificates of Conformance, test results and data.

(v) Exceptions. A scale manufacturer or their representative may request that NMFS approve a custom built automatic hopper scale under the following conditions:

(A) The scale electronics are the same as those used in other scales on the Regional Administrator's list of scales eligible for approval;

(B) Load cells have received Certificates of Conformance from NTEP or OIML;

(C) The scale compensates for motion in the same manner as other scales made by that manufacturer which have been listed on the Regional Administrator's list of scales eligible for approval;

(D) The scale, when installed, meets all of the requirements set forth in paragraph 3 of appendix A to this part, except those requirements set forth in paragraph 3.2.1.1.

(2) Inspection of at-sea scales.

(i) What is an inspection? An inspection is a visual assessment and test of a scale after it is installed on the vessel and while the vessel is tied up at a dock and not under power at sea to determine if the scale meets all of the applicable performance and technical requirements in paragraph (b)(2) of this section and in appendix A to this part. A scale will be approved by the inspector if it meets all of the applicable performance and technical requirements in paragraph (b)(2) of this section and appendix A to this part.

(ii) How often must a scale be inspected? Each scale must be inspected and approved before the vessel

may participate in any fishery requiring the weighing of catch at sea with an approved scale. Each scale must be reinspected within 12 months of the date of the most recent inspection.

(iii) Who may perform scale inspections? Scales must be inspected by either a NMFS staff scale inspector or a scale inspector employed by a weights and measures agency designated by NMFS to perform scale inspections on its behalf. A list of authorized scale inspectors is available from the Regional Administrator upon request. Scale inspections are paid for by NMFS.

(A) Inspectors from an agency designated by NMFS. Inspectors employed by a weights and measures agency designated by NMFS to perform scale inspections on behalf of NMFS. Scale inspections by such inspectors are paid for by NMFS.

(B) Inspectors from other agencies. Inspectors employed by a U.S., state, or local weights and measures agency other than the weights and measures agency designated by NMFS and meeting the following requirements:

(1) The inspector successfully completes training conducted by a scale inspector from the weights and measures agency designated by NMFS to perform scale inspections on behalf of NMFS. The training consists of observing a scale inspection conducted by a scale inspector designated by NMFS and conducting an inspection under the supervision of a scale inspector designated by NMFS. The inspector must obtain this training for each type of scale inspected.

(2) The inspector notifies NMFS in writing that he/she meets the requirements of this paragraph (b)(2)(iii)(B) prior to conducting any inspections.

(3) Inspectors from agencies other than the weights and measures agency designated by NMFS to perform scale inspections on behalf of NMFS must notify the Regional Administrator of the date, time, and location of the scale inspection at least 3 working days before the inspection is conducted so that NMFS staff may have the opportunity to observe the inspection.

(iv) How does a vessel owner arrange for a scale inspection? The time and place of the inspection may be arranged by contacting the authorized scale inspectors. Vessel owners must request a scale

§ 679.28 Equipment and operational requirements

inspection at least 10 working days in advance of the requested inspection by contacting an authorized scale inspector at the address indicated on the list of authorized inspectors.

(v) Where will scale inspections be conducted?

Scale inspections by inspectors paid by NMFS will be conducted on vessels tied up at docks in Dutch Harbor, Alaska, and in the Puget Sound area of Washington State.

(vi) Responsibilities of the vessel owner during a scale inspection. After the vessel owner has installed a model of scale that is on the Regional Administrator's list of scales eligible to be approved for weighing catch at sea, the vessel owner must:

(A) Make the vessel and scale available for inspection by a scale inspector authorized by the Regional Administrator.

(B) Provide a copy of the scale manual supplied by the scale manufacturer to the inspector at the beginning of the inspection.

(C) Transport test weights, test material, and equipment required to perform the test to and from the inspector's vehicle and the location on the vessel where the scale is installed.

(D) Apply test weights to the scale or convey test materials across the scale, if requested by the scale inspector.

(E) Assist the scale inspector in performing the scale inspection and testing.

(vii) Scale inspection report.

(A) A scale is approved for use when the scale inspector completes and signs a scale inspection report verifying that the scale meets all of the requirements specified in this paragraph (b)(2) and appendix A to this part.

(B) The scale inspector must provide the original inspection report to the vessel owner and a copy to NMFS.

(C) The vessel owner must either:

(1) Maintain a copy of the report on board when use of the scale is required and make the report available to the observer, NMFS personnel, or an authorized officer, upon request, or;

(2) Display a valid NMFS-sticker on each approved scale.

(D) When in use, an approved scale must also meet the requirements described in paragraphs (b)(3) through (b)(6) of this section.

(3) At-sea scale tests.

To verify that the scale meets the MPEs specified in this paragraph (b)(3), the vessel operator must test each scale or scale system used to weigh total catch one time during each 24-hour period when use of the scale is required. The vessel owner must ensure that these tests are performed in an accurate and timely manner.

(i) Belt scales and automatic hopper scales.

(A) The MPE in the daily at-sea scale tests is plus or minus 3 percent of the known weight of the test material.

(B) Test procedure. A material test must be conducted by weighing at least 400 kg of fish or an alternative material supplied by the scale manufacturer on the scale under test. The known weight of the test material must be determined by weighing it on a platform scale approved for use under paragraph (b)(7) of this section.

(ii) Platform and hanging scales.

(A) Maximum Permissible Error. The MPE for platform and hanging scales is plus or minus 0.5 percent of the known weight of the test material.

(B) Test weights. Each test weight must have its weight stamped on or otherwise permanently affixed to it. The weight of each test weight must be annually certified by a National Institute of Standards and Technology approved metrology laboratory or approved for continued use by the NMFS authorized inspector at the time of the annual scale inspection. The amount of test weights that must be provided by the vessel owner is specified in paragraphs (b)(3)(ii)(B)(1) and (b)(3)(ii)(B)(2) of this section.

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(1) Platform scales used as observer sampling scales or to determine the known weight of test materials. Any combination of test weights that will allow the scale to be tested at 10 kg, 25 kg, and 50 kg.

(2) Scales used to weigh total catch. Test weights equal to the largest amount of fish that will be weighed on the scale in one weighment.

(iii) Requirements for all scale tests.

(A) Notify the observer at least 15 minutes before the time that the test will be conducted, and conduct the test while the observer is present.

(B) Conduct the scale test by placing the test material or test weights on or across the scale and recording the following information on the at-sea scale test report form:

(1) Vessel name;

(2) Month, day, and year of test;

(3) Time test started to the nearest minute;

(4) Known weight of test material or test weights;

(5) Weight of test material or test weights recorded by scale;

(6) Percent error as determined by subtracting the known weight of the test material or test weights from the weight recorded on the scale, dividing that amount by the known weight of the test material or test weights, and multiplying by 100; and

(7) Sea conditions at the time of the scale test.

(C) Maintain the test report form on board the vessel until the end of the fishing year during which the tests were conducted, and make the report forms available to observers, NMFS personnel, or an authorized officer. In addition, the scale test report forms must be retained by the vessel owner for 3 years after the end of the fishing year during which the tests were performed. All scale test report forms must be signed by the vessel operator.

(4) Scale maintenance.

The vessel owner must ensure that the vessel operator maintains the scale in proper operating

condition throughout its use; that adjustments made to the scale are made so as to bring the performance errors as close as practicable to a zero value; and that no adjustment is made that will cause the scale to weigh fish inaccurately.

(5) Printed reports from the scale (not applicable to observer sampling scales).

The vessel owner must ensure that the printed reports are provided as required by this paragraph. Printed reports from the scale must be maintained on board the vessel until the end of the year during which the reports were made and be made available to observers, NMFS personnel, or an authorized officer. In addition, printed reports must be retained by the vessel owner for 3 years after the end of the year during which the printouts were made.

(i) Reports of catch weight and cumulative weight. Reports must be printed at least once every 24 hours when use of the scale is required. Reports must also be printed before any information stored in the scale computer memory is replaced. Scale weights must not be adjusted by the scale operator to account for the perceived weight of water, mud, debris, or other materials. Scale printouts must show:

(A) The vessel name and Federal fisheries or processor permit number.

(B) The haul or set number as recorded in the processor's DCPL (see § 679.5);

(C) The total weight of the haul or set;

(D) The total cumulative weight of all fish or other material weighed on the scale.

(ii) Printed report from the audit trail. The printed report must include the information specified in sections 2.3.1.8, 3.3.1.7, and 4.3.1.8 of appendix A to this part. The printed report must be provided to the authorized scale inspector at each scale inspection and must also be printed at any time upon request of the observer, the scale inspector, NMFS staff, or an authorized officer.

(6) Scale installation requirements.

The scale display must be readable from where the observer collects unsorted catch.

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(7) Platform scales used as observer sampling scales or to determine the known weight of test materials.

Platform scales used only as observer sampling scales or to determine the known weight of fish for a material test of another scale are required to meet all of the requirements of paragraph (b) of this section and appendix A to this part except sections 4.3.1 and 4.3.1.5 of appendix A to this part (printer) or section 4.3.1.8 (audit trail) of appendix A to this part.

(c) Scales approved by the State of Alaska.

Scale requirements in this paragraph are in addition to those requirements set forth by the State of Alaska, and nothing in this paragraph may be construed to reduce or supersede the authority of the State to regulate, test, or approve scales within the State of Alaska or its territorial sea. Scales used to weigh groundfish catch that are also required to be approved by the State of Alaska under Alaska Statute 45.75 must meet the following requirements:

(1) Verification of approval.

The scale must display a valid State of Alaska sticker indicating that the scale was inspected and approved within the previous 12 months.

(2) Visibility.

The owner and manager of the processor must ensure that the scale and scale display are visible simultaneously to the observer. Observers, NMFS personnel, or an authorized officer must be allowed to observe the weighing of fish on the scale and be allowed to read the scale display at all times.

(3) Printed scale weights

(i) The owner and manager of the processor must ensure that printouts of the scale weight of each haul, set, or delivery are made available to observers, NMFS personnel, or an authorized officer at the time printouts are generated and thereafter upon request for the duration of the fishing year. The owner and manager must retain scale printouts as records as specified in § 679.5(a)(13).

(ii) A scale identified in a CMCP (see paragraph (g) of this section) must produce a printed record for each delivery, or portion of a delivery, weighed on that scale. If approved by NMFS as part of the CMCP, scales not designed for automatic bulk weighing may

be exempted from part or all of the printed record requirements. The printed record must include:

(A) The processor name;

(B) The weight of each load in the weighing cycle;

(C) The total weight of fish in each delivery, or portion of the delivery that was weighed on that scale;

(D) The total cumulative weight of all fish or other material weighed on the scale since the last annual inspection;

(E) The date and time the information is printed;

(F) The name and ADF&G number of the vessel making the delivery. This information may be written on the scale printout in pen by the scale operator at the time of delivery.

(4) Inseason scale testing.

Scales identified in an approved CMCP (see paragraph (g) of this section) must be tested by plant personnel in accordance with the CMCP when testing is requested by NMFS-staff or NMFS- authorized personnel. Plant personnel must be given no less than 20 minutes notice that a scale is to be tested and no testing may be requested if a scale test has been requested and the scale has been found to be accurate within the last 24 hours.

(i) How does a scale pass an inseason test?

To pass an inseason test, NMFS staff or NMFS-authorized personnel will verify that the scale display and printed information are clear and easily read under all conditions of normal operation, weight values are visible on the display until the value is printed, and the scale does not exceed the maximum permissible errors specified below:

Test Load in Scale Divisions	Maximum Error In Scale Divisions
(A) 0-500	1
(B) 501-2,000	2
(C) 2,001-4,000	3
(D) >4,000	4

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(ii) How much weight is required to do an inseason scale test? Scales must be tested with the amount and type of weight specified for each scale type in the following tables:

(A) Automatic hopper 0 to 150 kg (0 to 300 lb) capacity.

Certified Test Weights	Other test material
(1) Minimum weight or 10 kg (20 lb), whichever is greater	Minimum
(2) Maximum	Maximum

(B) Automatic hopper > 150 kg (300 lb) capacity.

Certified Test Weights	Other test material
(1) Minimum weight or 10 kg (20 lb), whichever is greater	Minimum
(2) 25 percent of maximum of 150 kg (300 lb), whichever is greater	Maximum

(C) Platform or flatbed 0 to 150 kg (0 to 300 lb) capacity.

Certified Test Weights	Other test material
(1) 10 kg (20 lb)	Not Acceptable
(2) Midpoint	Not Acceptable
(3) Maximum	Not Acceptable

(D) Platform or flatbed > 150 kg (300 lb) capacity.

Certified Test Weights	Other test material
(1) 10 kg (20 lb)	Not Acceptable
(2) 12.5 percent of maximum or 75 kg (150 lb), whichever is greater	50 percent of maximum or 75 kg (150 lb), whichever is greater
(3) 25 percent of maximum or 150 kg (300 lb), whichever is greater	75 percent of maximum or 150 kg (300 lb), whichever is greater

(E) Observer sampling scale > 50 kg capacity.

Certified Test Weights	Other test material
(1) 10 kg	Not Acceptable
(2) 25 kg	Not Acceptable
(3) 50 kg	Not Acceptable

(ii) Certified test weights. Each test weight used for inseason scale testing must have its weight stamped on or otherwise permanently affixed to it. The weight of each test weight must be certified by a National Institute of Standards and Technology approved metrology laboratory every 2 years. An observer platform scale must be provided with sufficient test weights to test the scale at 10 kg, 25 kg, and 50 kg. All other scales identified in an approved CMCP must be provided with sufficient test weights to test the scale as described in this paragraph (c)(4) of this section. Test weights for observer platform scales must be denominated in kilograms. Test weights for other scales may be denominated in pounds.

(iv) Other test material. When permitted in paragraph (c)(4)(ii) of this section, a scale may be tested with test material other than certified test weights. This material must be weighed on an accurate observer platform scale at the time of each use.

(v) Observer sampling scales. Platform scales used as observer sampling scales must:

(A) Have a capacity of no less than 50 kg;

(B) Have a division size of no less than 5 g;

(C) Indicate weight in kilograms and decimal subdivisions; and

(D) Be accurate within plus or minus 0.5 percent when tested at 10 kg, 25 kg, and 50 kg by NMFS staff or a NMFS-certified observer.

(d) Observer sampling station

(1) Accessibility.

All of the equipment required for an observer sampling station must be available to the observer at all times while a sampling station is required and the observer is aboard the vessel, except that the observer sampling scale may be used by vessel personnel to

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conduct material tests of the scale used to weigh total catch under paragraph (b)(3) of this section, as long as the use of the observer's sampling scale by others does not interfere with the observer's sampling duties.

(2) Location.

(i) Motherships and catcher/processors or catcher vessels using trawl gear. The observer sampling station must be located within 4 m of the location from which the observer collects unsorted catch. Clear, unobstructed passage must be provided between the observer sampling station and the location where the observer collects unsorted catch. When standing where unsorted catch is sampled, the observer must be able to see that no fish have been removed between the bin and the scale used to weigh total catch.

(ii) Vessels using nontrawl gear. The observer sampling station must be located within 5 m of the collection area, described at § 679.28(d)(7)(ii)(B), unless any location within this distance is unsafe for the observer. Clear, unobstructed passage must be provided between the observer sampling station and the collection area. Access must be provided to the tally station, described at § 679.28(d)(7)(ii)(A). NMFS may approve an alternative location if the vessel owner submits a written proposal describing the alternative location and the reasons why a location within 5 m of where fish are brought on board the vessel is unsafe, and the proposed observer sampling station meets all other applicable requirements of this section.

(iii) What is clear, unobstructed passage? Where clear and unobstructed passage is required, passageways must be at least 65 cm wide at their narrowest point, be free of tripping hazards, and be at least 1.8 m high. Doorways or companionways must be free of obstacles.

(3) Minimum work space.

The observer must have a working area for sampling of at least 4.5 square meters. This working area includes the observer's sampling table. The observer must be able to stand upright and have a work area at least 0.9 m deep in the area in front of the table and scale.

(4) Table.

The observer sampling station must include a table at least 0.6 m deep, 1.2 m wide and 0.9 m high and no more than 1.1 m high. The entire surface area

of the table must be available for use by the observer. Any area used for the observer sampling scale is in addition to the minimum space requirements for the table. The observer's sampling table must be secured to the floor or wall.

(5) Observer sampling scale.

The observer sampling station must include a NMFS -approved platform scale with a capacity of at least 50 kg located within 1 m of the observer's sampling table. The scale must be mounted so that the weighing surface is no more than 0.7 m above the floor. The scale must be approved by NMFS under paragraph (b) of this section and must meet the maximum permissible error requirement specified in paragraph (b)(3)(ii)(A) of this section when tested by the observer.

(6) Other requirements.

The sampling station must include flooring that prevents slipping and drains well (grating or other material where appropriate), adequate lighting, and a hose that supplies fresh or sea water to the observer.

(7) Requirements for sampling catch.

(i) Motherships and catcher/processors using trawl gear. The conveyor belt conveying unsorted catch must have a removable board to allow fish to be diverted from the belt directly into the observer's sampling baskets. The diverter board must be located downstream of the scale used to weigh total catch so that the observer can use this scale to weigh large samples. At least 1 m of accessible belt space, located downstream of the scale used to weigh total catch, must be available for the observer's use when sampling a haul.

(ii) Catcher/processors using non-trawl gear. In addition to the sampling station, vessels using non-trawl gear must provide:

(A) Tally station. A place where the observer can see the gear as it leaves the water and can count and identify fish. It must be within 5 m of where fish are brought aboard the vessel and in a location where the observer is not in danger of falling overboard or being injured during gear retrieval. Where exposed to wind or seas, it must be equipped with a railing at least 1.0 m high, grating or other non-slip material, and adequate lighting.

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(B) Collection area. A collection area is a place where the observer, or vessel crew under the observer's guidance, collects fish as they come off the line or are removed from pots. It must be located where the observer can see the gear when it leaves the water. Where exposed to wind or seas, it must be equipped with a railing at least 1.0 m high and grating or other non-slip material.

(8) Inspection of the observer sampling station.

Each observer sampling station must be inspected and approved by NMFS prior to its use for the first time and then one time each year within 12 months of the date of the most recent inspection with the following exceptions: If the observer sampling station is moved or if the space or equipment available to the observer is reduced or removed when use of the observer sampling station is required, the observer sampling station inspection report issued under this section is no longer valid, and the observer sampling station must be re-inspected and approved by NMFS. Inspection of the observer sampling station is in addition to inspection of the at-sea scales by an authorized scale inspector required at paragraph (b)(2) of this section.

(i) How does a vessel owner arrange for an observer sampling station inspection? The time and place of the inspection may be arranged by submitting to NMFS a written request for an inspection. Inspections will be scheduled no later than 10 working days after NMFS receives a complete application for an inspection, including the following information:

(A) Name and signature of the person submitting the application, and the date of the application.

(B) Street address, business address, telephone number, and fax number of the person submitting the application.

(C) Whether the vessel or processor has received an observer sampling scale inspection before and, if so, the date of the most recent inspection report.

(D) Vessel name.

(E) Federal fishery permit number.

(F) Location of vessel where sampling station inspection is requested to occur, including street address and city.

(G) For catcher/processors using trawl gear and motherships, a diagram drawn to scale showing the location(s) where all catch will be weighed, the location where observers will sample unsorted catch, and the location of the observer sampling station as described at paragraph (d) of this section.

(H) For all other vessels, a diagram drawn to scale showing the location(s) where catch comes on board the vessel, the location where observers will sample unsorted catch, the location of the observer sampling station, including the observer sampling scale, and the name of the manufacturer and model of the observer sampling scale.

(I) For all vessels, a copy of the most recent scale inspection report issued under paragraph (b)(2) of this section.

(ii) Where will observer sampling station inspections be conducted? Inspections will be conducted on vessels tied up at docks in Dutch Harbor, Alaska, and in the Puget Sound area of Washington State.

(iii) Observer sampling station inspection report. An observer sampling station inspection report, valid for 12 months from the date it is signed by NMFS, will be issued to the vessel owner if the observer sampling station meets the requirements in this paragraph (d). The vessel owner must maintain a current observer sampling station inspection report on board the vessel at all times when the vessel is required to provide an observer sampling station approved for use under this paragraph (d). The observer sampling station inspection report must be made available to the observer, NMFS personnel, or to an authorized officer upon request.

(e) Certified bins for volumetric estimates of catch weight

(1) Certification.

The information required in this paragraph (e) must be prepared, dated, and signed by a licensed engineer with no financial interest in fishing, fish processing, or fish tendering vessels. Complete bin certification documents must be submitted to the Regional Administrator prior to harvesting or receiving groundfish from a fishery in which certified bins are

§ 679.28 Equipment and operational requirements

required and must be on board the vessel and available to the observer at all times.

(2) Specifications.

(i) Measurement and marking. The volume of each bin must be determined by accurate measurement of the internal dimensions of the bin. The internal walls of the bin must be permanently marked and numbered in 10-cm increments indicating the level of fish in the bin in cm. All marked increments and numerals must be readable from the outside of the bin through a viewing port or hatch at all times. Marked increments are not required on the wall in which the viewing port is located, unless such increments are necessary to determine the level of fish in the bin from another viewing port. Bins must be lighted in a manner that allows marked increments to be read from the outside of the bin by an observer or authorized officer. For bin certification documents dated after July 6, 1998, the numerals at the 10-cm increment marks must be at least 4 cm high.

(ii) Viewing ports. Each bin must have a viewing port or ports from which the internal bin markings and numerals on all walls of the bin can be seen from the outside of the bin, except that bin markings and numerals are not required on the wall in which the viewing port is placed, if that wall cannot be seen from any other viewing port in the bin.

(3) Information required.

For bin certification documents submitted after July 6, 1998, the person certifying the bins must provide:

(i) The vessel name;

(ii) The date the engineer measured the bins and witnessed the location of the marked increments and numerals;

(iii) A diagram, to scale, of each bin showing the location of the marked increments on each internal wall of the bin, the location, and dimensions of each viewing port or hatch, and any additional information needed to estimate the volume of fish in the bin;

(iv) Tables indicating the volume of each certified bin in cubic meters for each 10-cm increment marked on the sides of the bins;

(v) Instructions for determining the volume of fish in each bin from the marked increments and table; and

(vi) The person's name and signature and the date on which the completed bin certification documents were signed.

(4) Recertification.

The bin's volume and the marked and numbered increments must be recertified if the bin is modified in a way that changes its size or shape or if marking strips or marked increments are moved or added.

(5) Operational requirements.

(i) Placement of catch in certified bins. All catch must be placed in a bin certified under this paragraph (e) to estimate total catch weight prior to sorting. Refrigerated seawater tanks may be used for volumetric estimates only if the tanks comply with all other requirements of this paragraph (e). No adjustments of volume will be made for the presence of water in the bin or tank.

(ii) Prior notification. Vessel operators must notify observers prior to any removal of fish from or addition of fish to each bin used for volumetric measurements of catch so that an observer may make bin volume estimates prior to fish being removed from or added to the bin. Once a volumetric estimate has been made, additional fish may not be added to the bin until at least half the original volume has been removed. Fish may not be removed from or added to a bin used for volumetric estimates of catch weight until an observer indicates that bin volume estimates have been completed and any samples of catch required by the observer have been taken.

(iii) Fish from separate hauls or deliveries from separate harvesting vessels may not be mixed in any bin used for volumetric measurements of catch.

(iv) The bins must not be filled in a manner that obstructs the viewing ports or prevents the observer from seeing the level of fish throughout the bin.

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(f) Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) Requirements

(1) What is a VMS?

A VMS consists of a NMFS-approved VMS transmitter that automatically determines the vessels position and transmits it to a NMFS-approved communications service provider. The communications service provider receives the transmission and relays it to NMFS.

(2) How are VMS transmitters and communications service providers approved by NMFS?

(i) NMFS publishes type approval specifications for VMS components in the ***Federal Register***.

(ii) Transmitter manufacturers or communication service providers may submit products or services to NMFS for evaluation based on the published specifications.

(iii) NMFS will publish a list of NMFS-approved transmitters and communication service providers in the ***Federal Register***. As necessary, NMFS will publish amendments to the list of approved components in the ***Federal Register***.

(3) What are the vessel owner's responsibilities?

If you are a vessel owner that must participate in a VMS, you or your crew must:

(i) Obtain a NMFS-approved VMS transmitter and have it installed onboard your vessel in accordance with the instructions provided by NMFS. You may get a copy of the VMS installation and operation instructions from the Regional Administrator upon request.

(ii) Activate the VMS transmitter and receive confirmation from NMFS that the VMS transmissions are being received before engaging in operations when a VMS is required.

(iii) Continue the VMS transmissions until no longer engaged in operations requiring VMS.

(iv) Stop fishing immediately if informed by NMFS staff or an authorized officer that NMFS is not receiving position reports from the VMS transmitter.

(v) Make the VMS transmitter available for inspection by NMFS personnel, observers or an authorized officer.

(vi) Ensure that the VMS transmitter is not tampered with, disabled, destroyed or operated improperly.

(vii) Pay all charges levied by the communication service provider.

(4) What must the vessel owner do before activating a VMS transmitter for the first time?

If you are a vessel owner who must use a VMS and you are activating a VMS transmitter for the first time, you must:

(i) Contact the **OLE by facsimile** (907-586-7703) and provide: the VMS transmitter ID, the vessel name, the Federal Fisheries Permit number **or Federal crab vessel permit number**.

(ii) Call NMFS enforcement at 907-586-7225, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 0800 hours, A.l.t., and 1630 hours, A.l.t., at least 72 hours before leaving port and receive confirmation that the transmissions are being received.

(5) What must the vessel owner do when the vessel replaces a VMS transmitter?

If you are a vessel owner who must use a VMS and you wish to replace a transmitter, you must either:

(i) Have followed the reporting and confirmation procedure for the replacement transmitter, as described above in paragraph (f)(4) of this section, or

(ii) Contact the NMFS Enforcement Division by phone or FAX and provide: the replacement VMS transmitter ID, the vessel name and the vessel's Federal Fisheries Permit Number and receive confirmation that the transmissions are being received before beginning operations.

(6) When must the VMS transmitter be transmitting?

Your vessel's transmitter must be transmitting if the vessel is operating in any reporting area (see definitions at § 679.2) off Alaska while any fishery requiring VMS, for which the vessel has a species and gear endorsement on its Federal Fisheries Permit under § 679.4(b)(5)(vi), is open.

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(g) Catch monitoring and control plan requirements (CMCP)

(1) What is a CMCP?

A CMCP is a plan submitted by the owner and manager of a processing plant, and approved by NMFS, detailing how the processing plant will meet the catch monitoring and control standards detailed in paragraph (g)(6) of this section.

(2) Who is required to prepare and submit a CMCP for approval?

The owner and manager of an AFA inshore processor or the owner and manager of a shoreside or stationary floating processor processing pollock harvested in the AI directed pollock fishery are required to prepare and submit a CMCP which must be approved by NMFS prior to the receipt of pollock harvested in the BSAI directed pollock fisheries.

(3) How is a CMCP approved by NMFS?

NMFS will approve a CMCP if it meets all the requirements specified in paragraph (g)(7) of this section. The processor must be inspected by NMFS prior to approval of the CMCP to ensure that the processor conforms to the elements addressed in the CMCP. NMFS will complete its review of the CMCP within 14 working days of receiving a complete CMCP and conducting a CMCP inspection. If NMFS disapproves a CMCP, the plant owner or manager may resubmit a revised CMCP or file an administrative appeal as set forth under the administrative appeals procedures described at § 679.43.

(4) How is a CMCP inspection arranged?

The time and place of a CMCP inspection may be arranged by submitting a written request for an inspection to NMFS, Alaska Region. NMFS will schedule an inspection within 10 working days after NMFS receives a complete application for an inspection. The inspection request must include:

(i) Name and signature of the person submitting the application and the date of the application;

(ii) Address, telephone number, fax number, and email address (if available) of the person submitting the application;

(iii) A proposed CMCP detailing how the processor will meet each of the performance standards in paragraph (g)(6) of this section.

(5) For how long is a CMCP approved?

NMFS will approve a CMCP for 1 year if it meets the performance standards specified in paragraph (e)(2) of this section. An owner or manager must notify NMFS in writing if changes are made in plant operations or layout that do not conform to the CMCP.

(6) How do I make changes to my CMCP?

An owner and manager may change an approved CMCP by submitting a CMCP addendum to NMFS. NMFS will approve the modified CMCP if it continues to meet the performance standards specified in paragraph (e)(2) of this section. Depending on the nature and magnitude of the change requested, NMFS may require a CMCP inspection as described in paragraph (g)(3) of this section. A CMCP addendum must contain:

(i) Name and signature of the person submitting the addendum;

(ii) Address, telephone number, fax number and email address (if available) of the person submitting the addendum;

(iii) A complete description of the proposed CMCP change.

(7) Catch monitoring and control standards

(i) Catch sorting and weighing requirements. All groundfish delivered to the plant must be sorted and weighed by species. The CMCP must detail the amount and location of space for sorting catch, the number of staff assigned to catch sorting and the maximum rate that catch will flow through the sorting area.

(ii) Scales used for weighing groundfish. The CMCP must identify by serial number each scale used to weigh groundfish and describe the rationale for its use.

(iii) Scale testing procedures. Scales identified in the CMCP must be accurate within the limits specified in paragraph (c)(4)(i) of this section. For each scale identified in the CMCP a testing plan must be developed that:

(A) Describes the procedure the plant will use to test the scale;

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(B) Lists the test weights and equipment required to test the scale;

(C) Lists where the test weights and equipment will be stored; and

(D) Lists the plant personnel responsible for conducting the scale testing.

(iv) Printed record. The owner and manager must ensure that the scale produces a complete and accurate printed record of the weight of each species in a delivery. All of the groundfish in a delivery must be weighed on a scale capable of producing a complete printed record as described in paragraph (c)(3) of this section. However, NMFS may exempt scales not designed for automatic bulk weighing from some or all of the printed record requirements if the CMCP identifies any scale that cannot produce a complete printed record, states how the processor will use the scale, and states how the plant intends to produce a complete record of the total weight of each delivery.

(v) Delivery point. Each CMCP must identify a single delivery point. The delivery point is the first location where fish removed from a delivering catcher vessel can be sorted or diverted to more than one location. If the catch is pumped from the hold of a catcher vessel or a codend, the delivery point normally will be the location where the pump first discharges the catch. If catch is removed from a vessel by brailing, the delivery point normally will be the bin or belt where the brailer discharges the catch.

(vi) Observation area. Each CMCP must designate an observation area. The observation area is a location designated on the CMCP where an individual may monitor the flow of fish during a delivery. The owner and manager must ensure that the observation area meets the following standards:

(A) Access to the observation area. The observation area must be freely accessible to NMFS staff or NMFS-authorized personnel at any time a valid CMCP is required.

(B) Monitoring the flow of fish. From the observation area, an individual must have an unobstructed view or otherwise be able to monitor the entire flow of fish between the delivery point and a location where all sorting has taken place and each species has been weighed.

(vii) Observer work station. Each CMCP must identify and include an observer work station for the exclusive use of NMFS-certified observers. Unless otherwise approved by NMFS, the work station must meet the following criteria:

(A) Location of observer work station. The observer work station must be located in an area protected from the weather where the observer has access to unsorted catch.

(B) Platform scale. The observer work station must include a platform scale as described in paragraph (c)(4) of this section;

(C) Proximity to observer work station. The observer area must be located near the observer work station. The plant liaison must be able to walk between the work station and the observation area in less than 20 seconds without encountering safety hazards.

(D) Workspace. The observer work station must include: A working area of at least 4.5 square meters, a table as specified in paragraph (d)(4) of this section, and meet the other requirements as specified in paragraph (d)(6) of this section.

(E) Lockable cabinet. The observer work station must include a secure and lockable cabinet or locker of at least 0.5 cubic meters.

(viii) Communication with observer. The CMCP must describe what communication equipment such as radios, pagers or cellular phones, is used to facilitate communications within the plant. The plant owner must ensure that the plant manager provides the NMFS- certified observer with the same communications equipment used by plant staff.

(ix) Plant liaison. The CMCP must designate a plant liaison. The plant liaison is responsible for:

(A) Orienting new observers to the plant;

(B) Assisting in the resolution of observer concerns; and

(C) Informing NMFS if changes must be made to the CMCP.

(x) Scale drawing of plant. The CMCP must be accompanied by a scale drawing of the plant showing:

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- (A) The delivery point;
 - (B) The observation area;
 - (C) The observer work station;
 - (D) The location of each scale used to weigh catch;
- and
- (E) Each location where catch is sorted.

II. Method of Collection

Paper applications, electronic reports, and telephone calls are required from participants, and methods of submittal include Internet and facsimile transmission of paper forms.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0318.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Not-for-profit institutions; and business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 405.

Estimated Time Per Response: 30 minutes for industry request for assistance in improving observer data quality issues; 60 hours for new permit application for observer provider; 15 minutes for update to provider information; 15 minutes for observer candidates college transcripts and disclosure statements, observer candidate; 15 minutes for observer candidates college transcripts and disclosure statements, observer provider; 5 minutes for notification of observer physical examination, observer provider; 2 hours for observer physical examination; 7 minutes for projected observer assignment; 7 minutes for briefing registration; 12 minutes for certificate of insurance; 15 minutes for copies of contracts; 7 minutes for weekly deployment/logistics reports; 7 minutes for debriefing registration; 2 hours for reports of problems; 40 hours for observer provider permit expiration or denial of permit appeals; and 20 hours for appeals for denial of observer certification, certification suspension, or decertification.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 1,963.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$84,458.

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: June 6, 2005.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 05-11602 Filed 6-10-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Documentation of Fish Harvest

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

ACTION: Notice.

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.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before August 12, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington DC 20230 (or via Internet at dHynek@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Beverly Lambert, Southeast Office for Law Enforcement, NMFS, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701; telephone: 727-824-5347 or Beverly.Lambert@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The seafood dealers who possess red porgy, gag, black grouper, or greater amberjack during seasonal fishery closures must maintain documentation that such fish were harvested from areas other than the South Atlantic. The documentation includes information on the vessel that harvested the fish and on where and when the fish were offloaded. The information is required for the enforcement of fishery regulations.

II. Method of Collection

The information is in the form of a paper affidavit which remains with the respondent.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0365.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

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

Estimated Number of Respondents: 25.

Estimated Time Per Response: 30 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 13.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$0.

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: June 6, 2005.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 05-11603 Filed 6-10-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Scale and Catch Weighing Requirements

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

ACTION: Notice.

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.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before August 12, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dHynek@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Patsy A. Bearden, 907-586-7008 or patsy.bearden@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The NOAA Fisheries, Alaska Region, catch-weighting and catch monitoring procedures were extended to the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands (BSAI) King and Tanner Crabs. In addition, this information collection is revised to add a new form for automatic hopper scale tests. This collection describes equipment and operational requirements, consisting of: Scales used to weigh catch at sea; scales approved by the State of Alaska; observer sampling station; inshore catch monitoring and control plan; and crab catch monitoring plan.

II. Method of Collection

Forms are available in both electronic and paper format and may be emailed or faxed.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0330.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

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

Estimated Number of Respondents: 90.

Estimated Time Per Response: 6 minutes for at-sea inspection request; 45 minutes for Record of daily scale tests; 45 minutes for printed output of at-sea scale weight; 45 minutes for printed output of State of Alaska scale weight; 63 hours for scale type evaluation; 6 minutes for at-sea scale approval report/sticker; 6 minutes for application to inspect scales on behalf of NMFS; 2 hours for observer sampling station inspection request; 5 minutes for inspection request for inshore catch monitoring and control plan (CMCP); 40

hours for inshore processors CMCP; 8 hours for CMCP addendum; 5 minutes for notification of observer offloading schedule for BSAI pollock; 2 minutes for prior notice to observers of scale tests; and 40 hours for crab catch monitoring plan.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 10,032.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$15,000.

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: June 6, 2005.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 05-11604 Filed 6-10-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 060705D]

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of a public conference call meeting.

SUMMARY: The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) will convene its Charterboat Advisory Panel (AP) via conference call to review the "Draft Amendment to the FMPs for Reef Fish (Amendment 25) and Coastal Migratory Pelagics (CMP) (Amendment 17) for extending the Charter Vessel/Headboat Permit Moratorium."

DATES: The conference call will be held on June 30, 2005. The conference call will begin at 10 a.m. EDT and conclude no later than 11 a.m. EDT.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held via conference call and listening stations will be available. For specific locations see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

Council address: Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 3018 North U.S. Highway 301, Suite 1000, Tampa, FL 33619.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Stu Kennedy, Fishery Biologist, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; telephone: (813) 228-2815.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) will convene its Charterboat AP to review the Draft Amendment to the FMPs for Reef Fish (Amendment 25) and Coastal Migratory Pelagics (Amendment 17) for extending the Charter Vessel/Headboat Permit Moratorium. Amendments establishing the charter vessel/headboat permit moratorium for the CMP fishery and the Reef Fish fishery were approved by NOAA Fisheries on May 6, 2003, and implemented on June 16, 2003 (68 FR 26280). The intended effect of these Amendments was to cap the number of for-hire vessels operating in these two fisheries at the current level (as of March 29, 2001) while the Council evaluated whether limited access programs were needed to constrain effort. In this amendment, the Council is considering allowing the permit to expire on June 16, 2006 or extending the moratorium on for-hire Reef Fish and CMP permits for a finite period of time or indefinitely.

Listening stations are available at the following locations:

The Gulf Council office (see **ADDRESSES**), and the following NMFS offices:

Galveston, TX 4700 Avenue U, Galveston, TX 77551, Rhonda O'Toole, 409-766-3500;

St. Petersburg, FL 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701, Andy Strelcheck, 727-824-5374;

Pascagoula, MS 3209 Frederic Street, Pascagoula, MS 39567, Cheryl Hinkel, 228-769-9200; and

Panama City, FL 3500 Delwood Beach Road, Panama City, FL 32408, Bob Allman, 850-324-6541.

A copy of the Amendment and related materials can be obtained by calling the Council office at (813) 228-2815.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal