

NOTICE OF OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET ACTION

Madeleine Clayton 03/11/2002
Departmental Forms Clearance Officer
Office of the Chief Information Officer
14th and Constitution Ave. NW.
Room 6086
Washington, DC 20230

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, OMB has taken the following action on your request for approval of the reinstatement of an information collection received on 01/10/2002.

TITLE: Marine Fisheries Initiative (MARFIN) Research and Development Grant and Cooperative Agreement Applications

AGENCY FORM NUMBER(S): None

ACTION : APPROVED
OMB NO.: 0648-0175
EXPIRATION DATE: 03/31/2005

BURDEN	RESPONSES	BURDEN HOURS	BURDEN COSTS
Previous	0	0	0
New	130	145	0
Difference	130	145	0
Program Change		145	0
Adjustment		0	0

TERMS OF CLEARANCE: None

NOTE: The agency is required to display the OMB control number and inform respondents of its legal significance (see 5 CFR 1320.5(b)).

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 or head of MB staff for L.O.s, or of the Director of a Program or Staff Office)	
Signature	Date
Signature of NOAA Clearance Officer	
Signature	Date

**SUPPORTING STATEMENT
MARINE FISHERIES INITIATIVE (MARFIN) RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
GRANTS AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS APPLICATION
OMB CONTROL NO. 0648-0175**

A. JUSTIFICATION

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

The Marine Fisheries Initiative (MARFIN) Program has been funded since 1986 by Congress to develop, rejuvenate, and maintain Gulf of Mexico fisheries. Any citizen of the United States can apply for financial assistance to assist the Federal government (NOAA Fisheries) in meeting the goals and objectives of the MARFIN Program. Funds are available to assist persons in carrying out research and development projects which optimize the use of a U.S. Gulf of Mexico fishery involving the U.S. fishing industry (recreational or commercial) including, but not limited to, harvesting methods, economic analyses, processing, fish stock assessment, and fish stock enhancement. Funding recommendations are determined through a competitive peer review process. Information is a requirement for submitting an application. This allows the evaluation of individual proposals and determination of funding priorities. Each year MARFIN priorities and directions for submitting proposals are published in the Federal Register. MARFIN is managed by the Southeast Region of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

2. Explain how, by whom, how frequently, and for what purpose the information will be used.

The application provides information that will be used by the National Marine Fisheries Service to evaluate technical aspects of proposals and determine appropriateness for funding. If information is not provided, applications are not considered for funding. There are no direct impacts on Federal programs or policies if information is not collected. Grant funds would continue to be allocated using other than competitive processes.

In addition to standard Federal grant application requirements (e.g. the SF-424), the information requirements are as follows:

- A project summary and description detailing the problem to be addressed and what the project's goals are. Most of the information contained is required by OMB circulars; the exceptions are separately described below.

- A Project Budget form is substituted for the OMB Form 424A. This substitute form is necessary to eliminate some information that is unnecessary for the MARFIN competitive financial assistance program, and focuses the applicant to clearly document estimated costs of each proposed year of funding in such a way that reviewers and evaluators can easily assess the budget request.

- The semi-annual report: this is a progress report that is submitted to NMFS in order for NMFS to determine if research is being conducted properly. NMFS has the obligation to require that the money for the grant is being spent wisely. Through these reports we know what work is being done and what work is going to be conducted later.

- The annual (final) report: this is a report submitted annually and is a summation of the research work that was conducted for the entire year. It is the final report which describes the research that was conducted and specifies the results of that research.

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.

No alternative methods to collect this information are as efficient as the current method. There is an initiative to approve receipt of electronic applications in the future. Once the electronic signature is approved, electronic applications will be accepted.

4. Describe efforts to identify duplication.

Since the MARFIN funds are made available to the Secretary of Commerce, no duplication of effort exists with other Federal government information collection efforts.

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

This information collection will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

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

If information was not collected, grants could not be made. Applications and final reports are one-time processes. Semi-annual reports are needed to properly monitor activity.

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

This collection information is consistent with OMB guidelines except that 10 copies of each application are required. The competitive nature of the MARFIN program necessitates the review of each application by enough scientists (generally eight reviewers per application) to ensure non-biased evaluations can be garnered. The justification for this action is founded in the reduced processing time required for evaluating each application. The applicant (i.e. States, universities, corporations) benefit by the quicker “turn-around” time that results from the greater efficiency of the Southeast Region’s Program Office in getting an application into the review process. More specifically, the applicant benefits by: notification of award disbursement in a

more timely fashion; and due to the seasonality of many of the fisheries for which we are providing research monies, the reduced funding cycle would allow more predictable start dates. The unique nature of many of the applications (color photographs, research reports, etc.) for the MARFIN program prohibits efficient duplication by our office, however the applicant can more effectively include these items, thereby enhancing application review.

We receive an average of 50 applications per year. An application is approximately 35 pages long and takes about ½ of a minute to xerox each one (½ minute times 10 copies = 5 minutes). If an applicant is submitting photographs or other special items as part of the application package, the copying time could be less.

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.

a. A Federal Register Notice (copy attached) solicited public comment on this renewal. No comments were received.

b. Technical assistance is provided to applicants to explain and clarify information needed, and this is used as part of the consultation process. Informal discussions will be held with applicants to discuss information needs on an irregular basis to determine that information exists.

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

No payment or gift to respondents are provided, other than remuneration of contractors or grantees.

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

Applications are considered to be submitted through a competitive process and are thus exempt from the Privacy Act. Therefore, no confidentiality is provided.

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.

No sensitive information is collected.

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

Estimated collection burden is as follows:

	<u>Semi-Annual Rpt.</u>	<u>Annual Rpt.</u>
Number of Responses	15 per yr.	15 per yr.
Frequency of Response	2 per yr	1 per yr.
Burden	1 hour	1 hour
Total Burden	30 hours	15 hours

	<u>Project Budget</u>	<u>Project Summary</u>
Number of Responses	50 per yr.	50 per yr.
Frequency of Response	1 per yr.	1 per yr.
Burden	1 hour	1 hour
Total Burden	50 hours	50 hours

Total Collection Burden: 50 respondents, 130 responses, and 145 hours.

13. Provide an estimate of the total annual cost burden to the respondents or record-keepers resulting from the collection.

We estimate a cost of \$300 for copying and mailing.

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

The cost to the Federal government is calculated as follows:

Federal Register publication:	\$ 9,000
Clerical:	5,000
Proposal review:	10,000
Program Administration:	5,000
Overhead:	<u>2,000</u>
Total:	\$51,000

Costs per Respondent:

Professional Labor (\$60/hr)	\$ 400
Clerical (\$10/hr for 7 hrs)	70
Overhead (100%)	<u>470</u>
Cost per respondent	\$ 940
Cost per respondent	\$56,400

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

The hours are a program change for reinstating an expired approval.

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

Collection results will not be published.

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.

This program is not seeking approval to not display the expiration data for OMB approval of the information collection.

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

No exceptions are requested.

B. COLLECTIONS OF INFORMATION EMPLOYING STATISTICAL METHODS

This collection does not employ statistical methods.

MARFIN PROJECT BUDGET

Budget Period: _____ Months

Federal Share

Non-Federal Share

Category

1) Personnel:

a. Salaries

b. Fringe Benefits

2) Consultants:

3) Contracts

MARFIN PROJECT BUDGET

Budget Period: _____ Months

Federal Share

Non-Federal Share

Category

Category	Federal Share	Non-Federal Share	
4) Travel			
5) Equipment and Furniture:			
6) Supplies:			
7) Other Costs:			
Total Direct Costs:			
8) Indirect Costs:			
Total:			

Total (Federal and Non-Federal): _____

9) Program Income:			
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NOTICE

Responses to this collection are required in order to obtain a grant under the Marine Fisheries Initiative Program (MARFIN) (15 U.S.C. 713c-3(d)). Completion of this form is required for the grant application to be considered in fair and open competition with other applications. The information provided will be used to evaluate the appropriateness of the requested grant amount in terms of the work proposed. Information on this form will be treated as confidential for the purpose of determining the appropriateness of funding requested for a possible grant in accordance with 5CFR 1320. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average one hour per response including 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 aspects of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the National Marine Fisheries Service, Southeast Regional Office, 9721 Executive Center Drive, N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702.

NOAA may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

MARFIN PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Title:

Project Status/Duration: New _____ Con't _____ Project Period: _____ Months

Name, Address, and Telephone Number of Applicant:

Principle Investigator(s) and Brief Statement of Qualifications:

Project Objective:

Specific Priority(ies) in Solicitation to Which Project Responds:

Summary of Work: (For continuing projects, include progress to date)

	<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 2</u>	<u>Year 3</u>	<u>Total</u>
Project Funding: Federal	-----	-----	-----	-----
Non-Federal	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total	-----	-----	-----	-----

AUTHORIZED FOR LOCAL REPRODUCTION

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**Format for
Semi-Annual Progress Report**

A. Grant Number:

B. Amount of Grant: Federal _____ Match _____ Total _____

C. Project Title:

D. Grantee

E. Award Period: From _____ To _____

F. Period Covered by this Report: From _____ To _____

G. Summary of Progress and Expenditures to Date:

1. Work Accomplishments:

- a. Describe tasks scheduled for this period (from proposal and amendments, if appropriate).
- b. Describe tasks accomplished this period.
- c. Explain special problems, differences between scheduled and accomplished work, etc.

2. Expenditures:

- a. Describe expenditures scheduled for this period.
- b. Describe actual expenditures this period.
- c. Explain special problems, differences between scheduled and actual expenditures, etc.

Prepared By: _____
Signature of Principal Investigator

Date

NOTICE

Responses to this collection are required of grant recipients under the Marine Fisheries Initiative Program (MARFIN) (15 U.S.C. 713c-3(d)). The information provided will be used to evaluate the progress of the work proposed under the grant. Confidentiality will not be maintained--the information will be available to the public. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response including 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 aspects of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the National Marine Fisheries Service, Southeast Regional Office, 9721 Executive Center Drive, N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702.

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Format for Project Final Report

I. Report Title, Author, Organization, Grant Number, Date

II. Abstract

A brief (one paragraph) description of the Final Report.

III. Executive Summary

A brief and succinct summary of Final Report.

IV. Purpose

A. Detailed description of problem or impediment of fishing industry that was addressed.

B. Objectives of the project.

V. Approach

A. Detailed description of the work that was performed.

B. Project management: List individuals and/or organizations actually performing the work and how it was done.

VI. Findings

A. Actual accomplishments and findings.

B. If significant problems development which resulted in less than satisfactory or negative results, they should be discussed.

C. Description of need, if any, for additional work.

VII. Evaluation

A. Describe the extent to which the project goals and objectives were attained. This description should address the following:

1. Were the goals and objectives attained? How? If not, why?
2. Were modifications made to the goals and objectives? If so, explain.

B. Dissemination of Project results:

Explain, in detail, how the projects results have been, and will be, disseminated.

NOTICE

Responses to this collection are required of grant recipients under the Marine Fisheries Initiative Program (MARFIN) (15 U.S.C. 713c-3(d)). The information provided will be used to evaluate whether the project conducted under the grant was successfully completed. Confidentiality will not be maintained--the information will be available to the public. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response including 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 aspects of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the National Marine Fisheries Service, Southeast Regional Office, 9721 Executive Center Drive, N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702.

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Sec. 713c-3. Promotion of the free flow of domestically produced fishery products

● (a) Definitions

As used in this section -

- (1) The term "person" means -
 - (A) any individual who is a citizen or national of the United States or a citizen of the Northern Mariana Islands;
 - (B) any fishery development foundation or other private nonprofit corporation located in Alaska; and
 - (C) any corporation, partnership, association, or other entity (including, but not limited to, any fishery development foundation or other private nonprofit corporation not located in Alaska), nonprofit or otherwise, if such entity is a citizen of the United States within the meaning of section [802](#) of title 46, Appendix, and for purposes of applying such section [802](#) with respect to this section -
 - (i) the term "State" as used therein includes any State referred to in paragraph (3),
 - (ii) citizens of the United States must own not less than 75 percent of the interest in the entity or, in the case of a nonprofit entity, exercise control in the entity that is determined by the Secretary to be the equivalent of such ownership, and
 - (iii) nationals of the United States and citizens of the Northern Mariana Islands shall be treated as citizens of the United States in meeting the ownership and control requirements referred to in clause (ii).
- (2) The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Commerce.
- (3) The term "State" means any State, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands of the United States, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and any other Commonwealth, territory, or possession of the United States.
- (4) The term "United States fishery" means any fishery, including any tuna fishery, that is, or may be, engaged in by citizens or nationals of the United States or citizens of the Northern Mariana Islands.
- (5) The term "citizen of the Northern Mariana Islands" means -
 - (A) an individual who qualifies as such under section 8 of the Schedule on Transitional Matters attached to the Constitution of the Northern Mariana Islands; or

- (B) a corporation, partnership, association, or other entity organized or existing under the laws of the Northern Mariana Islands, not less than 75 percent of the interest in which is owned by individuals referred to in subparagraph (A) or citizens or nationals of the United States, in cases in which "owned" is used in the same sense as in section [802](#) of title 46, Appendix.
- (b) Transfer of funds
 - (1) The Secretary of Agriculture shall transfer to the Secretary each fiscal year, beginning with the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1954, and ending on June 30, 1957, from moneys made available to carry out the provisions of section [612c](#) of title 7, an amount equal to 30 per centum of the gross receipts from duties collected under the customs laws on fishery products (including fish, shellfish, mollusks, crustacea, aquatic plants and animals, and any products thereof, including processed and manufactured products), which shall be maintained in a separate fund only for -
 - (A) use by the Secretary -
 - (i) to provide financial assistance for the purpose of carrying out fisheries research and development projects approved under subsection (c) of this section, [11](#)
 - (ii) to implement the national fisheries research and development program provided for under subsection (d) of this section;
 - (iii) to implement the Northwest Atlantic Ocean Fisheries Reinvestment Program established under section [1863](#) of title 16; and
 - (iv) to fund the Federal share of a fishing capacity reduction program established under section [1861a](#) of title 16; and
 - (B) the provision of moneys, subject to paragraph (2), to carry out the purposes of the Fisheries Promotion Fund established under section [208\(a\)](#) [12](#) of the Fish and Seafood Promotion Act of 1986 (16 U.S.C. 4008(a)).
 - (2) There are transferred from the fund established under paragraph (1) to the Fisheries Promotion Fund referred to in paragraph (1)(B) \$750,000 in fiscal year 1987, \$3,000,000 in each of fiscal years 1988 and 1989, and \$2,000,000 in each of fiscal years 1990 and 1991.
- (c) Fisheries research and development projects
 - (1) The Secretary shall make grants from the fund established under subsection (b) of this section to assist persons in carrying out research and development projects addressed to any aspect of United States fisheries, including, but not limited to, harvesting, processing, marketing, and associated infrastructures.
 - (2) The Secretary shall -
 - (A) at least once each fiscal year, receive, during a 60-day

- period specified by him, applications for grants under this subsection;
- (B) prescribe the form and manner in which applications for grants under this subsection must be made, including, but not limited to, the specification of the information which must accompany applications to ensure that the proposed projects comply with Federal law and can be evaluated in accordance with paragraph (3)(B); and
 - (C) approve or disapprove each such application before the close of the 120th day after the last day of the 60-day period (specified under subparagraph (a)) in which the application was received.
- (3) No application for a grant under this subsection may be approved unless the Secretary -
- (A) is satisfied that the applicant has the requisite technical and financial capability to carry out the project; and
 - (B) evaluates the proposed project as to -
 - (i) soundness of design,
 - (ii) the possibilities of securing productive results,
 - (iii) minimization of duplication with other fisheries research and development projects,
 - (iv) the organization and management of the project,
 - (v) methods proposed for monitoring and evaluating the success or failure of the project, and
 - (vi) such other criteria as the Secretary may require.
- (4) Each grant made under this subsection shall be subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary may require to protect the interests of the United States, including, but not limited to, the following:
- (A) The recipient of the grant must keep such records as the Secretary shall require as being necessary or appropriate for disclosing the use made of grant funds and shall allow the Secretary and the Comptroller General of the United States, or any of their authorized representatives, access to such records for purposes of audit and examination.
 - (B) The amount of a grant may not be less than 50 percent of the estimated cost of the project.
 - (C) The recipient of the grant must submit to the Secretary periodic project status reports.
- (5)
- (A) If the cost of a project will be shared by the grant recipient, the Secretary shall accept, as a part or all of that share, the value of in-kind contributions made by the recipient, or made available to, and applied by, the recipient, with respect to the project.

- (B) For purposes of subparagraph (A), in-kind contributions may be in the form of, but are not limited to, personal services rendered in carrying out functions related to, and permission to use real or personal property owned by others (for which consideration is not required) in carrying out the project. The Secretary shall establish (i) the training, experience, and other qualifications which shall be required in order for services to be considered as in-kind contributions; and (ii) the standards under which the Secretary will determine the value of in-kind contributions for purposes of subparagraph (A).
- (C) Any valuation determination made by the Secretary for purposes of this paragraph shall be conclusive.
- (d) National fisheries research and development program
 - (1) The Secretary shall carry out a national program of research and development addressed to such aspects of United States fisheries (including, but not limited to, harvesting, processing, marketing, and associated infrastructures) if not adequately covered by projects assisted under subsection (c) of this section, as the Secretary deems appropriate.
 - (2) The Secretary shall, after consultation with appropriate representatives of the fishing industry, submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries of the House of Representatives, an annual report, that must be submitted not later than 60 days before the close of each fiscal year, containing -
 - (A) the fisheries development goals and funding priorities under paragraph (1) for the next fiscal year;
 - (B) a description of all pending projects assisted under subsection (c) of this section or carried out under paragraph (1), in addition to -
 - (i) a list of those applications approved and those disapproved under subsection (c) of this section, and the total amount of grants made, for the current fiscal year, and
 - (ii) a statement of the extent to which available funds were not obligated or expended by the Secretary for grants under subsection (c) of this section during the current fiscal year; and
 - (C) an assessment of each project assisted under subsection (c) of this section or carried out under paragraph (1) that was completed in the preceding fiscal year regarding the extent to which (i) the objectives of the project were attained, and (ii) the project contributed to fishery development.
- (e) Allocation of fund moneys
 - (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all moneys in the fund shall be used exclusively for the purpose of promoting United States fisheries in accordance with the provisions of this section, and no such moneys shall be transferred from the fund for any other purpose. With respect to any fiscal year, all moneys in the fund, including the sum of all unexpended moneys carried over into that fiscal year and all moneys transferred to the

fund under subsection (b) of this section or any other provision of law with respect to that fiscal year, shall be allocated as follows:

- (A) the Secretary shall use no less than 60 per centum of such moneys to make direct industry assistance grants to develop the United States fisheries and to expand domestic and foreign markets for United States fishery products pursuant to subsection (c) of this section; and
 - (B) the Secretary shall use the balance of the moneys in the fund to finance those activities of the National Marine Fisheries Service which are directly related to development of the United States fisheries pursuant to subsection (d) of this section.
- (2) The Secretary shall, consistent with the number of meritorious applications received with respect to any fiscal year, obligate or expend all of the moneys in the fund described in paragraph (1). Any such moneys which are not expended in a given fiscal year shall remain available for expenditure in accordance with this section without fiscal year limitation, except that the Secretary shall not obligate such moneys at a rate less than that necessary to prevent the balance of moneys in the fund from exceeding \$3,000,000 at the end of any fiscal year.
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circumstances, discussed in the amendment below, that warrant exempting the Maritime Provinces from this investigation. In fact, the circumstances behind the original exemption of the Maritimes from the 1986 Memorandum of Understanding (1986 MOU) have not changed for the last 15 years. Even though the exemption of the Maritimes from the 1991 countervailing duty investigation was based on a separate legal requirement (see, *Self-Initiation of Countervailing Duty Investigation: Certain Softwood Lumber Products from Canada*, 56 FR 56055, 56058 (October 31, 1991) and *Amendment to the Notice of Self-Initiation of Countervailing Duty Investigation: Certain Softwood Lumber Products from Canada*, 56 FR 56058 (October 31, 1991)), the circumstances associated with the Maritime Provinces are substantially the same as they were at the time of the 1986 MOU. Those circumstances remained the same at the time of the 1991 countervailing duty investigation, the 1996 Softwood Lumber Agreement, and at present with respect to the current investigation. Accordingly, the Department is amending the Notice of Initiation to exempt the Maritime Provinces.

Amendment

The Notice of Initiation is amended to add the following paragraph entitled "Exemption of Maritime Provinces":

Exemption of Maritime Provinces

The lumber dispute between Canada and the United States has a long history. Throughout much of the history of this dispute, the Maritime Provinces have been exempt from the various actions taken, including the 1986 Memorandum of Understanding on Softwood Lumber, the interim measures taken pursuant to Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974, the 1991 countervailing duty investigation, and the recently expired Softwood Lumber Agreement. All parties have generally recognized that there are unique circumstances associated with the Maritime Provinces and have supported those exemptions. That is equally true in the case now before us. In the petition, petitioners requested that softwood lumber production in the Maritime Provinces be exempt as it was in the 1991 countervailing duty investigation. Further, petitioners did not allege that any subsidies are received by producers in the Maritime Provinces. While the absence of allegations regarding specific regions of a country would not be sufficient by itself to warrant the exemption of those regions from an investigation, this factor, when

combined with all the other unique circumstances of the Maritimes, does contribute to our determination to exempt the Maritimes. The Government of Canada also supported exemption of the Maritime Provinces from the investigation given the absence of subsidy allegations.

In light of all of the unique circumstances in this case, we have determined that it is appropriate to exempt exports of certain softwood lumber products produced in the Maritime Provinces from this investigation. As in the earlier proceedings and agreements concerning softwood lumber, this exemption does not apply to certain softwood lumber products produced in the Maritime Provinces from Crown timber harvested in any other Province.

Dated: July 27, 2001.

Faryar Shirzad,

Assistant Secretary, Import Administration.

[FR Doc. 01-19345 Filed 8-1-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 072601A]

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Marine Fisheries Initiative (MARFIN)

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

ACTION: Proposed information collection; comment request.

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

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before October 1, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Madeleine Clayton, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6086, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW, Washington DC 20230 (or via Internet at MClayton@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Ellie Francisco Roche, F/SERX2, Room 201, 9721 Executive

Center Drive North, St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2439 (phone 727-570-5324).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

MARFIN is a competitive Federal assistance program that makes funds available to assist persons in carrying out research and development projects that will help to optimize the use of a U.S. Gulf of Mexico fishery involving the U.S. commercial or recreational fishermen. Examples of topics are harvesting methods, economic analyses, processing methods, fish stock assessment, and fish stock enhancement. A person seeking assistance must submit an application. Successful applicants must submit semi-annual and final reports.

II. Method of Collection

A MARFIN-specific project summary and budget form is used. All other requirements follow standard Federal grant application procedures and forms. Paper documentation is used.

III. Data

OMB Number: OMB Number: 0648-0175.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Not-for-profit institutions, business or other for-profit organizations, individuals, and state, local, or tribal government.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 60.

Estimated Time Per Response: 4 hours for agency-unique application requirements, and 1 hour for a semi-annual performance report or a final report.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 285.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$300.

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: July 25, 2001.

Madeleine Clayton,

*Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer,
Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. 01-19220 Filed 8-1-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 072701A]

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; List of Gear by Fisheries and Fishery Management Councils

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

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before October 1, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Madeleine Clayton, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6086, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW, Washington DC 20230 (or via the Internet at MClayton@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Mark R. Millikin, F/SF3, Room 13357, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3282 (phone 301-713-2341, ext. 53).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

Under provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. et seq) as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act (P.L. 104-297), the Secretary of Commerce is required to publish a list of all fisheries under the authority of each Fishery Management Council and of all fishing gear to be used in such fisheries. Such a list has been

published. Any person wishing to use gear not on the list, or engage in a fishery not on the list, must provide the appropriate Fishery Management Council (or in some cases the Secretary) with 90 days advance written notice. If the Secretary takes no action to prohibit such a fishery or use of such gear, the person may proceed.

II. Method of Collection

The respondent provides written notice. No form is used.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0346.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 18.

Estimated Time Per Response: 90 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 27.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$18.

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: July 25, 2001.

Madeleine Clayton,

*Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer,
Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. 01-19222 Filed 8-1-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 072701C]

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Application to Shuck Clams/Ocean Quahogs at Sea

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

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before October 1, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Madeleine Clayton, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6086, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW, Washington DC 20230 (or via Internet at MClayton@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Myles Raizin, National Marine Fisheries Service, 1 Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930 (phone 978-281-9104).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The surf clam/ocean quahog fishery is managed under an individual transferable quota system that sets both individual and overall harvest goals. In order to aid in the enforcement of these quotas, fishermen are generally required to land unshucked surf clams and ocean quahogs in 32-bushel cages. Because of potential pollution problems with this practice, fishermen can shuck at sea if they obtain an authorization to do so from NOAA. NOAA will only authorize the action if a NOAA-approved observer is carried on the vessel to certify the amount of unshucked shellfish harvested. This is required because of the difficulty in converted shucked weights into bushels.

II. Method of Collection

A paper form is submitted.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0240.