

NOTICE OF OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET ACTION

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

07/12/2006

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, OMB has taken the following action on your request for approval of a revision of an information collection received on 05/18/2006.

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	23,439	6,904	339
New	24,202	7,377	604
Difference	763	473	265
Program Change		473	265
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

John F. Morrall III Acting 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

OMB CONTROL NO. 0648-0330

December, 2005

INTRODUCTION

This collection is revised to include the Rockfish Pilot Program (Program). Although several laws and regulations guide this action, the principal authorities are the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2004, the Magnuson-Stevens Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), the National Environmental Policy Act, the Regulatory Flexibility Act, and Executive Order 12866.

In Section 802 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2004, the U.S. Congress included a directive to the Secretary of Commerce to establish, in consultation with the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council), a pilot program for management of three rockfish fisheries in the Central Gulf of Alaska (CGOA) in the Exclusive Economic Zone off the coast of Alaska.

The Rockfish Pilot Program (Program) is scheduled to last for a two-year period, from January 2007 until December 31, 2008. Broadly, the Program would provide exclusive harvesting and processing privileges for a specific set of rockfish species and associated species harvested incidentally to those CGOA rockfish; an area from 140° W. long. to 168° W. long. This Program includes:

- For the catcher processor sector, a cooperative program under which non-members of cooperatives fish in a limited access fishery.
- For the catcher vessel sector, a cooperative program under which each catcher vessel participant is eligible for a cooperative in association with the processor to which it delivered the most pounds during the processor qualifying years.
- Catcher vessel participants that choose not to join a cooperative would be permitted to fish in a limited access fishery.

The Program was developed by industry representatives, primarily from Kodiak, Alaska, in conjunction with catcher/processor representatives. They sought to improve the economic efficiency of the CGOA rockfish fisheries by establishing cooperatives to provide exclusive harvest privileges. Currently, rockfish fisheries, and many other groundfish fisheries, are

managed under the license limitation program (LLP) (see OMB No. 0648-0334). The LLP program requires harvesters to possess an LLP license to fish, but does not provide specific harvest privileges.

BACKGROUND

The rockfish species that are the subject of the Program are primarily harvested using trawl gear, although some directed fishing with fixed gear has occurred. In the CGOA, the directed trawl fisheries for these rockfish typically begin about the first of July. Directed fishing for these rockfish with hook-and-line annually opens on January 1. Separate total allowable catches are set for the three different fisheries. Participants usually begin by targeting Pacific Ocean perch until that directed fishery is completed, followed by directed fishing for Northern rockfish and pelagic shelf rockfish. The directed fisheries for all three species are usually completed during the month of July.

The current entry limitations to the harvest sector in GOA groundfish fisheries (which include the rockfish fisheries) have restricted participation in the fisheries to historic participants. A complete discussion of the evolution of management of the fisheries is contained in the Alaska Groundfish Fisheries Programmatic Supplemental Environmental Impact.

A. JUSTIFICATION

Slowing the race for fish will provide participants with the opportunity to realize efficiencies and reduce waste. Allowing participants to better schedule their rockfish activities with participation in other fisheries should also improve efficiencies. In addition, timing participation in response to market conditions could provide for some financial improvement. Consumers could also benefit from slowing the race for fish through improvements in quality and quantity of outputs.

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

While the Council is formulating GOA comprehensive rationalization to address similar problems in other fisheries, a short-term solution is needed to stabilize the fishing community of Kodiak, Alaska. Located on the island of Kodiak in the CGOA, Kodiak has experienced multiple processing plant closures. Its residential work force is at risk due to shorter and shorter processing seasons. The community fish tax revenues continue to decrease as fish prices and port landings decrease habitat.

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.

As is the case for any quota based program, NMFS needs to accurately monitor the use of all CFQ, sideboard limits, and use caps. The primary tools for monitoring include:

1. Use of observers aboard vessels and at processing facilities;
2. Shoreside processors and stationary floating processors (SFPs) must operate under NMFS-approved catch monitoring and control plans (CMCPs);
3. Weighing of all catch must occur on NMFS or State of Alaska approved scales;
4. Catcher/processors must follow specified procedures when handling catch prior to processing; and
5. Most vessels participating in the rockfish pilot program must carry and use a NMFS-approved vessel monitoring system (VMS) transmitter.

This collection is reformatted to provide distinct divisions and descriptions for the two types of catch monitoring: one for catcher/processors and one for shoreside processors and SFPs.

a. Catcher/processor catch monitoring requirements.

Both catcher vessels and catcher/processors would be monitored to ensure proper compliance with all reporting requirements for the Rockfish Pilot Program. However, the opportunity to under-report halibut prohibited species catch (PSC) would be greater on catcher/processors than catcher vessels due to the placement of observer sampling stations and construction of the vessels. These factors reduce the ability for observers to adequately monitor the passage of fish, particularly halibut PSC, from the net through the processing facilities. In order to ensure proper catch accounting, NMFS developed a set of special catch handling requirements for catcher/processors. In brief, these special catch handling requirements would:

1. Prohibit a vessel from having fish remain on deck outside of the codend;
2. Prohibit the use of multiple lines for conveying the fish between the bins and the area where unsorted catch is sampled by the observer; and
3. Require observation and monitoring of all crew activities within any bin or tank prior to the observer sampling unsorted catch.

These requirements apply to any catcher/processor participating in a Rockfish Cooperative or the Rockfish Limited Access Fishery, or subject to a Sideboard Limit as described in this section. At all times when a vessel has groundfish aboard that were harvested under a Cooperative Fishing Quota (CFQ) permit, harvested during a Rockfish Limited Access Fishery, or harvested by a vessel subject to a Sideboard Limit as described under § 679.80, the vessel owner or operator must ensure that:

Catch weighing.

All groundfish are weighed on a NMFS-approved scale in compliance with the scale requirements at § 679.28(b). Each haul must be weighed separately and all catch must be made available for sampling by a NMFS-certified observer. **[see below for analysis]**

Observer sampling station.

An observer sampling station meeting the requirements at § 679.28(d) is available at all times.
[see below for analysis]

Observer coverage requirements.

The vessel in compliance with the observer coverage requirements described at § 679.50(c)(6)(i).
[does not require PRA clearance]

Operational Line.

The vessel has no more than one operational line or other conveyance for the mechanized movement of catch between the scale used to weigh total catch and the location where the observer collects species composition samples. **[does not require PRA clearance]**

Fish on deck.

No fish are allowed to remain on deck unless an observer is present, except for fish inside the codend and fish accidentally spilled from the codend during hauling and dumping. **[does not require PRA clearance]**

Sample storage.

The vessel owner or operator provides sufficient space to accommodate a minimum of 10 observer sampling baskets. This space must be within or adjacent to the observer sample station.
[does not require PRA clearance]

Pre-cruise meeting.

The Observer Program Office is notified by phone at 1-907-271-1702 at least 24 hours prior to departure when the vessel will be carrying an observer who had not previously been deployed on that vessel. Subsequent to the vessel's departure notification, but prior to departure, NMFS may contact the vessel to arrange for a pre-cruise meeting. The pre-cruise meeting must minimally include the vessel operator or manager. **[see below for analysis]**

Belt and flow operations.

The vessel operator stops the flow of fish and clear all belts between the bin doors and the area where the observer collects samples of unsorted catch when requested to do so by the observer.
[does not require PRA clearance]

Vessel crew in tanks or bins.

Catcher/processors may facilitate observation and monitoring of crew activities within a bin or tank by one of three options:

1. Prohibit crew members from entering bins unless the observer is able to monitor all crew activities within the bin;
2. Install viewing ports in the bins; or
3. Install video monitoring system in the bins.

Standard requirement -- No crew in bin or tank. No crew may enter any bin or tank preceding the point where the observer samples unsorted catch, unless:

- ◆ The flow of fish was stopped between the tank and the location where the observer samples unsorted catch.
 - ◆ All catch has been cleared from all locations between the tank and the location where the observer samples unsorted catch.
 - ◆ The observer was given notice the vessel crew must enter the tank.
 - ◆ The observer is given the opportunity to observe the activities of the person(s) in the tank.
 - ◆ The observer informs the vessel operator, or his designee that all sampling has been completed for a given haul, in which case crew may enter a tank containing fish from that haul without stopping the flow of fish or clearing catch between the tank and the observer sampling station.

Line of sight option. From the observer sampling station and the location from which the observer samples unsorted catch, an observer of average height (between 64 and 74 inches (140 and 160 cm)) must be able to see all areas of the bin or tank where crew could be located preceding the point where the observer samples catch. If clear panels are used to comply with this requirement, those panels must be maintained with sufficient clarity to allow an individual with normal vision to read text located two feet inside of the bin or tank. The text must be written in 87 point type (corresponding to line four on a standard Snellen eye chart) and the text must be readable from the observer sampling station and the location from which the observer collects unsorted catch. The observer must be able to view the activities of crew in the bin while collecting unsorted catch or processing their sample.

Video recording system option. A vessel must provide and maintain cameras, a monitor, and a digital video recording system for all areas of the bin or tank where crew could be located preceding the point where the observer samples catch. **[see below for analysis]**

Failure of line of sight or video option. If the observer determines that a monitoring option selected by a vessel owner or operator fails to provide adequate monitoring of all areas of the bin where crew could be located, then the vessel shall use the standard monitoring requirement until the observer determines that adequate monitoring of all areas of the bin where crew could be located is provided by the monitoring option selected by the vessel owner or operator.

1. Scales

Fifteen catcher/processors are expected to participate in this Program. Five of the catcher/processors regulated under the Rockfish Pilot Program are added to this collection of information, while the other 10 already comply through groundfish participation. These catcher/processors 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 10 C/Ps have scales; 5 need scales	5
Total annual responses	5
Total initial capital costs	\$183,333
NMFS-approved flow scale @ \$50,000 ea x 5 = \$250,000	
Scale Installation = \$20,000 to \$100,000 = \$60,000 ea x 5 = \$300,000	
Total = \$550,000/3 yr = \$183,333	
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

2. Observer sampling station

Each catcher/processor 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. The observer sampling stations must meet specifications for size, location, and content. These stations provide a location where observers can work safely and effectively. 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.

Observer sampling station, Respondent	
Number of respondents 10 C/Ps have sampling stations; 5 need them	5
Total annual responses	5
Total initial capital costs	\$15,000
Observer sampling station equipment \$6,000 to \$12,000 = \$9,000 ea x 5	
Total = \$45,000/3 yr = \$15,000	
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

3. Observer sampling station inspection request form.

Each catcher/processor 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, OLE, 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	5
Total annual responses	
Responses per respondent = 1	5
Total burden hours	
Time per response = .17 hr	1 hr
Total personnel cost	
Personnel cost = 25	\$25
Total miscellaneous cost	
Photocopy = $0.05 \times 1 \times 5 = 0.25$	\$16
FAX = $\$5 \times 3 = 15$	
Internet = $0.05 \times 2 = 1$	

Request for Observer station inspection, Federal Government	
Total annual responses	5
Total burden hours Time per response = 0.11 hr	1 hr
Total personnel cost	\$25
Total miscellaneous cost	0

4. 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 NMFS 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 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 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 and location
- Name of contact person on board
- Business mailing address, telephone number, and FAX number

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	5
Total annual responses	5
Total initial capital costs	\$700
Printer ($\$420/3 \text{ yr} = \$140 \times 5 = 700$)	
Total burden hours ($5 \times 0.1 = 0.5$)	1
Time per response = 0.1 hr	
Total personnel cost ($1 \times \$25$)	\$25
Personnel cost = 25	
Total miscellaneous cost	\$16
Photocopy = $0.05 \times 1 \times 5 = 0.25$	
FAX = $\$5 \times 3 = 15$	
Internet = $0.05 \times 2 = 1$	

Inspection Request, At-sea Scales, Federal Government	
Total annual responses	5
Time per response: 0.83 hr	
Total burden hours	4 hr
Total personnel cost	\$100
Personnel cost = 25	
Total miscellaneous cost	0

5. Scale inspection report/sticker.

After installing a NMFS-approved scale and requesting a scale inspection, the operator must make the vessel and scale available for inspection by the NMFS inspector. The operator 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 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 operator. The operator must ensure that the scale approval report is available for inspection by authorized personnel (NMFS staff or observers, United States Coast Guard personnel).

At-sea Scale approval report/sticker, Respondent	
Number of respondents	5
Total annual responses	5
Responses per respondent = 1	
Total burden hours (5 x 2)	10 hr
Time per response = 2 hr	
Total personnel cost	\$250
Personnel cost per hr = \$25	
Total miscellaneous cost	0

At-sea Scale approval report/sticker, Federal Government	
Total annual responses	5
Total burden hours	4 hr
Time per response 0.8 hours	
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

6. Observer notification 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.

Notify Observer of scale tests, Respondent	
Number of respondents	5
Total annual responses	150
Frequency of response = 30 fishing days	
Total burden hours	5
Hours per response (2 min /60 min= 0.03)	
Total personnel cost (\$25 x 5)	\$125
Total miscellaneous cost	0

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

7. Records of at-sea flow 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 ensure that the test is recorded on a test report form. The operator 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, NOAA Office for Law Enforcement (OLE) staff, and NMFS scale program staff to ensure regulatory compliance and to monitor the accuracy of the scales.

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	5
Total annual responses	150
Frequency of response = 30 fishing days	
Total burden hours	112
Time per response (45 min/60 min=0.75)	
Total personnel cost	\$2800
Personnel cost per hr = 25	
Total miscellaneous costs	\$175
Binders, printer paper= \$35	

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

8. Printed output, at-sea scales

The printed output of scale weights is used by NMFS staff and observers and OLE 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. 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, at-sea scales

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, at-sea scales, Respondent	
Number of respondents	5
Total annual responses	150
Frequency of response = 30 fishing days	
Total burden hours	3 hr
Time per response (1 min/60 min=0.02)	
Total personnel cost	\$75
Personnel cost per hr = 25	
Total miscellaneous cost	\$175
Binders, paper = \$35	

Printed output, at-sea scales, Federal Government	
Total burden hours	0
Total personnel cost	0
Total miscellaneous cost	0

9. Video monitoring system

Owners of catcher/processors which choose the third option would be required to develop and install a digital video monitoring system. The system would include a sufficient number of cameras to view all activities of anyone inside the bin. Video cameras would be required to record images in color and in low light conditions. To ensure that an observer can monitor crew member activities in the bin while sampling, a color monitor would be required to be located in the observer sampling station. An observer would be given the opportunity to review any video data at any time during a trip. Each video system would be required to provide enough storage capacity to store all video data for an entire trip. Because NMFS may not be aware of potential presorting violations until after an observer disembarks the vessel and is debriefed, the vessel must retain all data for a minimum of 120 days from the beginning of each trip unless notified by NMFS that the data may be removed. Specific requirements for cameras, resolution, recording formats, and other technical information is detailed in the regulatory text under § 679.80(y).

If choosing the video monitoring option, the owner must provide in writing, the specifications of the video monitoring system proposed for the catcher/processor. At a minimum, this must include: cameras, a monitor, and a digital video recording system for all areas of the bin or tank where crew could be located preceding the point where the observer samples catch.

The system must be recording whenever fish are inside the bin. The system must include at least one external USB (1.1 or 2.0) hard drive and use commercially available software. The system must provide sufficient resolution and field of view to see and read a text sample written in 130 point type (corresponding to line two of a standard Snellen eye chart) from any location

within the tank where crew could be located. The system must record at a speed of no less than 5 frames per second at all times when fish are inside the tank.

Color cameras must have at a minimum 420 TV lines of resolution, a lux rating of 0.1, and auto-iris capabilities.

Video data. The system must have sufficient data storage capacity to store all video data from an entire trip. Each frame of stored video data must record a time/date stamp. The video must be stored, maintained, and made available to NMFS staff, or any individual authorized by NMFS, upon request. These data must be retained onboard the vessel for no less than 120 days after the beginning of a trip, unless NMFS has notified the vessel operator that the video data may be retained for less than this 120 day period.

A 16-bit or better **color monitor**, for viewing activities within the tank in real time, must be provided within the observer sampling station and have the capacity to display all cameras simultaneously. That monitor must be operating at all times when fish are in the tank. The monitor must be placed at or near eye level. The observer must be able to view any earlier footage from any point in the trip and must be assisted by crew knowledgeable in the operation of the system in doing so.

Because NMFS has chosen to implement the video option using performance standards, the costs for a vessel to implement this option could be quite variable, depending on the nature of the system chosen. In most cases, the system would be expected to consist of one digital video recorder (DVR)/computer system and between two and five cameras. DVR systems range in price from \$1,500 to \$10,000, and cameras cost from \$75 to \$300 each. Data storage costs will vary depending on the frame rate, color density, amount of compression, image size, and need for redundant storage capacity. NMFS estimates data storage will cost between \$400 and \$3,000 per vessel.

Installation costs will be a function of where the DVR/computer can be located in relation to an available power source, cameras, and the observer sampling station. NMFS estimates that a fairly simple installation will cost approximately \$2,000, a complex installation will cost approximately \$10,000, per vessel. However, these costs could be considerably lower if the vessel owner chooses to install the equipment while upgrading other wiring. Thus, total system costs, including DVR/computer equipment, cameras, data storage, and installation would be expected to range between \$4,050 per vessel for a very simple inexpensive system with low installation costs, and \$24,500 per vessel for a complex, sophisticated system with high installation costs.

Annual system maintenance costs are difficult to estimate because much of this technology has not been extensively used at-sea in the United States. However, we estimate an annual cost of \$680 to \$4,100 per year based on a hard disk failure rate of 20 percent per year, and a DVR/computer lifespan of three years.

Video monitoring system specification

- Length and width (in pixels) of each image
- File type in which the data are recorded
- Type and extent of compression
- Frame rate at which the data will be recorded
- Brand and model number of the cameras used
- Brand, model, and specifications of the lenses used
- Scale drawing of the location of each camera and its coverage area
- Size and type of storage device
- Type, speed, and operating system of any computer that is part of the system
- Name of individual or company responsible for installing and maintaining the system
- Name of individual onboard the vessel responsible for maintaining the system and working with the observer on its use
- Any change to the video system that would affect the system's functionality

Video monitoring system, Respondent	
Number of respondents	8
Total annual responses	96
Number of responses/year = 12 (1 per month)	
Total burden hours	96 hr
Time per response = 1 hr	
Total personnel cost	\$2,400
Cost per hour = \$25	
Total annualized capital cost	\$32,840
Digital video recorder (DVR)/computer system (\$1500 to \$10000 = avg \$5,750)	
Video camera (\$75 to \$300 = avg \$188 x 3 = \$564)	
Installation (\$2000 to \$10,000 = avg \$6,000)	
$\$5,750 + \$564 + \$6,000 = \$12,314/3 = \$4,105 \times 8$	
Total miscellaneous cost	\$32,720
Data storage (\$400 to \$3000 = avg \$1,700)	
Annual system maintenance (\$680 to \$4,100= avg \$2390)	
$\$1,700 + \$2,390 = 4,090 \times 8$	

Video monitoring system, Federal Government	
Total burden hours	0
Total personnel cost	0
Total miscellaneous cost	0

b. Shoreside processor and SFP catch monitoring requirements

1. Catch monitoring and control plan (CMCP).

The CMCP is a plan submitted annually by the manager of a shoreside processor or SFP detailing how the processor will meet each of the performance standards at 50 CFR 679.28(g). The manager must ensure that the facility is operating under an approved CMCP whenever receiving fish allocated to the Program. An acceptable CMCP describes how landings can be monitored effectively by a single observer and how scales will be tested and used. In addition, a

CMCP ensures that adequate facilities are made available for observers. The CMCP requirements were established for the American Fisheries Act (AFA) fisheries, and are extended without modification to shoreside processors and SFPs participating in the Program.

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	6
Total annual responses	6
Number responses per respondent = 1	
Total burden hours	240
Time per response = 40 hr	
Total personnel cost	\$6000
Cost per hour = \$25	
Total miscellaneous costs (\$3 x 6 = 18)	\$18
Photocopy cost (\$0.05 x 60 pp = \$3)	

CMCP, Federal Government	
Total annual responses	6
Total burden hours	30
Time per response = 5 hr	
Total personnel cost	\$750
Cost per hour = \$25	
Total miscellaneous cost	0

2. Inspection Request, 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, 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, CMCP, Respondent	
Number of respondents	6
Total annual responses	6
Frequency of response = 1	
Total burden hours (0.08 x 6 = 0.48)	1 hr
Time per response (5min/60 min = 0.08)	
Total personnel cost	\$25
Cost per hour = \$25	
Total miscellaneous cost (\$13 x 6)	\$78
Photocopying = 5	
Mailing=8	

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

3. Printed output, inshore scales

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, inshore scales

- 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, inshore scales, Respondent	
Number of respondents	6
Total annual responses	180
Frequency of response = 30	
Total burden hours	4 hr
Time per response (1 min/60 min= 0.02)	
Total personnel cost	\$100

Personnel cost per hr = 25 Total miscellaneous cost Binders, paper = 35	\$210
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Printed output, inshore scales, Federal Government	
Total burden hours	0
Total personnel cost	0
Total miscellaneous cost	0

It is anticipated that the information collected will be disseminated to the public or used to support publicly disseminated information. As explained in the preceding 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 inspection request form can be completed online at <http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/cdq/scales.html>. “Fillable” forms are available at the NMFS Alaska Region Home Page at www.fakr.noaa.gov, for the participant to download, print, and FAX to NMFS.

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.

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.

The 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.

The intent of this action is to provide permits for a Rockfish Pilot Program in the CGOA. Without the specified permitting scheme described in this Supporting Statement, the program would be jeopardized. The consequences of not collecting this information would be that NMFS could not fulfill the intent of the law Section 802 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2004.

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

No inconsistencies occur in this 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.

The NMFS Alaska Region will submit a proposed rule, RIN 0648-AT71, coincident with this submission, requesting comments from the public.

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

No payment or gift will be provided under this program.

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

The information collected is confidential under section 303(d) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*); and also under NOAA Administrative Order (AO) 216-100, which sets

forth procedures to protect confidentiality of fishery statistics.

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: 114 (5 rockfish catcher/processors, 52 vessels, 14 inshore processors, 43 Registered Crab Receivers), up from 103. Total estimated responses: 24,202, up from 23,439. Total estimated time burden: 7,377 hours, up from 6,904. Total estimated personnel cost: \$184,425, up from \$172,600.

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 operations and maintenance costs: \$52,289, up from \$18,881. Total annualized capital costs: \$551,873, up from \$320,000.

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

Total estimated time burden: 1,253 hr, up from 850. Total personnel cost: \$31,325, up from \$21,250. 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.

This action is a program change. Five catcher/processors and six shoreside processors or SFPs are added to this collection, because of participation in the Rockfish Pilot Program. The added responses, hours and miscellaneous costs reflect the addition of these 11 respondents under existing information collections, as well as for the video recording system. The increase of \$231,873 in capital costs is for additional at-sea scales, additional observer sampling station equipment, additional printers for at-sea scales, and the video recording system. One item is added to this collection for use with the Rockfish Pilot Program – the video recording system.

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

The information collected 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.

In accordance with OMB requirements, the control number and the expiration date of OMB approval are shown on the forms.

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

No exceptions to the certification statement are requested.

B. COLLECTIONS OF INFORMATION EMPLOYING STATISTICAL METHODS

This collection does not employ statistical methods.

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.
