

NOTICE OF OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET ACTION

Madeleine Clayton 07/19/2001  
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 a new information collection received on 05/24/2001.

TITLE: North Carolina and Louisiana Commerical King and/or Spanish Mackerel Fishermen Pilot Economic Survey

AGENCY FORM NUMBER(S): None

ACTION : APPROVED  
OMB NO.: 0648-0439  
EXPIRATION DATE: 07/31/2004

BURDEN	RESPONSES	BURDEN HOURS	BURDEN COSTS
Previous	0	0	0
New	435	154	0
Difference	435	154	0
Program Change		154	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)).

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OMB Authorizing Official Title

Donald R. Arbuckle Deputy Administrator, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs

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# 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 <span style="float: right;">b. <input type="checkbox"/> None</span> 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.*

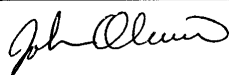
The following is a summary of the topics, regarding the proposed collection of information, that the certification covers:

- (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 5-8-01
Signature of NOAA Clearance Officer	
Signature	Date

**SUPPORTING STATEMENT  
NORTH CAROLINA AND LOUISIANA COMMERCIAL KING AND/OR SPANISH  
MACKEREL FISHERMEN PILOT ECONOMIC SURVEY**

**Section A. Justification**

**1. Circumstances making information collection necessary**

Fishery managers are required by law (Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act: 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.; see attached) to report the economic consequences of their decisions regarding the management of marine fisheries, including allocation of limited fish resources between the commercial and recreational fishing sectors. Economic consequences of changes in regulations must be quantified in so far as possible in terms of net national benefits, the effect on various groups, and the effect on small business entities.

Section 301 (a) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act specifies the data and analyses to be included in Fishery Management Plans (FMP's), as well as pertinent data which must be submitted to the Secretary of Commerce under the plan. Specifically, FMP's are to "include a description of the commercial, recreational, and charter fishing sectors which participate in the fishery, and to the extent practicable, quantify trends in landings of the managed fishery resource by the commercial, recreational, and charter fishing sectors" (Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, Section 303 (13)). Conservation and management measures shall, "where practicable, consider efficiency in the utilization of fishery resources; except that no such measure shall have economic allocation as its sole purpose", "take into account and allow for variations among, and contingencies in, fisheries, fishery resources, and catches", "take into account the importance of fishery resources to fishing communities", and "minimize adverse economic impacts on such communities" (Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, Section 301 (a) (5) (6) (8A)). In addition, "the Secretary shall initiate and maintain, in cooperation with the Councils, a comprehensive program of fishery research to carry out and further the purposes, policy, and provisions of this Act. Such a program shall be designed to acquire knowledge and information, including statistics, on fishery conservation and management and on the economic and social characteristics of the fisheries" (Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, Section 404 (a)).

In the southeastern United States, most of what is available in the way of cost and returns data pertains to the Gulf of Mexico shrimp fishery. For other commercial fisheries in the southeast, far less economic data is available. Among coastal migratory pelagic fish, interest in economic information by fishery management councils is currently focusing more on king mackerel than Spanish mackerel. For commercial fishing for coastal migratory pelagic fish along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts of the United States, management regulations are complex, especially for king and Spanish mackerel. Vessels that have federal permits to harvest king and Spanish mackerel commercially are numerous and diverse. They have home ports from New England to Texas, although most have home ports in the southeast (North Carolina to Texas). There were 270 in North Carolina and 118 in Louisiana in late March 2001. Information which is now at least four years old indicates that these vessels tend to be small (about 80 percent are between 25 and 50

feet; median length is about 31 feet), their gross revenue (sales) from fishing tends to be low (about 80 percent of the vessels gross between \$3,000 and \$70,000; median gross revenue is about \$17,000). While values for two financial variables, total gross revenue and total fishing expense, may be available for some vessels in the mackerel fishery, the data is insufficient for a thorough economic analysis of commercial fishing for mackerel. Detailed data is needed for such variables as vessel and equipment costs, recurring expenses for repairs, maintenance and insurance, and trip expenses for mackerel and other targeted fish (input use and prices or costs for fuel, bait, ice, crew shares, etc.).

The vessels with federal permits to fish commercially for mackerel also target other fish seasonally. For many vessels, it is reasonable to expect that more of their gross income may come from sales of other fish than from sales of king and/or Spanish mackerel. Apart from other factors, the natural seasonal and geographic variation in harvestable concentrations of king and Spanish mackerel along the coast of the southeastern states means that commercial fishermen who target these fish must also target other fish commercially or engage in for-hire fishing activities to make a living. Besides targeting king and/or Spanish mackerel, vessels possessing federal permits for commercial mackerel fishing with home ports in the Atlantic and Gulf coastal states as a whole may target fish such as reef fish, spiny lobster, shrimp, stone crab, swordfish, tuna, and shark. However, in the past 20 years or so, operators of vessels who target many of the fish of commercial and recreational importance in the southeast have been affected by increasingly complex federal and state regulations intended to conserve and manage the stocks of fish.

The lack of recent and statistically valid data on the economics of commercial mackerel fishing in the Southeast has made it impossible for scientists and fishery managers to adequately consider the effects of new regulatory activities on the commercial fishing industry. The proposed data collection is a pilot test in North Carolina and Louisiana of an in-person interview approach for the collection of demographic and economic information needed to properly evaluate the impacts of potential regulations on the commercial mackerel fishing industry, including the estimation of the producer surplus component of the net national benefits associated with such regulations.

The survey results will be linked to existing data bases using U.S. Coast Guard vessel identification numbers or state registration numbers. The federal permits data base contains information on vessel length and engine horsepower. Since January 1998, logbook files have been augmented to include information from commercial fishermen's logbooks for trips for mackerel (pounds, but not value of landings by species, trip length, an indication of fishing effort, the kind and number of gear units, area fished, crew size, county and state where the fish is landed). These trip logbook files do not necessarily contain data on all commercial landings for a vessel. Combined use of information from existing data bases and periodic economic surveys will minimize the number of questions that need to be asked in such surveys and will allow the determination of statistical bias in the responses by fishing firm owners.

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

This is a new data collection. There are two purposes for the proposed pilot survey of commercial fishermen who target king and/or Spanish mackerel in North Carolina and Louisiana. They are (1) to collect economic data with which to better estimate the effects of regulations which may be proposed in the future for the commercial fisheries for king and Spanish mackerel and (2) to provide a better basis for designing statistically valid surveys in the future for other populations of commercial fishing vessels that participate in these and other fisheries throughout the year along coastal states from North Carolina to Texas.

The information under this request will be obtained by a private contractor from a random sample of commercial fishermen holding NMFS mackerel permits. The names and addresses of a sample of fishermen holding commercial mackerel permits will be provided to the private contractor who will conduct the interviews. For this proposed pilot survey, there are two strata. One strata will consist of commercial fishing vessels with home ports in North Carolina and the other will consist of vessels with home ports in Louisiana.

Sampled vessel owners and operators will be contacted by trained interviewers. Interviewers will screen fishermen using a screening questionnaire (see attached). Personal interviews will be conducted with commercial mackerel fishing vessel captains and/or vessel owners to obtain detailed information about their fishing activities, catches, revenues, fixed and variable harvesting costs, and participation in other fisheries. Interviews will be scheduled at times and places convenient for fishermen to the survey participants. Every effort will be made to schedule interviews at times and in places that minimize potential conflicts with normal business operations.

The proposed questionnaires are designed to obtain information NMFS economists need to evaluate the impact of potential regulatory options. Information will be obtained about commercial mackerel permit holders and their fishing activities in seven general categories: (1) fishing history; (2) capital investment in vessel and electronics; (3) current fishing activities; (4) catches and revenues; (5) variable, trip costs; (6) other annual costs; and (7) demographics.

This information will be obtained using four distinct forms. Each form will be administered to the appropriate respondent by trained interviewers working under contract to the National Marine Fisheries Service. The four forms are:

- Telephone Screener - This form will be administered to a sampled vessel owner or captain by telephone to determine whether the respondent is eligible to participate in the overall survey. An in-person interview by a trained interviewer will be scheduled with eligible owners and captains to complete the other three forms.
- Owner Interview Form - This form will be administered to a sampled vessel owner during an in-person interview. It is used to obtain detailed information on fishing history, capital investment in vessel and electronics, current fishing activities, other annual costs, and

demographics. Where the owner is also the captain of the vessel, a Captain Interview Form will be completed in part.

- *Captain Interview Form* - In those situations in which the owner is not also the captain of the vessel, an in-person interview will be conducted with the vessel captain. This interview form will obtain information on current fishing activities, catches, and demographics.
- *Typical Trip Form* - In order to obtain detailed trip-related information necessary to perform economic analysis, the in-person interviewer will complete a “Typical Trip Form” with owners or captains for the following types of commercial fishing trips: a king mackerel fishing trip; a Spanish mackerel fishing trip; and a trip for the largest other category of commercial species.

It should be noted that only three Typical Trip Forms would be completed during the in-person interviews for each vessel, even though each vessel may take multiple trips during the year. This is to minimize respondent burden while still collecting sufficient data to make estimates regarding differences in catch and expenses associated with different species.

The proposed questionnaires have been designed to accommodate fishermen who participate in several fisheries each year. Information about fishing effort, costs, and revenues is requested for each fishery rather than for all fisheries as a whole to enable economic analysis of the effects of regulation on the relative profitability of each fishery and the ability and willingness of fishermen to switch from one fishery to another. The questionnaires are based on what was used to survey vessels that fished commercially for reef fish in 1993 and later analysis of the responses by fishermen. A few questions were clarified based on a pretest for nine vessels that fished commercially for mackerel in 1999-2000. The following sections describe the draft questionnaire and some of the uses to which NMFS economists will apply the data.

### *2.a. Fishing History*

Questions about fishing history are designed to determine historical participation in the mackerel fisheries in particular and commercial fishing in general. Years of experience in commercial fishing is a measure of personal investment in fishing as a career choice, an important determinant of opportunity cost, and a potentially important explanatory variable in the production function. Status as a full-time commercial fisherman is an additional measure of personal commitment to commercial fishing. Catches, revenues, costs, profits, and opportunity costs are expected to differ for full-time fishermen and part-time fishermen.

Species sought during the previous fishing years are useful for several reasons. First, it provides a measure a historical participation in the mackerel fisheries. Second, it provides an indication of historical participation in each aspect of the mackerel fisheries, including experience with different gear types and fishing grounds. Third, it provides a measure of historical participation in fisheries other than for mackerel. Fourth, the number of different species sought is a measure of the willingness and ability to switch to other fisheries in response to regulatory changes that



adversely affect profitability of the primary target fish. Fishermen will be asked to refer to their records to minimize bias due to recall error.

### *2.b. Capital investment in vessel and electronics*

Capital investment in vessel and electronics is an important determinant of productivity and cost. Factors such as vessel size, construction, and engine horsepower enhance the ability to fish during less than perfect weather conditions. The various electronics equipment offers both safety and ability to locate fish quickly. Often, the most productive fishermen are the first to purchase new, innovative electronics equipment. The least productive fishermen are those who have failed to purchase equipment already commonly used by the rest of the fleet. Information about capital investment in vessel and electronics will be used in statistical analyses as exogenous variables to help explain differences among vessels in costs, landings, and profits.

### *2.c. Current Fishing Activities*

The proposed questionnaire has been designed to accommodate fishermen who participate in several fisheries each year. NMFS economists will use information about current fishing activities to determine the annual sequence of fisheries in which fishermen participate, and the months and amount of time spent in each are measures of the current importance of each type of fishing to fishermen. The annual sequence indicates which fisheries are likely to experience increased effort in response to regulatory changes that adversely affect profitability of mackerel fishing. In addition, months of participation are useful to ascertain some of the effects of seasonal and area closures on the mackerel fisheries.

NMFS scientists know the number of vessels with commercial mackerel fishing permits, but heretofore could not say much about the intensity of the fishing effort of these vessels throughout the southeast. NMFS economists will use information about current fishing activities (including survey data and the data from trip log books that were required for mackerel trips starting in 1998) to estimate the number of trips and days fished per vessel per year within each stratum, and the total number of trips and days fished over all strata. Data may be further partitioned according to whether the fishermen are part-time or full-time.

A production function is a mathematical relationship in which catches are described as a function of inputs. Data on trips (or days fished), crew size, and the type of gear deployed represent important components of fishing effort. Such data is necessary to specify and estimate empirical fishery production functions. Other components of fishing effort are size of vessel, engine horsepower, location of fishing grounds, years experience in the fishery, and part-time vs. full-time fishing activity. Production functions are used to determine the expected reductions in annual catches caused by regulations on the use of various inputs.

### *2.d. Catches and Revenues*

Catches and revenues are indicators of financial performance for mackerel fishermen. Information by species will be requested to facilitate determination of the effects of regulation on

catch rates and revenues. Information will also be requested for each of several fisheries (to allow for different types of mackerel and other fishing activities) as a means of assessing the difference in profit potential among fisheries in response to regulation.

### *2.e. Variable Trip Costs*

Some costs ( e.g., fuel, oil, ice, bait, food, and unloading fees) vary predictably by trip. Separate estimates of variable (trip) costs will be requested for each type of fishing. Information about the amounts (quantities) used of each variable input and the price paid will be requested to facilitate future analyses with these data. Intercept surveys are conducted infrequently. As a result, cost data for variable inputs have to be updated periodically with new (input) price and use information. Payments to crew members represents one of the largest cost components in fishing. Crews are generally paid on a share (of catch or revenues) system.

### *2.f. Other Annual Costs*

Some expenses (e.g., maintenance and repair of vessel, electronics, and fishing gear) are variable but not necessarily on a trip basis. The proposed questionnaire asks for variable and fixed components for these costs on an annual basis. Other expenses are incurred regardless of the intensity of fishing activity. Regulations generally reduce profitability by forcing fishermen to use more costly or less productive methods of fishing. Fishermen who cannot consistently earn enough to pay fixed costs will go out of business. Fixed costs are also important determinants of the rate at which new vessels will enter a fishery in response to regulated improvements in the biological condition of fishery resources.

### *2.g. Demographics*

This category includes miscellaneous questions about factors related to opportunity cost and the relative contribution of mackerel fishing to total family income. The traditional theory of economics defines opportunity cost as net income that could be earned in the next-best employment opportunity. However, social scientists recognize that other factors (such as age, education, length of time at current residence, marriage status, family history of employment in commercial fishing, and other sources of outside income) also influence the decision of whether or not to change employment. Information about these other factors will be requested. Questions described earlier about revenues and costs permit calculation of net income from commercial fishing. Additional information about other sources of income allows a determination of the relative contribution of mackerel fishing to total family income. Fishing families with other sources of income are better able to absorb reductions in fishery income due to regulation, at least temporarily while alternative fisheries or employments are being sought.

**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.**

Because the proposed survey is a pilot test and many of the questions elicit detailed economic information that may require reference to business records, the decision has been made to collect the data using an in-person interview approach. NMFS does not believe that electronic data collection methods such as e-mail or Internet based questionnaires are appropriate at this time.

**4. Describe efforts to identify duplication.**

NMFS has reviewed other data collection efforts currently being undertaken by the Federal government and has contacted various state and regional fisheries agencies. No other efforts are currently in place will obtain the information needed on commercial mackerel fishing in the southeast.

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

Experience indicates that the majority of vessels included in the proposed survey will be owner operated small businesses. Every effort has been made to organize the data collection to minimize the burden on these small businesses. Specifically, the screener questionnaire has been developed to assure that vessels which do not participate in the fishery are excluded with minimal burden. In addition, the questionnaires have been divided into sections which will be only administered as appropriate. For example, the vessel captain questions are only asked of the captain and the owner questions of the owner rather than duplicating questions unnecessarily. Finally, interviewers will arrange their schedules at the convenience of the captains and operators.

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

In accordance with federal laws, the Secretary of Commerce is required to implement policies and regulations designed to conserve and manage the nation's marine resources. Fishery management plans serve as one of the key elements underlying regulatory actions. These are developed by Regional Fishery Management Councils based on information supplied by NMFS and other scientists, and they are the primary mechanism by which the state of a particular marine resource is understood. The failure to collect scientifically sound economic information from the commercial fishing sector could result in the implementation of policies that would unfairly harm a significant industry group.

A major purpose of this pilot survey is to collect the economic data with which to better estimate the effects of regulations which may be proposed for the commercial fisheries for king and Spanish mackerel. In addition, this pilot survey will provide a better basis for designing statistically valid surveys for other strata of the population of vessels that engage in these and

other fisheries in a seasonally complex round of economic activity throughout the southeast (coastal states of North Carolina to Texas).

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

There are no special circumstances which apply to the proposed data 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.**

A notice appeared on pages 11286-11287 in the *Federal Register* (Vol. 65, No. 42) on March 2, 2000, that solicited public comment regarding this request to OMB. Comments were due by May 1, 2000. No comments were received.

Consultations regarding this request have been made throughout the National Marine Fisheries Service as well as with representatives of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council and the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council. These councils support economic data collection efforts and include representation from commercial fishing interests. In addition, because this is a pilot survey, opportunity will be provided during the course of the data collection to obtain additional feedback about the potential burdens on mackerel commercial fishermen.

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

No remuneration will be provided to respondents.

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

Respondents will be advised that the data collected under this OMB request will be kept confidential. All completed questionnaires will be maintained by a private contractor and will be kept in secure facilities. Questionnaires and data files supplied to NMFS will be kept in secure facilities, and only summarized data that does not reveal confidential data will be distributed publicly, as required under law.

All data will be kept confidential by NMFS in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Sec. 402, 16 U.S.C. § 1881a); 50 CFR Part 600 Subpart E; Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552); 15 CFR Part 4; and NOAA Administrative Order

216-100. Additionally, the collection of these data and the pledge of confidentiality will fall under the same mandates as presented in 16 U.S.C. 1881-1881a M-S Act §§ 402(b)(c) and 50 CFR § 600.130, § 600.405, § 600.410, § 600.415, § 600.420, and § 600.425. NMFS internal procedures are established to insure confidentiality of these data.

**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 questions will be asked. Detailed economic information is requested, which may be sensitive for some respondents. They will be informed about the confidentiality provisions under which the data is being collected and will be advised that they are free to decline to give information in response to any question they find sensitive.

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

A private contractor will be conducting the interviews using the approved questionnaires. This contractor is experienced in data collection and has pretested the questionnaires on nine respondents to estimate time to complete. The average estimated time to complete the forms, with total projected burden, on the basis of the most typical interview (an owner-operated vessel) is:

<b>Telephone Screening Form</b>	140 respondents	X	12 minutes	=	1,680 minutes
Owner/Operators (80 percent of qualifying sample)					
<b>Captain Form</b>	84 respondents	X	5 minutes	=	420 minutes
<b>Owner Form</b>	84 respondents	X	20 minutes	=	1,680 minutes
Captains Only (20 percent of qualifying sample)					
<b>Captain Form</b>	21 respondents	X	15 minutes	=	315 minutes
Owners Only (20 percent of qualifying sample)					
<b>Owner form</b>	21 respondents	X	20 minutes	=	420 minutes
<b>Typical Trip Forms</b>	105 respondents	X	45 minutes	=	4,725 minutes

Based upon these figures, the total burden under this request will be 154 hours (9,240 minutes). Since this is a one time data collection, there is no annual burden. The cost burden to the vessel owner/operator for this information collection is limited to the time to complete the survey. The calculation of the number of responses (455) assumes that the use of each form is a separate response. A single respondent is likely to provide information for more than one form and therefore have multiple responses.

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

There will be no mailing or faxing costs to the public. There will be no costs to the public.

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

The data collection on the pilot study is being performed by a private contractor at a cost to the federal government of \$73,005. This includes the tasks for designing the forms, selecting the sample, training the field interviewers, collecting the data, and data processing. Other federal costs include those associated with developing and administering the contract and working with the contractor, such as in finalizing the questionnaire.

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

The request is for a program change for a new information collection.

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

Because this is a pilot test, there are no plans to publish the results. While the data will be incorporated into government planning documents and fishery management plans, the study is primarily being used to evaluate the economic impact of regulatory activities. The primary use of this economic survey data is to provide a better scientific basis for estimating the economic impact of regulatory actions and to provide guidance for planning future surveys of commercial fishing.

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

The OMB number and expiration date will be displayed.

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

There are no exceptions to the certification statement.

## Section B. Collections of Information Employing Statistical Methods

**1. Describe (including a numerical estimate) the potential respondent universe and any sampling or other respondent selection method to be used. Data on the number of entities (e.g. establishments, State and local governmental units, households, or persons) in the universe and the corresponding sample are to be provided in tabular form. The tabulation must also include expected response rates for the collection as a whole. If the collection has been conducted before, provide the actual response rate achieved.**

The population consists of 388 commercial vessels currently holding federal mackerel permits in North Carolina (270 vessels) and Louisiana (118 vessels). A simple sample of these permitted vessels will be selected to achieve interviews with 27 percent of the total vessels. This will yield 73 interviews in North Carolina and 32 interviews in Louisiana.

Because the issue of regulation is extremely important to commercial fishermen and because the research design calls for interviewers to schedule interviews at the time and place of the respondents' choosing, our expectation is that 75 percent or more of the sampled vessels will participate. During a pretest of nine respondents in North Carolina, all contacted vessel owners participated.

**2. Describe the procedures for the collection, including: the statistical methodology for stratification and sample selection; the estimation procedure; the degree of accuracy needed for the purpose described in the justification; any unusual problems requiring specialized sampling procedures; and any use of periodic (less frequent than annual) data collection cycles to reduce burden.**

The frame of vessels holding Federal commercial mackerel fishing permits will be provided to a contractor which will select the sample. In order to achieve the number of desired interviews with a 75 percent response rate, the following is planned:

<i>State</i>	<i>Population Size</i>	<i>Sample Selected</i>	<i>Response Rate</i>	<i>Total Respondents</i>
NC	270	97	.75	73
LA	118	43	.75	32
Total	388	140	.75	105

The sample will be selected by assigning a random number to each vessel and then sorting the frames (separately by state) by random number from lowest to highest. The first 97 records will be selected from North Carolina and the first 43 records will be selected from Louisiana. Should it be necessary to select additional records to meet the quota of interviews, the residual frame will again be placed in a random order and a replicate of 10 new records added to the active sample. This process will continue until the quota of interviews is obtained in each state.

Estimation of population values will be relatively straightforward. For many of the variables, proportions will be calculated with error levels determined by standard formulae. For other variables, particularly for income and expenditures data, mean values will be calculated for which variances and levels of errors can be calculated. Since the universe size and sampling fractions are known, population estimates will be made by multiplying mean values times the sampling fractions.

NMFS would like to achieve error levels of no more than 5 percent for its regulatory activities. One of the purposes of the pilot survey is to determine sample sizes which might be needed in future surveys to achieve error levels within this range.

**3. Describe the methods used to maximize response rates and to deal with nonresponse. The accuracy and reliability of the information collected must be shown to be adequate for the intended uses. For collections based on sampling, a special justification must be provided if they will not yield "reliable" data that can be generalized to the universe studied.**

Several methods will be used to maximize response rates. First, we will use the most recent available frame of commercial vessel permit holders to assure that interviews are not attempted with operators who no longer participate in the fishery. Secondly, a pre-contact letter will be sent by an official of the NMFS to each vessel operator selected for sampling indicating that they will be contacted about the survey, describing its purpose and importance, and encouraging participation. Finally, the interviewers will be trained to conduct the interviews at times and locations convenient to the respondents. One of the purposes of this pilot survey is to assess the level of cooperation so that action can be taken in future economic surveys to assure high response rates.

**4. Describe any tests of procedures or methods to be undertaken. Tests are encouraged as effective means to refine collections, but if ten or more test respondents are involved OMB must give prior approval.**

The current pilot survey is being undertaken as a test for a future larger-scale data collection effort covering other commercial fisheries throughout the southeast. A separate OMB submission will be prepared prior to the extension of the survey to other strata.

**5. Provide the name and telephone number of individuals consulted on the statistical aspects of the design, and the name of the agency unit, contractor(s), grantee(s), or other person(s) who will actually collect and/or analyze the information for the agency.**

Contractor staff who have provided consultation on the statistical aspects on the design of the study include:

Dr. Robert L. Hiett, senior survey manager, QuanTech, Inc., (703) 312-7829  
Dr. David C. Cox, senior statistician, QuanTech, Inc., (703) 312-7808



Key agency personnel includes:

Dr. John Vondruska  
U.S. Department of Commerce, NOAA  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
9721 Executive Center Drive North  
St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432

## Paperwork Reduction Act Information

This survey of boat owners and captains participating in the King and Spanish Mackerel Fisheries has been approved as Office of Management and Budget Control Number XX-XXXX which expires on XXXXX.

The purpose of the survey is to obtain detailed information from fishing industry representatives to allow for an evaluation of the economic consequences of potential changes in regulations affecting commercial fishing for King and Spanish Mackerel. Fisheries managers are required by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Section 301(a)(5)(6)(8A)) to take into account the importance of fishery resources to fishing communities and to minimize adverse economic impacts on such communities. The Magnuson Act in Section 404(a) specifically authorizes fishery managers to develop programs to acquire the needed knowledge and information to complete such an economic assessment, including collection of statistical information.

The data collection will be used to evaluate the impacts of potential regulations on the commercial mackerel fishing industry, including the estimation of the producer surplus component of the net national benefits associated with such regulations.

Public reporting burden for participating in this survey is estimated to average 12 minutes to complete the screening questionnaire to identify qualified vessel owner/captains; 15 minutes for each captain questionnaire; 20 minutes for each owner questionnaire; and 15 minutes for each mackerel trip questionnaire. This includes the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions, should be sent to:

Dr. John Vondruska  
U.S. Department of Commerce, NOAA  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
9721 Executive Center Drive North  
St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432

Participation in this survey is completely voluntary. All information collected during the survey will be kept confidential under the provisions of Section 402(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act and NOAA Administrative Order 216-100, "Confidentiality of Fishery Statistics".

Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

## Commercial Mackerel Vessel Owner/Operator Survey National Marine Fisheries Service

### Telephone Screener

Name of Captain/Owner: _____
Name of Vessel: _____
Vessel Registration Number: _____
Phone Number: _____

Hello. My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I'm calling from QuanTech, Inc. We are an independent survey research firm working for the National Marine Fisheries Service on a study to obtain economic information from commercial fishing vessel owners and operators in North Carolina/Louisiana. The purpose of our study is to gather data that will help estimate more accurately the effects of regulations which may be proposed in the future for commercial fisheries for King and Spanish mackerel. Your input will help assure that fishery managers understand the potential effects of management regulations on businesses like yours.

The survey is voluntary, but we strongly encourage you to participate. Fishermen like yourself who have a vital stake in the management decisions being made can provide the information necessary to evaluate the economic effects of different management options on commercial mackerel fishermen.

I have a few questions to ask you about your fishing vessels and the kinds of commercial fishing you have done during the past two years.

Date of Attempt	Time of Attempt	Result

1. One of the boats selected for this survey is the [NAME OF SAMPLED VESSEL] which operates with the registration number [VESSEL REGISTRATION NUMBER]. Which of the following statements best describes your position on that boat? Are you the owner and captain, the owner but not the captain, the captain but not the owner, or none of the above?

- Owner and captain            1-----GO TO Q2  
 Owner but not captain       2-----GO TO Q1A  
 Captain but not owner       3-----GO TO Q1B  
 None of the above            4 ----->

Do you know who the owner or captain of the [NAME OF VESSEL] is?  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Captain: \_\_\_\_\_  
**TERMINATE AND  
 THANK**

- 1A. Can you give the name and a telephone number where I can contact the captain of the vessel? If more than one person captains this vessel, I need the names of those who account for most of the commercial fishing for king or Spanish mackerel.

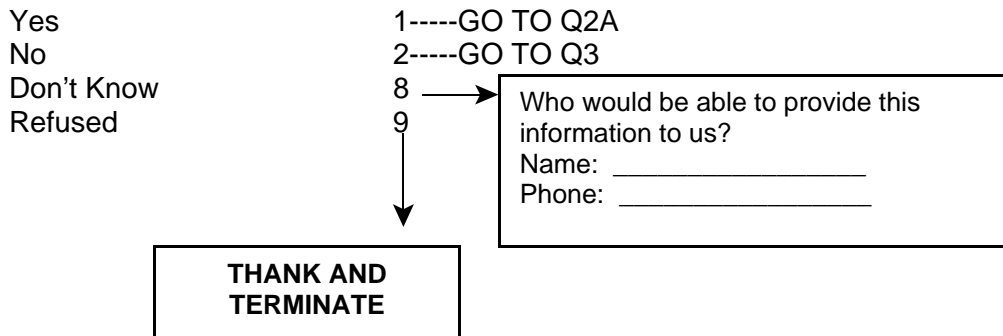
	Name of Captain	Phone Number	Percent of Commercial Trips
<b>Captain 1</b>			
<b>Captain 2</b>			
<b>Captain 3</b>			
<b>Captain 4</b>			

**Note to Interviewer: GO TO QUESTION 2 AFTER RECORDING INFORMATION IN Q1A**

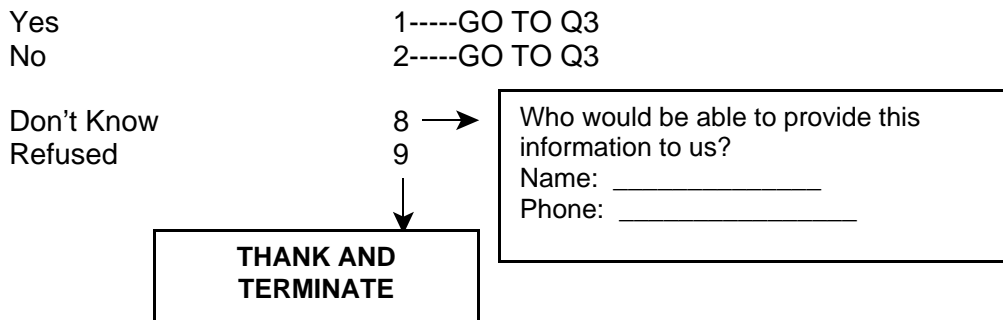
1B. Can you give me the name and address of the owner of the vessel? If there is more than one owner, give me all that apply.

	Name of Owner	Phone Number
Owner 1		
Owner 2		
Owner 3		
Owner 4		

2. Was the [NAME OF SAMPLED VESSEL] used to fish commercially for King or Spanish Mackerel during 2000?



2A. Did the total sales of King or Spanish Mackerel in 2000 account for at least five (5) percent of the vessel's total 2000 gross revenue from fishing?



3. Was the [NAME OF SAMPLED VESSEL] used to fish commercially for King or Spanish mackerel during 2001?

Yes  
No  
Don't Know  
Refused

1-----GO TO Q3A  
2-----GO TO INSTRUCTION A, PAGE 5  
8 →  
9

Who would be able to provide this information to us?  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**THANK AND  
TERMINATE**

3A. Did the total sales of King or Spanish Mackerel in 2001 account for at least five (5) percent of the vessel's total 2001 gross revenue from fishing?

Yes  
No  
Don't Know  
Refused

1-----GO TO INSTRUCTION A, PAGE 5  
2-----GO TO INSTRUCTION A, PAGE 5  
8 →  
9  
↓

Who would be able to provide this information to us?  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**THANK AND  
TERMINATE**

**INSTRUCTION A:** In order to be eligible for the full survey, the vessel must have:

- a. fished for King or Spanish Mackerel in 2000 with at least 5 percent of gross revenue from fishing coming from mackerel fishing (Q2A), where gross revenue from fishing is for commercial, charter or headboat fishing;

**OR**

- b. fished for King or Spanish Mackerel in 2001 with at least 5 percent of gross revenue from fishing coming from mackerel fishing (Q3A), where gross revenue from fishing is for commercial, charter or headboat fishing.

Because your vessel has fished commercially for King or Spanish Mackerel during the last two years, we need to obtain detailed information about this boat's commercial fishing activities during 2000 and 2001.

The information we need includes such items as the kinds of commercial fishing that were done, the distribution of total revenues by species, the locations fished, and detailed information about the configuration of the vessel. Are you the person most knowledgeable about these issues, or should I speak with someone else?

Name of Knowledgeable Person: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title/Position: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**INSTRUCTION B:** Contact knowledgeable person and schedule the interview.

[ONCE DESIGNATED RESPONDENT ON LINE, CONTINUE WITH]

I would like to make an appointment to come and visit with you. The interview itself ranges from 60 to 90 minutes, depending upon the amount of mackerel fishing you have done. I will be glad to visit you at your workplace to conduct the survey. What would be a good time for you?

**INSTRUCTION C:** Schedule a time and place convenient to the vessel captain/owner. Record the name, phone number, address and scheduled time:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

**Commercial Mackerel Vessel Owner/Operator Survey  
National Marine Fisheries Service**

*Captain Interview Form*

**INSTRUCTION A:** Complete this form **only** if the respondent has worked as a captain on the [NAME OF SAMPLED VESSEL] at least one time during 2000 or 2001 **or** if the owner has worked on the [NAME OF SAMPLED VESSEL] as a captain at least once during 2000 or 2001.

1. How many years have you been a captain of this vessel or any other commercial fishing vessel?

--	--	--	--

2. How many years have you been a commercial fisherman?

--	--	--	--

3. **[SHOW CARD A]** Which statements on this card describe the types of fishing you do? Select as many as apply. **[CIRCLE RESPONSES IN TABLE]**

(CARD A)

Type of Fishing	Yes
<b>Commercial fishing for king mackerel</b>	1
a. Off North Carolina	1
b. Off Volusia-Monroe Counties, FL	1
b1. November- March	1
b2. April-October	1
c. Off Louisiana	1
d. Elsewhere, Off Atlantic Coast	1
e. Elsewhere, off Gulf Coast	1
<b>Commercial fishing for Spanish mackerel</b>	1
f. Off North Carolina	1
g. Elsewhere, off Atlantic Coast	1
h. Off Louisiana	1
i. Elsewhere, off Gulf coast	1
<b>Commercial fishing for other species</b>	1
j. Off Atlantic coast	1
k. Off Gulf coast	1
<b>Charter boat fishing</b>	1
l. Off Atlantic coast	1
m. Off Gulf coast	1



4. **[SHOW CARD B]** Again, taking into account all the different kinds of commercial fishing you have done, which types of gear have you ever used for commercial fishing?

(CARD B)

Type of Fishing Gear	Yes
Trolling lines	1
Hand lines ("squid" lines)	1
Rod and reel	1
Bandit reel	1
Runaround gill nets	1
Stab, trammel nets	1
Other Gill nets	1
Pound/fyke/stake/hoop nets	1
Purse seines	1
Haul seines	1
Shrimp trawl nets	1
Other trawl nets	1
Bottom long lines	1
Surface long lines	1
Lobster traps/pots	1
Blue crab traps/pots	1
Stone crab traps/pots	1
Fish traps/pots	1
Downriggers	1
Other gear (specify: _____ )	1

5. [SHOW CARD C] Which of these fish or shellfish have you ever targeted as the main or primary catch when fishing commercially? Do not include incidental catches or bycatch.
6. [FOR EACH KIND CIRCLED IN Q.5, ASK:] Beginning with 1997 through 2000, during which of these years was [KIND] a main or primary catch when fishing commercially? (Circle under 6a – 6d below.)

(CARD C)

Main/Primary Catch	5. Ever Done	6a. 1997 All Vessels	6b. 1998 All Vessels	6c. 1999 All Vessels	6d. 2000 All Vessels
King mackerel	1	1	1	1	1
Spanish mackerel	1	1	1	1	1
Dolphin/cobia/wahoo	1	1	1	1	1
Tuna	1	1	1	1	1
Gag/black grouper	1	1	1	1	1
Scamp	1	1	1	1	1
Snowy grouper	1	1	1	1	1
Yellowedge Grouper	1	1	1	1	1
Warsaw Grouper	1	1	1	1	1
Other Grouper	1	1	1	1	1
Red snapper	1	1	1	1	1
Vermillion snapper	1	1	1	1	1
Gray snapper	1	1	1	1	1
Mutton snapper	1	1	1	1	1
Yellowtail snapper	1	1	1	1	1
Other snapper	1	1	1	1	1
Tilefish	1	1	1	1	1
Croaker/weakfish/mullet/bluefish	1	1	1	1	1
Other species	1	1	1	1	1
Charter boat fishing	1	1	1	1	1

**INSTRUCTION B:** If the captain being interviewed is also an owner, STOP HERE and go to the OWNER QUESTIONNAIRE.

7. Do you have any other employment or do any work other than operating a commercial fishing boat? Other employment includes working as a crew member on another fishing boat.

Yes 1  
 No 2-----GO TO Q.11  
 Refused 9-----GO TO Q.11

8. What other employment or work do you do? Consider all shore based work including seafood wholesaling or retailing, if applicable. **[RECORD IN TABLE 2]**
9. Is that full time or part time work?
10. During which months of the year do you do [TYPE OF EMPLOYMENT]?

(TABLE 2)

8. Type of Employment	9.Full Time (24+ hours/week)	9.Part Time (<24 hours/week)	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

11. How many other members besides yourself are there in your household?

**[IF NO OTHER HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS, GO TO Q.14]**

12. How many, if any, of these other members are employed

13. How many other household members, if any, work for or with you in your commercial fishing business?

14. Keeping in mind that all information you provide will be confidential and only reported in summary with other captains and owners, what was your 2000 gross revenue from fishing for the [NAME OF SAMPLED VESSEL]? Please include sales of all fish and shellfish and revenue from charter boat fishing.

 \$        

- 14A. What were the total fuel expenses in 2000?

 \$

15. [SHOW CARD D] Again, keeping in mind that all information you give will be kept confidential, what was your 2000 total household income before taxes? That is, the net income you personally got from all commercial fishing, all income you receive from other sources, as well as income earned by other household members. Just give me the number code for the group in which your total household income falls.

--	--

(CARD D)

2000 Household Income (Before Taxes)	Code
Less than 10,000	01
10,000 to 19,999	02
20,000 to 29,999	03
30,000 to 39,999	04
40,000 to 49,999	05
50,000 to 74,999	06
75,000 to 99,999	07
100,000 to 149,000	08
150,000 to 199,000	09
200,000 or greater	10
Don't Know	98
Refused	99

16. How did your 2000 total household income before taxes break down percentagewise by the following three sources—commercial mackerel fishing, other commercial fishing, and all other sources?

Commercial Mackerel Fishing \_\_\_\_\_%

Other Commercial Fishing \_\_\_\_\_%

Other Income Sources \_\_\_\_\_%

100%

17. What is the state, county, and ZIP code of your current residence?

State: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP Code: \_\_\_\_\_

18. How long have you lived in [NAME OF COUNTY]?

--	--

**19.** What was the last grade of school you completed?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Grade school                            | 1 |
| Some high school                        | 2 |
| High school graduate                    | 3 |
| Vocational/technical<br>School graduate | 4 |
| Some college                            | 5 |
| College graduate                        | 6 |
| Refused                                 | 9 |

**20.** How old are you?

**Commercial Mackerel Vessel Owner/Operator Survey  
 National Marine Fisheries Service**

**Owner Interview Form**

1. I need to confirm the locations where the [SAMPLED VESSEL] fishes commercially. Does this boat fish off North Carolina, along the Atlantic Coast other than North Carolina, off Louisiana, or in the Gulf of Mexico other than Louisiana? **[ENTER RESPONSES IN TABLE 1]**
2. Including the [NAME OF SAMPLED VESSEL], how many boats do you own that are used for commercial fishing along the Atlantic Coast, the Florida Keys, or in the Gulf of Mexico?

--	--

**INSTRUCTION A:** If response to Q.2 is "01", skip to Q.4; otherwise, continue with Q.3

3. How many of these boats, other than the [SAMPLED VESSEL], fish off North Carolina, along the Atlantic Coast other than North Carolina, off Louisiana, or along the Gulf of Mexico Coast other than Louisiana? **[ENTER RESPONSES IN TABLE 1]**

**(TABLE 1)**

Area Fished	1. Sampled Vessel (circle if YES)	2. All Other Boats (enter number)
North Carolina	1	
Atlantic Other than North Carolina	1	
Louisiana	1	
Gulf of Mexico Other than Louisiana	1	

4. **[SHOW CARD E]** Which statements on this card describe the type of commercial fishing the [NAME OF SAMPLED VESSEL] engages in? Select as many as apply.
5. How did the 2000 gross revenue of the [NAME OF SAMPLED VESSEL] break down percentagewise among these fishing activities?

**(CARD E)**

Type of Commercial Fishing	Yes	Percent of Total Vessel Revenue
<b>Commercial fishing for king mackerel</b>	1	
a. Off North Carolina	1	
b. Off Volusia-Monroe Counties, FL	1	
b1. November-March	1	
b2. April-October	1	
c. Off Louisiana	1	
d. Elsewhere, Off Atlantic Coast	1	
e. Elsewhere, off Gulf Coast	1	
<b>Commercial fishing for Spanish mackerel</b>	1	
f. Off North Carolina	1	
g. Elsewhere, off Atlantic Coast	1	
h. Off Louisiana	1	
i. Elsewhere, off Gulf coast	1	
<b>Commercial fishing for other species</b>	1	
j. Off Atlantic coast	1	
k. Off Gulf coast	1	
<b>Charter boat fishing</b>	1	
l. Off Atlantic coast	1	
m. Off Gulf coast	1	

**MUST ADD TO 100 PERCENT**      **—————>**      **100 PERCENT**





10. Of what material is its hull made?

- Wood 1
- Steel 2
- Fiberglass 3
- Other 4
  
- Don't Know 8
- Refused 9

Specify Hull Material:

11. What is the total horsepower of the main engine?

--	--	--	--

12. What type of fuel does the main engine use?

- Diesel 1
- Gasoline 2
  
- Don't Know 8
- Refused 9

13. How much fuel does the boat's tank hold in gallons?

--	--	--	--	--

14. What were the total fuel expenses in 2000?

\$						
----	--	--	--	--	--	--

15. What is the total capacity of the boat's onboard fish boxes or coolers in pounds?

--	--	--	--	--	--

16. In what year was this boat built?

--	--	--	--

17. In what year did the you (the current owner) purchase it?

--	--	--	--

18. **[SHOW CARD G]** Which, if any, of these types of electronic equipment are on board this boat? (Circle each item)

19. How many [TYPE OF EQUIPMENT] are on board this vessel?

**(CARD G)**

Type of Equipment	18. Yes, Available on Board	19. Number on Board
Loran-C	1	
GPS	1	
Plotter	1	
Paper Recorder	1	
LCD Fish Finder	1	
ColorScope	1	
Radar	1	
VHF Radio	1	
EPIRB (emergency)	1	
Cellular phone	1	
Computer	1	
Weatherfax	1	
Other (specify)	1	

20. **[SHOW CARD H]** How much was spent on this boat during 2000 for **[LIST ITEMS]**? You may need to refer to your records. Only include routine expenses during 2000. Do not include the cost of new equipment or replacement of old equipment.

**(CARD H)**

Expense Category	Dollar Amount Spent during 2000
Routine maintenance of hull	
Routine maintenance of engines	
Routine maintenance of fishing gear (excluding gear lost) and electronics	
Annual payments/Lease of limited entry permits (not owned)	
Payments on long-term debt for this boat and its equipment (principal and interest)	
State fishing licenses/permits	
Federal fishing licenses/permits	
Annual docking fees	
Membership fees	
Legal and accounting fees	
Office expenses such as rent, telephone, utilities	
Property taxes relating to this boat and fishing equipment	
Income taxes (Federal, State, and local) relating to this boat's fishing activities	
Social security and unemployment compensation payments for this boat's captain and owner	
Other (specify)	

21. **[SHOW CARD I]** Now let's talk about costs during 2000 for major hull repairs, new gear and equipment, replacement of worn out or lost gear and equipment, and outright purchase of limited entry permits. Which, if any, of the following types of costs did this boat incur during 2000?

22. [FOR EACH COST TYPE] What was the total cost of repairing, replacing, or purchasing this boat's [TYPE OF COST] during 2000?

23. How many times has [COST TYPE] occurred for this boat in the past 10 years?

**(CARD I)**

Cost Type	21. Types of repair/purchase costs	22. Repair/Replacement Cost	23. Number of Times in 10 Years
Major hull repairs	1		
New/rebuilt engine	1		
Anchor/chains/rope	1		
Rods/reels	1		
Nets	1		
Traps	1		
Equipment required by the USCG	1		
Other safety equipment	1		
Purchase of limited entry permits (now owned)	1		
Other (specify)	1		

24. Do you have any type of insurance coverage for this boat?

- Yes 1
- No 2-----GO TO Q.28
- Don't Know 8-----GO TO Q.28
- Refused 9-----GO TO Q.28

25. What was the 2000 coverage on this boat? Hull plus P&I, P&I only, or other type of insurance?  
(Table 3)

25A. What was the dollar amount of insurance coverage on this boat in 2000 for each of the types of insurance?

26. What was your 2000 deductible for each of the types of insurance?

27. How much did the coverage for each type of insurance you had cost in 2000?

(TABLE 3)

Insurance	25. Type of Coverage	25A. Dollar Amount of Coverage	26. Deductible	27. Annual Cost
Hull plus P&I	1			
P&I Only	1			
Other (specify)	1			

28. What is your (as owner) total investment in this boat? Be sure to include in the estimate what was paid for it, any one-time cost to make the boat seaworthy if it was in bad shape, the gear and electronics on board, and any required Coast Guard equipment you have had to purchase.

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

29. If this boat with its gear and electronics were to be sold today, how much do you believe it would sell for?

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

30. If you were to buy a brand new boat now, essentially the same as this one, including the same electronics and fishing gear, how much do you believe you would have to pay for it?

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

31. Do you have any other employment or do any work other than operating a commercial fishing boat? Other employment includes working as a crew member on another fishing vessel.

Yes	1
No	2-----GO TO Q.35
Refused	9-----GO TO Q.35

32. What other employment or work do you do? Consider all shore based work including seafood wholesaling or retailing, if applicable. (Table 4)

33. Is that full time or part time work?

34. During which months of the year do you do [TYPE OF EMPLOYMENT]?

(TABLE 4)

32. Type of Employment	33.Full Time (24+ hours/week)	33.Part Time (<24 hours/week)	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

35. How many other members besides yourself are there in your household?

[IF NONE (00), GO TO Q.38]

36. How many, if any, of these other members are employed?

37. How many other household members, if any, work for or with you in your commercial fishing business?

38. Keeping in mind that all information you provide will be confidential and only reported in summary with other captains and owners, what was your 2000 gross revenue from fishing for the [NAME OF SAMPLED VESSEL]? Please include sales of all fish and revenues from charter boat fishing.

39. What was the net income before taxes you cleared from this boat in 2000? That is, what is the difference between this boat's gross revenue minus all fishing expenses including crew share?

40. **[SHOW CARD J]** Again, keeping in mind that all information you give will be confidential, what was your 2000 total household income before taxes? That is, the net income you personally got from all fishing, all income you receive from other sources, as well as income earned by other household members. Just give me the number code for the group in which your total household income falls.

--	--

**(CARD J)**

2000 Household Income (Before Taxes)	Code
Less than 10,000	01
10,000 to 19,999	02
20,000 to 29,999	03
30,000 to 39,999	04
40,000 to 49,999	05
50,000 to 74,999	06
75,000 to 99,999	07
100,000 to 149,000	08
150,000 to 199,000	09
200,000 or greater	10
Don't Know	98
Refused	99

41. How did your 2000 total household income before taxes break down percentagewise by the following three sources—commercial mackerel fishing, other commercial fishing, and all other sources?

Commercial Mackerel Fishing \_\_\_\_\_ %

Other Commercial Fishing \_\_\_\_\_ %

Other Income Sources \_\_\_\_\_ %

100%

42. What is the state, county, and ZIP code of your current residence?

State: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP Code: \_\_\_\_\_

43. How long have you lived in [NAME OF COUNTY]?

--	--

44. What was the last grade of school you completed?

- Grade school 1
- Some high school 2
- High school graduate 3
- Vocational/technical School graduate 4
- Some college 5
- College graduate 6
- Refused 9

45. How old are you?

--	--

46. Which, if any, of the following forms of Federal limitations on fishing efforts would you favor to better manage the mackerel fisheries? You can select as many as you want. **[READ LIST]**

Federal Limitations	King Mackerel	Spanish Mackerel
Limit the number of boats	1	1
Limit when fishing may occur	1	1
Limit where fishing may occur	1	1
Limit fishing gear (types/size/number)	1	1
Use seasonal quotas followed by closures	1	1
Limit landings per season per boat (ITQ's)	1	1
Limit landings per trip per boat	1	1
Other (specify)	1	1
Use fixed open and closed seasons	1	1
Don't know	1	1
Refused	1	1

47. Are there any other comments you would like us to take back to the fishery managers?

## Commercial Mackerel Vessel Owner/Operator Survey National Marine Fisheries Service

### Typical Trip Form

**INSTRUCTION A:** This form elicits detailed revenues and expenditures on a **typical** commercial fishing trip. One form each should be completed for the following:

- (1) A typical King Mackerel fishing trip;
- (2) A typical Spanish Mackerel fishing trip;
- (3) The next largest category of commercial species caught by the vessel during 2000.

1. Is this trip form being completed for:

- |                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| King Mackerel                | 1 |
| Spanish Mackerel             | 2 |
| Largest Other Catch Category | 3 |

Specify species from  
captain/owner interview form :

Please answer the following questions by thinking about a **typical** trip for a particular species. We are interested in obtaining data that reflects a representative trip. If you need to refer to any records during the interview, that would be fine as long as the information you give reflects a typical trip.

2. What was the boat's principal port in 2000 when **[KIND FROM Q 1]** was the main or primary catch?

Port City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

3. What was the boat's average crew size, including the captain on a typical trip for **[KIND FROM Q1]**?

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4. During which months of 2000 was [KIND FROM Q 1] the boat's main or primary catch?
5. How many trips did the boat take for [KIND FROM Q 1] during [MONTH]?
6. How many days, on average, was the boat's typical trip for [KIND FROM Q 1] during [MONTH]? Be sure to count from the time the boat left the dock to the time of its return.

(TABLE 1)

Month	4. Fished for Species	5. Number of Trips	6. Days Per Typical Trip
JAN	1		
FEB	1		
MAR	1		
APR	1		
MAY	1		
JUN	1		
JUL	1		
AUG	1		
SEP	1		
OCT	1		
NOV	1		
DEC	1		

7. [ SHOW CARD K] What gear was used when fishing commercially for [KIND FROM Q 1]? Be sure to include also what was used for the "other" catch.

(CARD K)

Type of Gear	7. Actually Used?
Trolling lines	1
Hand lines ("squid" lines)	1
Rod and reel	1
Bandit reel	1
Runaround gill nets	1
Stab, trammel nets	1
Other Gill nets	1
Pound/fyke/stake/hoop nets	1
Purse seines	1
Haul seines	1
Shrimp trawl nets	1
Other trawl nets	1
Bottom long lines	1
Surface long lines	1
Lobster traps/pots	1
Blue crab traps/pots	1
Stone crab traps/pots	1
Fish traps/pots	1
Downrigger	1
Other gear (specify _____)	1

8. Think of a typical commercial fishing trip during 2000 when [KIND FROM Q1] was this boat's main or primary catch. What other kinds of fish made up the other kept catch on a typical fishing trip for [KIND FROM Q1]? You may want to refer to log book or records to select a specific typical trip.
9. What was the average total poundage of fish brought to the dock and sold per trip in 2000 when [KIND FROM Q1] was the main catch and [OTHER CATCH FROM Q8] were the incidental catch?

--	--	--	--	--	--

10. [FOR EACH SPECIES] How many pounds per typical trip were caught?
11. What was the price per pound received on a typical trip in 2000 when [KIND FROM Q1] was the main catch. I need the price for both the [KIND FROM Q1] and for each of the other species landed.
12. What percent of the total pounds by species on this typical trip were caught in Federal waters?

**INSTRUCTION B:** Multiply each entry in Column 3 below by Column 4 to determine Estimated Average Revenue per typical trip. Verify amount with respondent before proceeding

(TABLE 2)

Main/ Incidental Catch	8. Name of Species	10. Average Total Pounds Per Trip	11. Average Price/Pound by Species	Estimated Average Revenue (Calculated)	12. Average Percent in Federal Waters
Main					
Other-1					
Other-2					
Other-3					
Other-4					

SUM COLUMN 5 TO GET TOTAL REVENUE → \$ \_\_\_\_\_

13. Are you usually charged unloading and packing fees?

- |            |                  |
|------------|------------------|
| Yes        | 1                |
| No         | 2-----GO TO Q.17 |
| Don't know | 8-----GO TO Q.17 |
| Refused    | 9-----GO TO Q.17 |

14. What are the usual unloading and /or packing fees deducted from the sale of your catch?

--	--	--	--	--

15. Your average total unloading and/or packing fee for this typical trip would be **[CENTS FROM Q.14]** times the total pounds of **[add all Main and Other WEIGHTS in column FROM Q.10]** for a total cost of:

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

16. What was the usual condition of **[KIND FROM Q.1]** landed on the dock from this boat on those trips in 2000 when **[KIND FROM Q.1]** was the main or primary catch?

- Gutted, head on 1
- Whole, as caught 2
- Cored/plugged (no head, tail or guts ) 3
- Don't know 8
- Refused 9

17. To what type of buyer do you normally sell when you fish for **[KIND FROM Q.1]**?

- Restaurant 1
- Retailer/Wholesaler 2
- Wholesaler/Processor 3
- Don't know 8
- Refused 9

18. How many gallons of fuel did the boat use on a typical trip during 2000 when **[KIND FROM Q.1]** was the main or primary catch?

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

19. What was the boat's average fuel cost per trip in 2000 when fishing commercially for **[KIND FROM Q.1]**?

\$							
----	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

20. How many pounds of ice on average did the boat take on board per trip in 2000 for this kind of fishing?

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

21. What was the average cost for ice per trip in 2000 for this kind of fish?

\$							
----	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

**(IF ZERO COST, ASK Q.22; OTHERWISE, SKIP TO Q.23)**

22. How do you get your ice?

- Own an ice machine 1
- Lease an ice machine 2
- Given to me free 3
- Don't know 8
- Refused 9

23. How many pounds of bait on average did the boat take on board per trip in 2000 for this kind of fishing?

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

24. What kind of bait did you usually use on this boat in 2000 when fishing commercially for **[KIND FROM Q.1]**?

- Jigs, spoons or other artificial lures 1
- "Bugs" (1 or 2 hooks covered by feathers, frayed rope, etc.; may use belly meat from mullet or menhaden as strip bait, for "bandit" reels) 2
- Live bait (shrimp, fish) 3
- Dead bait (cut fish, squid, octopus) 4
- Chum (cut fish, squid, octopus) 5
- Other 6
- None 7
- Don't know 8
- Refused 9

Specify:

25. What was the average cost for bait per trip in 2000 for this kind of fish?

\$						
----	--	--	--	--	--	--

**(IF ZERO COST, ASK Q.26; OTHERWISE, SKIP TO Q.27)**

26. How do you get your bait?

- Fish for it 1
- Given to me free 2
- Other 3
- Don't know 8
- Refused 9

Specify:

27. On a typical trip for **[KIND IN Q.1]** there is usually some gear loss like hooks, line, swivels, bungee cords, weights, and the like. What was the average cost of this type of gear loss per trip in 2000 when fishing for **[KIND FROM Q.1]**? Do not include occasional major gear losses such as reels, anchors, and the like.

\$						
----	--	--	--	--	--	--

28. What was the boat's average cost for food and beverages per trip for this kind of fishing?

\$						
----	--	--	--	--	--	--

To help us understand how you determine captain, boat, and crew shares, I'd like you to go through some calculations for a typical trip where **[KIND FROM Q.1]** was the main catch and the usual revenue for the main and incidental catches was **[TOTAL REVENUES FROM TABLE 2]**.

29. [SHOW CARD L] What, if anything, do you deduct before determining captain, boat, and crew shares?

30. For each item deducted, about how much was taken out?

(CARD L)

	Cost Category	Amount
<b>Typical Total Revenue</b> _____		_____
<b>Deductions</b>	Unloading/packing fees	_____
	Fuel	_____
	Ice	_____
	Bait	_____
	Gear loss	_____
	Food	_____
	Captain's fixed fee	_____
	Boat's fixed fee	_____
	Other	_____
<b>Total Deductions</b>		_____
<b>Net Revenue</b>		_____

31. Of this net revenue, how much was the captain's share?

\_\_\_\_\_

32. Of this net revenue, how much was the boat's share?

\_\_\_\_\_

33. Of this net revenue, how much was the crew's share?

\_\_\_\_\_

34. Is a crew member's share based on what he, himself, actually caught or on some other basis?

- Share of net revenue            1
- Some other basis                2
- Not applicable/no crew        3
  
- Don't know                        8
- Refused                            9

**SEC. 303. CONTENTS OF FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS 16 U.S.C. 1853**

**95-354, 99-659, 101-627, 104-297**

**(a) REQUIRED PROVISIONS.**--Any fishery management plan which is prepared by any Council, or by the Secretary, with respect to any fishery, shall--

(1) contain the conservation and management measures, applicable to foreign fishing and fishing by vessels of the United States, which are--

(A) necessary and appropriate for the conservation and management of the fishery to prevent overfishing and rebuild overfished stocks, and to protect, restore, and promote the long-term health and stability of the fishery;

(B) described in this subsection or subsection (b), or both; and

(C) consistent with the national standards, the other provisions of this Act, regulations implementing recommendations by international organizations in which the United States participates (including but not limited to closed areas, quotas, and size limits), and any other applicable law;

(2) contain a description of the fishery, including, but not limited to, the number of vessels involved, the type and quantity of fishing gear used, the species of fish involved and their location, the cost likely to be incurred in management, actual and potential revenues from the fishery, any recreational interest in the fishery, and the nature and extent of foreign fishing and Indian treaty fishing rights, if any;

(3) assess and specify the present and probable future condition of, and the maximum sustainable yield and optimum yield from, the fishery, and include a summary of the information utilized in making such specification;

(4) assess and specify--

(A) the capacity and the extent to which fishing vessels of the United States, on an annual basis, will harvest the optimum yield specified under paragraph (3),

(B) the portion of such optimum yield which, on an annual basis, will not be harvested by fishing vessels of the United States and can be made available for foreign fishing, and

(C) the capacity and extent to which United States fish processors, on an annual basis, will process that portion of such optimum yield that will be harvested by fishing vessels of the United States;

(5) specify the pertinent data which shall be submitted to the Secretary with respect to commercial, recreational, and charter fishing in the fishery, including, but not limited to,

information regarding the type and quantity of fishing gear used, catch by species in numbers of fish or weight thereof, areas in which fishing was engaged in, time of fishing, number of hauls, and the estimated processing capacity of, and the actual processing capacity utilized by, United States fish processors;

(6) consider and provide for temporary adjustments, after consultation with the Coast Guard and persons utilizing the fishery, regarding access to the fishery for vessels otherwise prevented from harvesting because of weather or other ocean conditions affecting the safe conduct of the fishery; except that the adjustment shall not adversely affect conservation efforts in other fisheries or discriminate among participants in the affected fishery;

(7) describe and identify essential fish habitat for the fishery based on the guidelines established by the Secretary under section 305(b)(1)(A), minimize to the extent practicable adverse effects on such habitat caused by fishing, and identify other actions to encourage the conservation and enhancement of such habitat;

(8) in the case of a fishery management plan that, after January 1, 1991, is submitted to the Secretary for review under section 304(a) (including any plan for which an amendment is submitted to the Secretary for such review) or is prepared by the Secretary, assess and specify the nature and extent of scientific data which is needed for effective implementation of the plan;

(9) include a fishery impact statement for the plan or amendment (in the case of a plan or amendment thereto submitted to or prepared by the Secretary after October 1, 1990) which shall assess, specify, and describe the likely effects, if any, of the conservation and management measures on--

(A) participants in the fisheries and fishing communities affected by the plan or amendment; and

(B) participants in the fisheries conducted in adjacent areas under the authority of another Council, after consultation with such Council and representatives of those participants;

(10) specify objective and measurable criteria for identifying when the fishery to which the plan applies is overfished (with an analysis of how the criteria were determined and the relationship of the criteria to the reproductive potential of stocks of fish in that fishery) and, in the case of a fishery which the Council or the Secretary has determined is approaching an overfished condition or is overfished, contain conservation and management measures to prevent overfishing or end overfishing and rebuild the fishery;

(11) establish a standardized reporting methodology to assess the amount and type of bycatch occurring in the fishery, and include conservation and management measures that, to the extent practicable and in the following priority--

(A) minimize bycatch; and

(B) minimize the mortality of bycatch which cannot be avoided;

(12) assess the type and amount of fish caught and released alive during recreational fishing under catch and release fishery management programs and the mortality of such fish, and include conservation and management measures that, to the extent practicable, minimize mortality and ensure the extended survival of such fish;

(13) include a description of the commercial, recreational, and charter fishing sectors which participate in the fishery and, to the extent practicable, quantify trends in landings of the managed fishery resource by the commercial, recreational, and charter fishing sectors; and

(14) to the extent that rebuilding plans or other conservation and management measures which reduce the overall harvest in a fishery are necessary, allocate any harvest restrictions or recovery benefits fairly and equitably among the commercial, recreational, and charter fishing sectors in the fishery.

97-453, 99-659, 101-627, 102-251, 104-297

**(b) DISCRETIONARY PROVISIONS.**--Any fishery management plan which is prepared by any Council, or by the Secretary, with respect to any fishery, may--

(1) require a permit to be obtained from, and fees to be paid to, the Secretary, with respect to--

(A) any fishing vessel of the United States fishing, or wishing to fish, in the exclusive economic zone [or special areas,]\* or for anadromous species or Continental Shelf fishery resources beyond such zone [or areas]\*;

(B) the operator of any such vessel; or

(C) any United States fish processor who first receives fish that are subject to the plan;

(2) designate zones where, and periods when, fishing shall be limited, or shall not be permitted, or shall be permitted only by specified types of fishing vessels or with specified types and quantities of fishing gear;

(3) establish specified limitations which are necessary and appropriate for the conservation and management of the fishery on the--

(A) catch of fish (based on area, species, size, number, weight, sex, bycatch, total biomass, or other factors);

(B) sale of fish caught during commercial, recreational, or charter fishing, consistent with any applicable Federal and State safety and quality requirements; and



(C) transshipment or transportation of fish or fish products under permits issued pursuant to section 204;

(4) prohibit, limit, condition, or require the use of specified types and quantities of fishing gear, fishing vessels, or equipment for such vessels, including devices which may be required to facilitate enforcement of the provisions of this Act;

(5) incorporate (consistent with the national standards, the other provisions of this Act, and any other applicable law) the relevant fishery conservation and management measures of the coastal States nearest to the fishery;

(6) establish a limited access system for the fishery in order to achieve optimum yield if, in developing such system, the Council and the Secretary take into account--

(A) present participation in the fishery,

(B) historical fishing practices in, and dependence on, the fishery,

(C) the economics of the fishery,

(D) the capability of fishing vessels used in the fishery to engage in other fisheries,

(E) the cultural and social framework relevant to the fishery and any affected fishing communities, and

(F) any other relevant considerations;

(7) require fish processors who first receive fish that are subject to the plan to submit data (other than economic data) which are necessary for the conservation and management of the fishery;

(8) require that one or more observers be carried on board a vessel of the United States engaged in fishing for species that are subject to the plan, for the purpose of collecting data necessary for the conservation and management of the fishery; except that such a vessel shall not be required to carry an observer on board if the facilities of the vessel for the quartering of an observer, or for carrying out observer functions, are so inadequate or unsafe that the health or safety of the observer or the safe operation of the vessel would be jeopardized;

(9) assess and specify the effect which the conservation and management measures of the plan will have on the stocks of naturally spawning anadromous fish in the region;

(10) include, consistent with the other provisions of this Act, conservation and management measures that provide harvest incentives for participants within each gear group to employ fishing practices that result in lower levels of bycatch or in lower levels of the mortality of bycatch;

16 U.S.C. 1853

(11) reserve a portion of the allowable biological catch of the fishery for use in scientific research; and

(12) prescribe such other measures, requirements, or conditions and restrictions as are determined to be necessary and appropriate for the conservation and management of the fishery.

97-453, 104-297

determination within 245 days after the last day of the anniversary month of an order for which a review is requested and a final determination within 120 days after the date on which the preliminary determination is published. However, if it is not practicable to complete the review within these time periods, section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Act allows the Department to extend the time limit for the preliminary determination to a maximum of 365 days and for the final determination to 180 days (or 300 days if the Department does not extend the time limit for the preliminary determination) from the date of publication of the preliminary determination.

#### *Background*

On August 30, 1999, the Department published a notice of initiation of administrative review of the antidumping duty order on Silicon Metal from Brazil, covering the period July 1, 1998 through June 30, 1999 (64 FR 47167). The preliminary results are currently due no later than April 1, 2000.

#### *Extension of Time Limit for Preliminary Results of Review*

We determine that it is not practicable to complete the preliminary results of this review within the original time limit. Therefore, the Department is extending the time limit for completion of the preliminary results until no later than July 30, 2000. See Decision Memorandum from Thomas Futtner to Holly A. Kuga, dated February 25, 2000, which is on file in the Central Records Unit, Room B-099 of the main Commerce building. We intend to issue the final results no later than 120 days after the publication of the preliminary results notice.

This extension is in accordance with section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Act.

Dated: February 25, 2000.

**Holly A. Kuga,**

*Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary, Import Administration, Group II.*

[FR Doc. 00-5075 Filed 3-1-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P**

## **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

### **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[I.D. 022500D]

#### **North Carolina and Louisiana Commercial King and/or Spanish Mackerel Fishermen Pilot Economic Survey**

**AGENCY:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

**ACTION:** Proposed Collection; comment request.

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

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before May 1, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 507, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW, Washington DC 20230 (or via the Internet at LEngelme@doc.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to John Vondruska, Department of Commerce, NCAA, National Marine Fisheries Service, Fisheries Economics Office, 9721 Executive Center Drive N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **I. Abstract**

The North Carolina and Louisiana Commercial King and/or Spanish Mackerel Fishermen Pilot Economic Survey will consist of telephone screening with in-person interviews of commercial fishermen in North Carolina and Louisiana possessing Federal commercial mackerel fishing permits. The survey will provide NMFS with economic information to better estimate the effects of regulations proposed for the King and Spanish mackerel commercial fisheries. The survey will also provide a better basis for designing statistically-random surveys for other strata of the population of boats that engage in these and other fisheries in a seasonally-complex round of economic activity throughout the Southeast

(coastal states from North Carolina to Texas). Monitoring of these fisheries is required under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

##### **II. Method of Collection**

The information sought will be collected through telephone screener interviews and in-person data collection. The frame of vessels in North Carolina and Louisiana holding Federal commercial mackerel fishing permits will be randomly sampled (separately by state).

##### **III. Data**

*OMB Number:* None.

*Form Number:* None.

*Type of Review:* Regular submission.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit organizations (commercial mackerel fishermen in North Carolina and Louisiana).

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 103.

*Estimated Time Per Response:* Average response times are estimated at 12 minutes per telephone screening interview, 15 minutes per captain interview, 20 minutes per owner interview, and 45 minutes (15 minutes x 3 times) per typical trip interview for a total time of 92 minutes per respondent.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 160 hours.

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

##### **IV. Request for Comments**

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

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

Dated: February 24, 2000

**Linda Engelmeier,**

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

[FR Doc. 00-5064 Filed 3-1-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-F**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 022500E]

#### Alaska Region Permit Family of Forms

**AGENCY:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

**ACTION:** Proposed Collection; comment request.

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

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before May 1, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5027, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW, Washington DC 20230 (or via Internet at LEngelme@doc.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Patsy A. Bearden, National Marine Fisheries Service, Alaska Region, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, Alaska 99802, 907-586-7228.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **I. Abstract**

Fishermen wanting to fish in regulated fisheries in the Exclusive Economic Zone off Alaska must apply for a Federal Fisheries Permit, a Federal Processor Permit, a High Seas Power Troller Permit, or an Experimental Fishing Permit. The issuance of a permit is an essential ingredient in the management of fishery resources. Identification of the participants, harvest gear types, descriptions of vessels or shoreside facilities, and expected activity levels is needed to measure the consequences of management controls, and is an effective tool in the enforcement of

other fishery regulations. Experience has shown that fines for violations of specific fishery regulations are not as effective as the threat of a permit revocation that would exclude the vessel from the fishery altogether. Experimental fishing provides information not otherwise available through research or commercial fishing operations.

##### **II. Method of Collection**

Each of the four permits is mandatory for certain fishery participants. A permit is obtained through completion of an application form.

##### **III. Data**

*OMB Number:* 0648-0206.

*Form Number:* None.

*Type of Review:* Regular submission.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households; business or other for-profit organizations.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 2,814.

*Estimated Time Per Response:* 20 minutes for a Federal Fisheries Permit or Federal Processor Permit application, 30 minutes for applications for a Scallop Moratorium Permit Transfer or High Seas Power Troller Permit in the Salmon Fishery, and 30 hours for an Experimental Fishing Permit application.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 358.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* \$1,413.

##### **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: February 24, 2000.

**Linda Engelmeier,**

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

[FR Doc. 00-5065 Filed 3-1-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-F**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D.022800A]

#### Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC); Public Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council and the New England Fishery Management Council Scientific and Statistical Committees (SSC) will hold a joint public meeting.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Monday, March 13, 2000, from 10:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** This meeting will be held at the Sheraton International Hotel at Baltimore International Airport, 7032 Elm Road, Baltimore, MD; telephone 410-859-3300.

Council address: Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 300 S. New Street, Dover, DE 19904, telephone 302-674-2331.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Daniel T. Furlong, Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; telephone: 302-674-2331, ext. 19.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Mid-Atlantic and New England Fishery Management Councils recently initiated management of spiny dogfish (*Squalus acanthias*) pursuant to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976 as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act through the development of the Spiny Dogfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP). The New England and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Councils adopted recommendations relative to second year management measures for spiny dogfish at their respective meetings in November and December 1999. The Councils failed to reach agreement relative to the preferred measures for spiny dogfish in 2000-2001. As such, the respective measures recommended by each Council were presented to the Regional Administrator. The FMP specifies that the Regional