

NOTICE OF OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET ACTION

Diana Hynek 09/27/2002
Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer
Office of the Chief Information Officer
14th and Constitution Ave. NW.
Room 6625
Washington, DC 20230

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, OMB has taken the following action on your request for approval of the reinstatement of an information collection received on 08/05/2002.

TITLE: Vessel-Marking Requirements in Antarctic Fisheries

AGENCY FORM NUMBER(S): None

ACTION : APPROVED WITHOUT CHANGE

OMB NO.: 0648-0368

EXPIRATION DATE: 09/30/2005

BURDEN:	RESPONSES	HOURS	COSTS(\$,000)
Previous	0	0	0
New	3	2	0
Difference	3	2	0
Program Change		2	0
Adjustment		0	0

TERMS OF CLEARANCE: None

OMB Authorizing Official Title

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

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT SUBMISSION

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

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

19. Certification for Paperwork Reduction Act Submissions

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

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

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

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

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

Signature of Senior Official or designee

Date

Agency Certification (signature of Assistant Administrator or head of MB staff for L.O.s, or of the Director of a Program or Staff Office)

Signature

Date

Signature of NOAA Clearance Officer

Signature

Date

**SUPPORTING STATEMENT
VESSEL-MARKING REQUIREMENTS IN ANTARCTIC WATERS
OMB CONTROL NO. 0648-0368**

A. JUSTIFICATION

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

The success of fisheries management programs depends significantly on regulatory compliance. The vessel identification requirement is essential to facilitate enforcement. The ability to link fishing or other activity to the vessel owner or operator is crucial to enforcement of regulations issued under the authority of the Antarctic Marine Living Resources Convention Act of 1984 to govern fishing in the area of the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR).

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

The vessel's official number (or international radio call sign, ICRS, if a foreign vessel), is required to be displayed on the port and starboard sides of the deckhouse or hull, and on a weather deck. It identifies each vessel and should be visible at a distance at sea and from the air. The official number provides law enforcement personnel or inspectors with a means to monitor fishing, at-sea processing, and other related activities, to ascertain whether the vessel's observed activities are in accordance with those authorized for that vessel. The identifying number is generally used by the National Marine Fisheries Service, the U. S. Coast Guard, and other marine agencies in issuing violations, prosecutions, and other enforcement actions. The United States, however, does not currently maintain an enforcement presence in the CCAMLR area. The United States does designate scientists and/or officers aboard its Antarctic Marine Living resources (AMLR) research vessels to serve as International CCAMLR Inspectors. CCAMLR Inspectors are authorized, by international agreement, to board vessels harvesting in the Convention area and to inspect for compliance with CCAMLR conservation and management measures. Vessels that fish in the Convention area are readily identified when the vessels are marked, vessel marking violations are more readily prosecuted, allowing for more cost-effective enforcement. Cooperating fishers also use the number to report suspicious activities that they observe. Regulation-compliant fisheries ultimately benefit as unauthorized and illegal fishing is deterred and more burdensome regulations are avoided.

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

The requirement that each vessel display an identification number on its deckhouse or hull, and its weatherdeck, does not lend itself to advanced technology. Transponders and vessel monitoring systems (VMS) units are comparatively very expensive and require international

agreement for their use in the CCAMLR area. No other technology appears to be less costly and still capable of providing necessary enforcement to support enforcement.

4. Describe efforts to identify duplication.

There is no duplication with other collections. An identifying number is required by the National Marine Fisheries Service, although the U.S. Coast Guard requires the name of the vessel be marked on its hull.

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

Nearly all marine fishing vessels are categorized as small businesses. The collection will not have a significant impact on small businesses, and no special modifications of the requirements were considered necessary to accommodate the needs of small businesses.

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

The National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Coast Guard could not enforce the fisheries management measures and CCAMLR Inspectors could not conduct vessel inspections, if the vessel is not marked.

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

No special circumstances require the collection to be conducted in a manner inconsistent with OMB guidelines.

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 Federal Register notice (copy attached) was published to solicit public comment on NOAA's plans to ask for renewed clearance of this requirement, and no comments were received.

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

There are no payments or gifts to respondents.

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

There is no assurance of confidentiality provided. This is public information.

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.

There are no sensitive questions.

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

Fifteen minutes are required to paint each of three places on the vessel, or overall 45 minutes per vessel. Given adverse weather conditions, each number will need to be repainted or repaired annually.

$$3 \text{ vessels} \times 3 \text{ markings/vessel} \times 15 \text{ minutes/marking} = 2.25 \text{ hours}$$

Annualized cost to respondents for the hour burden for the collection: Labor costs are about \$15.00 per hour, with an average estimated time of 2.25 hours, for a total of \$33.75 annually.

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

(a) Total annualized capital and start-up costs: None

(b) Total operations, maintenance, and purchase of services: Materials needed are paint and a paintbrush and, possibly, a stencil at a total approximate cost of \$30.00. Total costs would be \$30 x 3 vessels = \$90.

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

None.

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

This is a program change from reinstatement of an expired clearance.

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

There are no results to be published.

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

Since this is a display requirement, there isn't any collection upon which is display the approval number.

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

None.

B. COLLECTIONS OF INFORMATION EMPLOYING STATISTICAL METHODS

This collection of information will not employ statistical methods.

§ 300.108

50 CFR Ch. III (10-1-01 Edition)

sign each DCD provided by the master of the harvesting vessel.

(ii) Prior to landing *Dissostichus* species, the master of the transshipping vessel must:

(A) Obtain on each DCD (or copies thereof) the signature(s) of both the responsible official(s) designated by NMFS in the permit, and the dealer(s) that receives the catch at the port(s) of landing and

(B) Sign each DCD (or copies thereof), and electronically convey by the most rapid means possible each copy to NMFS and to the flag state(s) of the harvesting vessel(s) and provide a copy to each dealer receiving *Dissostichus* species.

(iii) The master of the transshipping vessel must submit all DCDs with original signatures to NMFS no later than 30 days after offloading and retain copies for a period of 2 years.

(4) *Receivers upon landing.* Any dealer who receives *Dissostichus* species from a harvesting vessel or from a transshipment vessel must sign the DCD(s) provided by the master of the vessel.

(5) *Import.* (i) Any dealer who imports *Dissostichus* species must:

(A) Obtain the DCD(s) that accompany the import shipment;

(B) Mail or fax the DCD(s) to NMFS within 24 hours of the release from customs custody, and

(C) Retain a copy for his/her records and provide copies to exporters as needed.

(ii) Dealers must retain at their place of business a copy of the DCD for a period of 2 years from the date on the DCD.

(6) *Re-export.* (i) Any dealer who re-exports *Dissostichus* species must complete a *Dissostichus* re-export document by indicating:

(A) The amount from the original DCD(s) that is exported in the particular export shipment;

(B) The number of the original DCD(s);

(C) The name of the importer and point of import; and

(D) The exporter's name, address and permit number.

(ii) The dealer must then sign the re-export document and obtain validation by a responsible official(s) designated by NMFS.

(iii) The original validated *Dissostichus* re-export document and copies of the original DCD(s) must accompany the export shipment.

(iv) The dealer must retain a copy of the re-export document and copies of the DCD(s) at his/her place of business for a period of 2 years from the date on the DCD.

(7) *Exception.* *Dissostichus* species harvested prior to the effective date of this rule may be imported during the first 60 days following the effective date of this rule, provided that the date of the harvest(s) are corroborated on the dealer permit.

[65 FR 30016, May 10, 2000]

§ 300.108 Vessel and gear identification.

(a) *Vessel identification.* (1) The operator of each harvesting vessel assigned an IRCS must display that call sign amidships on both the port and starboard sides of the deckhouse or hull, so that it is visible from an enforcement or inspection vessel, and on an appropriate weather deck so that it is visible from the air.

(2) The operator of each harvesting vessel not assigned an IRCS, such as a small trawler associated with a mothership or one of a pair of trawlers, must display the IRCS of the associated vessel, followed by a numerical suffix specific for the non-assigned vessel.

(3) The vessel identification must be in a color in contrast to the background and must be permanently affixed to the harvesting vessel in block roman alphabet letters and arabic numerals at least 1 m in height for harvesting vessels over 20 m in length, and at least 0.5 m in height for all other harvesting vessels.

(b) *Navigational lights and shapes.* Each harvesting vessel must display the lights and shapes prescribed by the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972 (TIAS 8587, and 1981 amendment TIAS 10672), for the activity in which the harvesting vessel is engaged (as described at 33 CFR part 81).

(c) *Gear identification.* (1) The operator of each harvesting vessel must ensure that all deployed fishing gear that

Int'l. Fishing and Related Activities

§ 300.110

is not physically and continuously attached to a harvesting vessel is clearly marked at the surface with a buoy displaying the vessel identification of the harvesting vessel (see paragraph (a) of this section) to which the gear belongs, a light visible for 2 miles at night in good visibility, and a radio buoy. Trawl codends passed from one vessel to another are considered continuously attached gear and do not have to be marked.

(2) The operator of each harvesting vessel must ensure that deployed longlines, strings of traps or pots, and gillnets are marked at the surface at each terminal end with a buoy displaying the vessel identification of the harvesting vessel to which the gear belongs (see paragraph (a) of this section), a light visible for 2 miles at night in good visibility, and a radio buoy.

(3) Unmarked or incorrectly identified fishing gear may be considered abandoned and may be disposed of in accordance with applicable Federal regulations by any authorized officer or CCAMLR inspector.

(d) *Maintenance.* The operator of each harvesting vessel must:

(1) Keep the vessel and gear identification clearly legible and in good repair.

(2) Ensure that nothing on the harvesting vessel obstructs the view of the markings from an enforcement or inspection vessel or aircraft.

(3) Ensure that the proper navigational lights and shapes are displayed for the harvesting vessel's activity and are properly functioning.

§ 300.109 Gear disposal.

(a) The operator of a harvesting vessel may not dump overboard, jettison or otherwise discard any article or substance that may interfere with other fishing vessels or gear, or that may catch fish or cause damage to any marine resource, including marine mammals and birds, except in cases of emergency involving the safety of the ship or crew, or as specifically authorized by communication from the appropriate USCG commander or authorized officer. These articles and substances include, but are not limited to, fishing gear, net scraps, bale straps, plastic

bags, oil drums, petroleum containers, oil, toxic chemicals or any manmade items retrieved in a harvesting vessel's gear.

(b) The operator of a harvesting vessel may not abandon fishing gear in Convention waters.

(c) The operator of a harvesting vessel must provide a copy of the CCAMLR information brochure "Marine Debris—A Potential Threat to Antarctic Marine Mammals" to each member of the crew of the harvesting vessel and must display copies of the CCAMLR placard "Avoidance of Incidental Mortality of Antarctic Marine Mammals" in the wheelhouse and crew quarters of the harvesting vessels. Copies of the brochure and placard will be provided to each holder of a harvesting permit by NMFS when issuing the permit.

§ 300.110 Mesh size.

(a) The use of pelagic and bottom trawls having the mesh size in any part of a trawl less than indicated is prohibited for any directed fishing for the following Antarctic finfishes:

(1) *Notothenia rossii* and *Dissostichus eleginoides*—120 mm.

(2) *Champscephalus gunnari*—90 mm.

(3) *Gobionotothen gibberifrons*, *Notothenia kempfi* and *Lepidorhirus squamifrons*—80 mm.

(b) Any means or device that would reduce the size or obstruct the opening of the meshes is prohibited.

(c) The following procedure will be used for determining compliance with mesh size requirements.

(1) *Description of gauges.* (i) Gauges for determining mesh sizes will be 2 mm thick, flat, of durable material and capable of retaining their shape. They may have either a series of parallel-sided edges connected by intermediate tapering edges with a taper of one to eight on each side, or only tapering edges with the taper defined above. They will have a hole at the narrowest extremity.

(ii) Each gauge will be inscribed on its face with the width in millimeters both on the parallel-sided section, if any, and on the tapering section. In the case of the latter, the width will be inscribed every 1 mm interval, but the

Sec. 2434. Conservation measures; system of observation and inspection

- (a) Conservation measures
 - (1) The Secretary of State, with the concurrence of the Secretary of Commerce and the Director of the National Science Foundation, is authorized -
 - (A) to decide on behalf of the United States whether the United States is unable to accept or can no longer accept a conservation measure adopted by the Commission pursuant to article IX of the Convention, and
 - (B) to notify the Commission of any such decision in accordance with article IX of the Convention.
 - (2) The Secretary of State shall -
 - (A) publish in the Federal Register, if practicable, timely notice of each proposed decision under paragraph (1) and invite written public comment regarding it; and
 - (B) publish in the Federal Register notice of each notification made to the Commission under paragraph (1).
- (b) System of observation and inspection

The Secretary of State, with the concurrence of the Secretary of Commerce, the Director of the National Science Foundation and the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating, is authorized to agree on behalf of the United States to the establishment of a system of observation and inspection, and to interim arrangements pending establishment of such a system, pursuant to article XXIV of the Convention.
- (c) Communications from the Commission

The Secretary of State is further authorized to receive, on behalf of the United States Government, reports, requests, and other communications from the Commission and to take appropriate action on them, either directly or by reference to the appropriate authority.

Sec. 2435. Unlawful activities

It is unlawful for any person -

- (1) to engage in harvesting or other associated activities in violation of the provisions of the Convention or in violation of a conservation measure in force with respect to the United States pursuant to article IX of the Convention;
- (2) to violate any regulation promulgated under this chapter;
- (3) to ship, transport, offer for sale, sell, purchase, import, export, or have custody, control or possession of, any Antarctic marine living resource (or part or product thereof) which he knows, or reasonably should have known, was harvested in violation of a conservation measure in force with respect to the United States pursuant to article IX of the Convention or in violation of any regulation promulgated under this chapter, without regard to the citizenship of the person that harvested, or vessel that was used in the harvesting of, the Antarctic marine living resource (or part or product thereof);
- (4) to refuse to permit any authorized officer or employee of the United States to board a vessel of the United States or a vessel subject to the jurisdiction of the United States for purposes of conducting any search or inspection in connection with the enforcement of the Convention, this chapter, or any regulations promulgated under this chapter;
- (5) to assault, resist, oppose, impede, intimidate, or interfere with any authorized officer or employee of the United States in the conduct of any search or inspection described in paragraph (4);
- (6) to resist a lawful arrest or detention for any act prohibited by this section; or
- (7) to interfere with, delay, or prevent, by any means, the apprehension, arrest, or detention of another person, knowing

that such other person has committed any act prohibited by this section.

Sec. 2436. Regulations

The Secretary of Commerce, after consultation with the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating, and the heads of other appropriate departments or agencies of the United States, shall promulgate such regulations as are necessary and appropriate to implement the provisions of this chapter.

I. Abstract

Under the provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*), NOAA is responsible for management of the Nation's marine fisheries. In addition, NOAA must comply with the United States' obligations under the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act of 1975 (16 U.S.C. 971 *et seq.*). NMFS collects information via vessel logbooks to monitor the U.S. catch of Atlantic swordfish, sharks, and bluefin tuna in relation to the quotas, thereby ensuring that the United States complies with its international obligations. The information supplied through vessel logbooks also provides the catch and effort data necessary to assess the status of highly migratory species and to evaluate bycatch in each fishery. Stock assessments are conducted and presented to the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) periodically and provide, in part, the basis for ICCAT management recommendations which become binding on member nations. Supplementary information on fishing costs and earnings has been collected via this vessel logbook program on a voluntary basis. This economic information enables NMFS to assess the economic impacts of regulatory programs on small businesses and fishing communities. Given the need for more representative data and more complete analyses, NMFS proposes to make the cost/earnings summary a mandatory requirement of this program.

II. Method of Collection

Vessel owners who are issued a vessel permit in the swordfish or shark fisheries are required to complete vessel logbooks for all trips targeting Atlantic highly migratory species (HMS). In addition, selected tuna vessels (10 percent of permitted fleet) will be required to complete logbooks. Under this revised collection, the cost/earnings summary of the logbook would be required for selected vessels for all trips targeting HMS.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0371.

Form Number: NOAA Form 88-191.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations (fishing vessel owners).

Estimated Number of Respondents: 5,840.

Estimated Time Per Response: 10 minutes for cost/earnings summaries attached to logbook reports, 12 minutes

for logbook catch reports, 2 minutes for negative logbook catch reports.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 25,383.

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

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: November 29, 2001.

Madeleine Clayton,

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

[FR Doc. 01-30292 Filed 12-5-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[I.D. 120301D]

**Proposed Information Collection;
Comment Request; Vessel-Marking
Requirements in Antarctic Waters**

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

ACTION: Notice.

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

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before February 4, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Madeleine Clayton, Departmental

Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6086, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW, Washington DC 20230 (or via Internet at MClayton@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Robin Tuttle, F/ST3, Room 12643, SSMC-3, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3282 (phone 301-713-2282, ext. 199).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**I. Abstract**

U.S. vessels participating in Antarctic fisheries must display the vessel's official identification number or international radio call sign in three locations on the vessel. The requirement aids in the enforcement of fishery regulations.

II. Method of Collection

The information is displayed in three locations on the vessel.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0368.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

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

Estimated Number of Respondents: 3.

Estimated Time Per Response: 45 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 2.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$90.

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: November 29, 2001.

Madeleine Clayton,

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

[FR Doc. 01-30293 Filed 12-5-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Telecommunications and Information Administration

[Docket Number 981203295-1272-06;
CFDA: 11.552]

RIN 0660-ZA06

Technology Opportunities Program

AGENCY: National Telecommunications and Information Administration, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of solicitation of grant applications.

SUMMARY: The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) issues this Notice describing the conditions under which applications will be received by the Technology Opportunities Program (TOP) and how NTIA will select applications for funding, subject to the availability of Fiscal Year 2002 funds.

The Bush Administration believes that new technologies and the deployment of high-speed networks are crucial to promoting America's economic growth and our nation's social well-being. The TOP program can play an important role in extending those priorities to underserved communities, through matching grants to state, local, and tribal governments and non-profit entities that demonstrate innovative uses of digital network technologies. TOP projects address specific challenges and realize opportunities for change in such areas as lifelong learning, community and economic development, government and public services, safety, health, culture, and the arts.

DATES: Complete applications for the Fiscal Year 2002 TOP grant program must be mailed or hand-carried to the address indicated below and received by NTIA no later than 8:00 P.M. EST, March 21, 2002. NTIA anticipates the processing and selection of applications for funding will require 6 months. NTIA expects to announce FY 2002 awards prior to September 30, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Completed applications must be mailed, shipped, or sent overnight express to:

Technology Opportunities Program
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
HCHB, Room 4092
Washington, DC 20230
or hand-delivered to:

Technology Opportunities Program
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
HCHB, Room 1874
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20230

Room 1874 is located at entrance #10 on 15th Street NW, between Pennsylvania and Constitution Avenues.

Materials needed to complete an application can be obtained electronically via TOP's Web site at <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/top> or by contacting the TOP office at 202-482-2048.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Stephen J. Downs, Director of the Technology Opportunities Program.
Telephone: 202-482-2048; fax: 202-501-5136; e-mail: top@ntia.doc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: NTIA issues this Notice subject to the appropriations made available under continuing resolution (Public Law 107-70). NTIA anticipates making grant awards provided that funding for TOP is continued beyond December 7, 2001, the expiration date of the current continuing resolution.

Eligible Organizations

All non-profit entities (including, but not limited to, faith-based organizations, national organizations and associations, non-profit community-based organizations, non-profit health care providers, schools, libraries, museums, colleges, universities, public safety providers) and state, local, and tribal governments are eligible to apply.

Although individuals and for-profit organizations are not eligible to apply, they are encouraged to participate as project partners.

Funding Availability

Issuance of grants is subject to the availability of FY 2002 funds. Based on the status of relevant appropriations legislation, NTIA expects to have approximately \$12.5 million available for new grants. Further notice will be made in the **Federal Register** and the TOP web site of the final status of funding for this program at the appropriate time.

Based on past experience, NTIA expects this year's grant round to be very competitive. In Fiscal Year 2001, NTIA received over 660 applications collectively requesting more than \$367 million in federal funds. From these applications, the Department of Commerce announced 74 awards totaling \$42.8 million in federal funds.

Award Amount

An applicant may request up to a total of \$750,000 in funds from NTIA. TOP expects the federal amounts awarded to range from \$200,000 to \$750,000, with an average of approximately \$500,000. The amount awarded covers the duration of the project.

Matching Funds Requirements

Grant recipients under this program will be required to provide matching funds toward the total project cost. Applicants must document their capacity to provide matching funds. Matching funds may be in the form of cash or in-kind contributions. NTIA will provide up to 50 percent of the total project cost, unless the applicant can document extraordinary circumstances warranting a grant of up to 75 percent. Grant funds under this program are usually released in direct proportion to local matching funds utilized and documented as having been expended.

Generally, federal funds may not be used as matching funds, except as provided by federal statute. If you plan to use funds from a federal agency as matching funds, you should contact the federal agency that administers the funds in question and obtain documentation from that agency's Office of General Counsel to support the use of federal funds for matching purposes.

Completeness of Application

TOP will initially review all applications to determine whether all required elements are present and clearly identifiable. The required elements are listed and described in the Guidelines for Preparing Applications' Fiscal Year 2002. Details on how to access the Guidelines for Preparing Applications' Fiscal Year 2002, are available in the section "Other Information" in this Notice. Each of the required elements must be present and clearly identified. Failure to do so may result in rejection of the application. For details on how to obtain materials needed to complete an application, see "Addresses" in this Notice.

Application Deadline

As noted above, complete applications for the Fiscal Year 2002 TOP grant program must be received by NTIA no later than 8 P.M. EST, March 21, 2002. A postmark date is not sufficient. Applications which have been provided to a delivery service on or before March 20, 2002, with "delivery guaranteed" before 8:00 P.M. on March 21, 2002, will be accepted for review if the applicant can document that the application was provided to the delivery service with delivery to the