

Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dHynek@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Patricia Lawson, (301) 713-2322 or Patricia.Lawson@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The purpose of this proposed collection of information is to enable the Marine Animal Health and Stranding Response Program (Program) of NOAA to assemble information on all tissue samples submitted to the National Biomonitoring Specimen Bank (Bank), including the National Marine Mammal Tissue Bank. These samples will be collected from marine mammals, sea turtles, sea birds, and other marine animals as needed by volunteers and researchers participating in the Program. The specimen banking information sheets will ask for basic data such as species, date collected, condition of tissue, and biology of animal sampled. This information is essential for the analysis, comparison, and interpretation of submitted specimens.

The Bank provides researchers samples that have been collected in a systematic and well-documented manner for comparing results over time to identify whether environmental and health trends exist. Without background information on all samples submitted to the Bank, scientists cannot conduct comparative and retrospective analyses and interpretation on archived marine animal tissues.

II. Method of Collection

Respondents must send the completed data sheet along with the sample to the Bank. Online submission program should be available in early 2006.

III. Data

OMB Number: None.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Not-for-profit institutions; individuals or households; State, Local or Tribal Governments.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 30.

Estimated Time Per Response: 30 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 50.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$112.

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 30, 2005.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. E5-6853 Filed 12-5-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Spatial Assessment and Analysis of Non-Consumptive Uses in California's National Marine Sanctuaries

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before February 6, 2006.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Dr. Vernon R. Leeworthy, NOS/Special Projects, 1305 East West Highway, SSMC 4, 9th Floor, Silver

Spring, Maryland 20910 (or via Internet at Bob.Leeworthy@noaa.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The purpose of this data collection is to provide information needed to inform National Marine Sanctuary management and the greater California Marine Life Protection Act process, an assessment of the economic magnitude of private non-consumptive activities within marine sanctuaries and the ways in which marine protection affects these values. Non-consumptive recreation includes any recreation activity that does not involve removing Sanctuary resources (e.g.) scuba diving, snorkeling, whale watching, bird watching, viewing other wildlife, viewing/photographing scenery, surfing, kayaking, and sailing). The outcomes of the proposed research will include the first geographically organized inventory of private non-consumptive users and values, insight into how biological and physical attributes influence user behavior and values, and the economic impacts associated with these users, in terms of local expenditures and social welfare. All stages of the study will involve a formal peer review process.

Three core tasks will be completed for Channel Islands and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuaries:

1. Establish baseline data: (i) Total amount and spatial distribution of non-consumptive use; (ii) Socioeconomic and expenditure profiles of non-consumptive users; and (iii) Knowledge, attitudes, and perceptions of sanctuary management strategies and regulations.

2. Analyze the market and non-market economic impact of non-consumptive use.

3. Analyze how non-market use varies with respect to attributes of marine and coastal environments.

II. Method of Collection

Information will be collected via telephone and face-to-face interviews, and aboard a NOAA vessel using computer aided technology.

III. Data

OMB Number: None.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 3,400.

Estimated Time Per Response: 52 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 2,945.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$0.

IV. Request for Comments

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

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

Dated: November 30, 2005.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. E5-6854 Filed 12-5-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-12-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 120105B]

Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Snapper-Grouper, Coastal Pelagics, and Spiny Lobster Fisheries Off the Southern Atlantic States

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

ACTION: Notice; receipt of an exempted fishing permit application; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces the receipt of an application for an exempted fishing permit (EFP) from Lindsey Parker on behalf of the University of Georgia's Marine Extension Service. If granted, the EFP would authorize the applicant, with certain conditions, to collect up to 200 juvenile (undersized) snapper/grouper, 20 adult snapper/grouper, and 10 non-berried spiny lobster from the date of issuance through March 14, 2007. Specimens would be collected from Federal waters off the coast of Georgia during 2005, 2006, and 2007, and utilized by the University of Georgia's Marine

Education Center and Aquarium, located on Skidaway Island near Savannah, Georgia, for display and public education.

DATES: Comments must be received no later than 5 p.m., eastern time, on December 21, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Comments on the application may be sent via fax to 727-824-5308 or mailed to: Julie Weeder, Southeast Regional Office, NMFS, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701. Comments may be submitted by e-mail to: meca.aquarium@noaa.gov. Include the following text in the subject line of the e-mail: "Comment on MECA EFP Application." The application and related documents are available for review upon written request to the address above or by e-mail to: julie.weeder@noaa.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Julie A. Weeder, 727-551-5753; fax 727-824-5308; e-mail julie.weeder@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The EFP is requested under the authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*), and regulations at 50 CFR 600.745(b) concerning exempted fishing.

According to the applicant, The University of Georgia's Marine Education Center and Aquarium is the education branch of the University's Marine Extension Service in the School of Marine Programs. Its purpose is to serve as a resource for students, teachers, and the general public in matters related to Georgia's coastal marine environments. The facility provides a variety of education programs, including short academic classes and summer science camps for school children, classes for college students and teachers, and programs for visiting adult groups. It is free to school groups and is open to the public for a small admission charge.

The proposed collection for public display involves activities otherwise prohibited by regulations implementing the Fishery Management Plans (FMP) for the Snapper-Grouper and Spiny Lobster Fisheries of the South Atlantic Region.

The applicant requires authorization to harvest and possess the following numbers of fishes over the permit period, to be collected over multiple trips: 200 juvenile (undersized) snapper/grouper, 20 adult snapper/grouper, and 10 spiny lobster. Collections would occur in Federal waters off the coast of Georgia from the date of issuance through March 14,

2007. The applicant wishes to make four collection trips over the permit period, each of 2-day duration.

Specimens would be captured with fish trawls (up to 50 foot headrope length, mesh size from 2 1/4 inches to 4 inches, codend mesh size as small as 1 5/8 inches), sea bass traps, hook-and-line, dip nets, and fry nets. The applicant requests exemption from the requirement to use a turtle excluder device (TED) on the trawl, because many of the specimens to be collected would be too large to fit through the TED grid and would be excluded from the sample. The applicant suggests limiting tow times to 30 minutes to address concerns over incidental capture of turtles and plans to trawl in areas the applicant states are well offshore of areas of known turtle abundance.

NMFS finds that this application warrants further consideration, based on a preliminary review, and intends to issue an EFP. Possible conditions the agency may impose on this permit, if granted, include but are not limited to: Reduction in the number of fish to be collected; restrictions on the placement of traps and/or location of trawls; restrictions on the size of fish to be collected; prohibition of the harvest of any fish with visible external tags; specification of locations, dates and/or seasons allowed for collection of particular fish species; and the requirement to carry and follow standard handling and resuscitation guidelines for sea turtles. A final decision on issuance of the EFP will depend on a NMFS review of public comments received on the application, conclusions of environmental analyses conducted pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, and consultations with the affected states, the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, and the U.S. Coast Guard.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: December 1, 2005.

Alan D. Risenhoover,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E5-6897 Filed 12-5-05; 8:45 am]

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