

designated CA/OR/WA stock of humpback whales. Currently, there are eight U.S. commercial fisheries identified as Category II fisheries due to incidental M/SI of the CA/OR/WA stock, with seven of those identified as pot or trap fisheries, including the Federal sablefish pot fishery. In the 2024 LOF, NMFS (88 FR 62748; September 13, 2023) has proposed to classify U.S. commercial fisheries based on the revised stock structure for humpback whales. The 2024 LOF does not propose to reclassify any additional U.S. West Coast commercial fisheries as Category I or II fisheries based on updated information and the revised humpback whale stock structure, although NMFS has proposed to elevate the California Dungeness crab pot fishery to Category I due to the M/SI of the Central America/Southern Mexico-CA/OR/WA stock of humpback whales. The Federal sablefish pot fishery would continue to be classified as Category II for both the Central America/Southern Mexico-CA/OR/WA and Mainland Mexico-CA/OR/WA stocks of humpback whales in the proposed 2024 LOF.

Public Comments Solicited

Prior to convening this TRT by October 31, 2025, NMFS is seeking public input on the scope of the TRT as well as other relevant information that will support planning for the TRT. Specifically, NMFS is seeking input on whether other Category I or II fisheries, beyond the Federal sablefish pot gear fishery, that incidentally kill or seriously injure the Central America/Southern Mexico-CA/OR/WA and Mainland Mexico-CA/OR/WA stocks of humpback whales, should be addressed by the TRT.

Additional information relevant to establishing this TRT includes information about the factors associated with risks of humpback whale or other large whale entanglements in U.S. commercial fisheries in the Pacific Ocean. This information could include available scientific or commercial data about the conduct of these fisheries, along with biological and ecological influences, and any other factors that affect the nature of interactions between large whales and U.S. commercial fishing gear.

Finally, NMFS is seeking to identify interested stakeholders who may wish to serve as TRT members. A seat on a Team is provided to ensure the interests of a constituency, organization, or expertise—and not a specific individual—are adequately represented. The intention is to be inclusive and ensure all those with a stake are represented at the table (either directly

or through others on the Team). The stakeholders to be represented and interests to be included on the Team are determined on a case-by-case basis, depending on the scope of a given Team. In addition to the statutory criteria for Team membership noted above, NMFS also identifies candidate individuals who can ably represent the different interests. NMFS recruits candidate Team members based on the following:

- Ability to bring first-hand knowledge and perspective to bear on the relevant fisheries and/or marine mammal species;
- Ability to balance a regional perspective with localized knowledge;
- Willingness to express fundamental interests (as opposed to fixed positions) and to clearly convey the interests of one or more important stakeholder groups;
- Ability to work collaboratively, seeking to integrate the interests of a broad range of constituencies;
- Ability to access and use an effective communication network to reach members of their constituency not attending Team meetings;
- Availability and willingness to travel and participate in meetings;
- Proven track record of engaging in constructive dialogues on controversial resource management issues;
- Extent to which candidates' participation on other teams fosters or hinders deliberations; and,
- Ability to represent multiple factions of a constituency (e.g., multiple sectors of a fishery or a wide array of particular fishery).

NMFS will conduct an independent process to identify and assess potential candidates for TRT membership prior to issuing a notice establishing the TRT.

References

- Carretta, J.W., E.M. Oleson, K.A. Forney, M.M. Muto, D.W. Weller, A.R. Lang, J. Baker, B. Hanson, A.J. Orr, J. Barlow, J.E. Moore, and R.L. Brownell. 2023. U.S. Pacific Marine Mammal Stock Assessments: 2022. U.S. Department of Commerce. NOAA Technical Memorandum NMFS-SWFSC-684. 409 p.
- Young, N.C., M.M. Muto, V.T. Helker, B.J. Delean, N.C. Young, J.C. Freed R.P. Angliss, N.A. Friday, P.L. Boveng, J.M. Breiwick, B.M. Brost, M.F. Cameron, P.J. Clapham, J.L. Crance, S.P. Dahle, M.E. Dahlheim, B.S. Fadely, M.C. Ferguson, L.W. Fritz, K.T. Goetz, R.C. Hobbs, Y.V. Ivashchenko, A.S. Kennedy, J.M. London, S.A. Mizroch, R.R. Ream, E.L. Richmond, K.E.W. Sheldon, K.L. Sweeney, R.G. Towell, P.R. Wade, J.M. Waite, and Alexandre N. Zerbini. 2023. Alaska Marine Mammal Stock Assessments 2022. U.S. Department of

Commerce. NOAA Technical Memorandum NMFS-AFSC-474. 316 p.

Dated: September 25, 2023.

Catherine Marzin,

Deputy Director, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Response to Office Action and Voluntary Amendment Forms

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) will submit the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice. The USPTO invites comments on this information collection renewal, which helps the USPTO assess the impact of its information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** on July 11, 2023 during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comment.

Agency: United States Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce.

Title: Response to Office Action and Voluntary Amendment Forms.

OMB Control Number: 0651-0050.

Needs and Uses: This collection of information is required by the Trademark Act (Act), 15 U.S.C. 1051 *et seq.*, which provides for the registration of trademarks, service marks, collective trademark and service marks, collective membership marks, and certification marks. Individuals and businesses that use or intend to use such marks in commerce may file an application to register their marks with the USPTO. This information collection generally contains information that is not submitted with the initial trademark application but is associated with, or required for, the USPTO's review of applications for registration.

In some cases, the USPTO issues Office Actions to applicants who have applied to register a mark, requesting information that was not provided with the initial submission, but is required before the issuance of a registration.

Also, the USPTO may determine that a mark is not entitled to registration, pursuant to one or more provisions of the Act. In such cases, the USPTO will issue an Office Action advising the applicant of the refusal to register the mark. Applicants reply to these Office Actions by providing the required information and/or by putting forth legal arguments as to why the refusal of registration should be withdrawn.

The USPTO administers the Act through title 37 of the Code of Federal Regulations. These rules allow the USPTO to request and receive information required to process applications. These rules also allow applicants to submit certain amendments to their applications.

Applicants may also supplement their applications and provide further information by filing a Voluntary Amendment Not in Response to USPTO Office Action/Letter, a Request for Reconsideration after Final Office Action, a Post-Approval/Publication/Post-Notice of Allowance (NOA) Amendment, a Petition to Amend Basis Post-Publication, or a Response to Suspension Inquiry or Letter of Suspension.

The 60-Day **Federal Register** notice was published with the form numbers associated with this information collection inadvertently left off. In this notice, the USPTO has included the form numbers associated with this information collection.

Form Numbers

- PTO-1771 (Post-Approval/Publication/Post-Notice of Allowance (NOA) Amendment)
- PTO-1772 (Petition to Amend Basis Post-Publication)
- PTO-1822 (Response to Suspension Inquiry or Letter of Suspension)
- PTO-1957 (Response to Office Action)
- PTO-1960 (Request for Reconsideration After Final Office Action)
- PTO-1966 (Voluntary Amendment Not in Response to USPTO Office Action/Letter)

Type of Review: Extension and revision of a currently approved information collection.

Affected Public: Private sector.

Respondent's Obligation: Required to obtain or retain a benefit.

Frequency: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Annual Respondents: 518,643 respondents.

Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 518,643 responses.

Estimated Time per Response: The USPTO estimates that the responses in this information collection will take the

public approximately between 25 minutes (0.42 hours) and 50 minutes (0.83 hours) to complete. This includes the time to gather the necessary information, create the document, and submit the complete request to the USPTO.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Burden Hours: 420,113 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Non-Hourly Cost Burden: \$699,101.

This information collection may be viewed at www.reginfo.gov. Follow the instructions to view Department of Commerce, USPTO information collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for this information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website, www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search feature and entering the title of the information collection of the OMB Control Number, 0651-0050.

Further information can be obtained by:

- *Email:* InformationCollection@uspto.gov. Include "0651-0050 information request" in the subject line of the message.

- *Mail:* Justin Isaac, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Justin Isaac,

Information Collections Officer, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Global Intellectual Property Academy (GIPA) Surveys

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) will submit the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice. The USPTO invites comments on this

information collection renewal, which helps the USPTO assess the impact of its information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** on July 26, 2023 during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comment.

Agency: United States Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce.

Title: Global Intellectual Property Academy (GIPA) Surveys.

OMB Control Number: 0651-0065.

Needs and Uses: The Global Intellectual Property Academy (GIPA) was established in 2006 to offer training programs on enforcement of intellectual property rights, patents, trademarks, and copyrights. GIPA's training programs are designed to meet the specific needs of foreign government officials concerning various intellectual property topics. By attending these programs, foreign government officials learn about global intellectual property rights protection and enforcement and discuss strategies to handle the protection and enforcement issues in their respective countries. The GIPA training programs are an important instrument that USPTO uses to achieve its objectives of halting intellectual property theft and advancing intellectual property right policies.

The surveys in this information collection are conducted in an effort to provide additional details on "who" participants are, what kind of positions they hold, length of time working in an intellectual property area, type of organizations where respondents work, type of intellectual property functions, and the effect of the GIPA program on their professional work and their country's intellectual property efforts. This information is being collected to improve the services that the USPTO provides in its missions of serving the international IP community. The data captured will also be used to help meet organizational performance and accountability goals through the following legislative mandates and performance guidance:

- Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (GPRA);¹

- Government Performance and Results Modernization Act of 2010 (GPRMA);²

¹ <https://www.congress.gov/103/statute/STATUTE-107/STATUTE-107-Pg285.pdf>.

² <https://www.congress.gov/111/plaws/publ352/PLAW-111publ352.pdf>.