

Compliance Assistance

The Department will implement activities to better serve the needs of our stakeholders and improve the way NOAA engages and interacts with its regulated community. This new component will be aimed at improving and expanding NOAA's compliance assistance, collaboration, and outreach activities. The Department will work with the Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee (additional information at: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/ocs/mafac/>) to develop proposals for activities or program enhancements that will improve compliance with all marine resource statutes. Activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Placing a full or part-time Compliance Assistance Liaison in NMFS Regional Offices as needed, beginning with New England;
- Expanding the use of regional enforcement workshops and training sessions to bring together and educate stakeholders on regulations and other requirements associated with fishery management plans, National Marine Sanctuaries, and activities related to the protection of endangered species and marine mammals;
- Educating and involving fishermen in the development of potential solutions to regional and national enforcement-related issues; and
- Improving communication with regulated communities and the general public relative to enforcement issues through increased OLE and GCEL participation in Regional Fishery Management Council meetings or Sanctuary Advisory Committee meetings, improved websites, easy to understand compliance guides, and timely electronic or other notifications of changes in regulations.

These compliance assistance activities would likely be funded by the AFF through agreements with federal and state partners, or in the case of efforts addressing NE Multispecies, through enforcement proceeds available to the Secretary under section 311(f) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

II. Additional Information

Ensuring a Strong Enforcement Program

NOAA and other federal agencies with similar authorities must maintain adequate funding for enforcement. At the National Enforcement Summit held in early August, participants stressed the need for effective and fair enforcement around the country. They offered suggestions that NOAA should focus more on compliance and outreach to better balance its deterrence efforts.

The need for a strong enforcement program is widely recognized and supported as a key component of supporting legal fishers and the American public through barring illegal imports, ending illegal domestic harvests, and ensuring safe and wholesome seafood products. As NOAA completes the broad set of activities aimed at improving its enforcement programs, including a corrective action plan for the AFF, NOAA must ensure an adequate funding level is maintained. Otherwise, the many benefits of a strong enforcement program would be at risk.

Legislative Authorities

The specific statutory authority for use of the fund for certain enforcement related purposes is found in section 311(e)(1) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1861). Section 311(e)(1) authorizes six types of expenditures: (A) the reasonable and necessary costs incurred in providing temporary storage, care, and maintenance of seized fish or other property pending disposition of any civil or criminal proceeding alleging a violation of any provision of this Act or any other marine resource law enforced by the Secretary with respect to that fish or other property; (B) a reward of not less than 20 percent of the penalty collected or \$20,000, whichever is the lesser amount, to any person who furnishes information which leads to an arrest, conviction, civil penalty assessment, or forfeiture of property for any violation of any provision of this Act or any other fishery resource law enforced by the Secretary; (C) any expenses directly related to investigations and civil or criminal enforcement proceedings, including any necessary expenses for equipment, training, travel, witnesses, and contracting services directly related to such investigations or proceedings; (D) any valid liens or mortgages against any property that has been forfeited; (E) claims of parties in interest to property disposed of under section 612(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1612(b)), as made applicable by section 310(c) of this Act or by any other marine resource law enforced by the Secretary, to seizures made by the Secretary, in amounts determined by the Secretary to be applicable to such claims at the time of seizure; and (F) reimbursement to any Federal or State agency, including the Coast Guard, for services performed, or personnel, equipment, or facilities utilized, under any agreement with the Secretary entered into pursuant to subsection (a), or any similar agreement authorized by law. Though not part of the AFF, section 311(f) provides that

finances and penalties collected for violations of the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan shall be used for purposes of enforcing the Plan.

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

Dated: September 24, 2010.

Eric C. Schwaab,

*Assistant Administrator For Fisheries,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Agency Information Collection Activities: Notice of Intent To Renew Collection 3038-0049, Procedural Requirements for Requests for Interpretative, No-Action, and Exemptive Letters

AGENCY: Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of an existing collection of information, and to allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on requirements relating to procedures for submitting requests for exemptive, no-action, and interpretative letters.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before November 29, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to Christopher W. Cummings, Division of Clearing and Intermediary Oversight, U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission, 1155 21st Street, NW., Washington, DC 20581.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christopher W. Cummings (202) 418-5445; Fax: (202) 418-5528; e-mail: ccummings@cftc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: Under the PRA, Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. "Collection of information" is defined in 44 U.S.C. 3502(3) and 5 CFR 1320.3(c) and includes agency requests or requirements that members of the public submit reports, keep records, or provide

information to a third party. Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA, 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A), requires Federal agencies to provide a 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of an existing collection of information, before submitting the collection to OMB for approval. To comply with this requirement, the CFTC is publishing notice of the proposed collection of information listed below.

With respect to the following collection of information, the CFTC invites comments on:

- Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information will have a practical use;
- The accuracy of the Commission’s estimate of the burden of the proposed

collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

- Ways to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Ways to minimize the burden of collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology; e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Procedural Requirements for Requests for Interpretative, No-Action, and Exemptive Letters, OMB control number 3038-0049—Extension

Commission Regulation 140.99 requires persons submitting requests for exemptive, no-action, and interpretative letters to provide specific written

information, certified as to completeness and accuracy, and to update that information to reflect material changes. The regulation was promulgated pursuant to the Commission’s rulemaking authority contained in Section 8a(5) of the Commodity Exchange Act, 7 U.S.C. 12a(5) (2000). Regulation 41.3 requires securities brokers and dealers submitting requests for exemptive orders to provide specified written information in support of such requests. Regulation 41.3 was promulgated in response to the requirement in the Commodity Futures Modernization Act of 2000 that the Commission establish procedures for requesting such orders.

The Commission estimates the burden of this collection of information as follows:

THE COMMISSION ESTIMATES THE BURDEN OF THIS COLLECTION OF INFORMATION AS FOLLOWS:

Annual number of respondents	Frequency of response	Total annual responses	Hours per response	Total hours
100	On occasion	150	7	1050

There are no capital costs or operating and maintenance costs associated with this collection.

This estimate is based on the number of requests for such letters in the last three years. Although the burden varies with the type, size, and complexity of the request submitted, such request may involve analytical work and analysis, as well as the work of drafting the request itself.

Dated: September 23, 2010.

David Stawick,
Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2010-24357 Filed 9-28-10; 8:45 am]

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COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Agency Information Collection Activities: Notice of Intent To Renew Collection 3038-0025, Practice by Former Members and Employees of the Commission

AGENCY: Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of

1995 (PRA), 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of an existing collection of information, and to allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on requirements relating to practice before the Commission by former members and employees of the Commission.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before November 29, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to John P. Dolan, Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission, 1155 21st Street, NW., Washington, DC 20581.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John P. Dolan at (202) 418-5120; FAX: (202) 418-5524; e-mail: jdolan@cftc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA, Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. “Collection of information” is defined in 44 USC 3502(3) and 5 CFR 1320.3(c) and includes agency requests or requirements that members of the public submit reports, keep records, or provide information to a third party. Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA, 44 USC 3506(c)(2)(A), requires Federal agencies to provide a 60-day notice in the

Federal Register concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of an existing collection of information, before submitting the collection to OMB for approval. To comply with this requirement, the CFTC is publishing notice of the proposed collection of information listed below.

With respect to the following collection of information, the CFTC invites comments on:

- Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information will have a practical use;
- The accuracy of the Commission’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Ways to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Ways to minimize the burden of collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology; e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.