

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Dr. Danielle Schwarzmann 240-533-0706 [danielle.schwarzmann@noaa.gov](mailto:danielle.schwarzmann@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****I. Abstract**

This request is for a new information collection.

NOAA is conducting research to estimate the market and non-market economic values associated with whale watching in Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary (SBNMS) and the surrounding region.

The required information is to conduct surveys of the for hire-operations that take people out for non-consumptive recreation to watch whales or other wildlife, to obtain total use by type of activity (e.g. whale watching, and other wildlife observation) and the spatial use by type of activity. Information will also be obtained on the knowledge, attitudes, and perceptions of for-hire operations towards the sanctuary, sanctuary resources and sanctuary processes.

Surveys will also be conducted of the passengers of the for-hire operation boats to obtain their market and non-market economic use values for whales and other wildlife. Information collected from passengers will include their expenditures, number of trips, activities while visiting the sanctuary and non-market value for improvements to whales and sanctuary resources. An on-site survey will obtain information on demographic profiles, annual number of whale watching trips in SBNMS, and their non-market economic use value for improvements to whales and sanctuary resources. Self-addressed, postage paid mail back questionnaires will be used for importance-satisfaction ratings and whale watching trip expenditures.

**II. Method of Collection**

The data from the operators will be collected by scheduling appointments to meet with the owner and conduct the survey in-person. For the passengers, surveys will be conducted at the docks after the completion of their whale watching trip and via mail.

**III. Data**

*OMB Control Number:* 0648-XXXX.  
*Form Number:* None.

*Type of Review:* Regular submission (new information collection).

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

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 1,000 passengers on-site, 600 for importance-satisfaction mail back and 450 for the expenditure mailback; 40 owners of whale watching operations.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 20 minutes per on-site interview of passengers, 20 minutes per importance-satisfaction mail back and 20 minutes for the expenditure mail back. One hour per owner of whale watching operations.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 723.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* \$0 in recordkeeping/reporting costs.

**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: June 15, 2017.

**Sarah Brabson,**

*NOAA PRA Clearance Officer.*

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

**RIN 0648-XF430**

**Endangered and Threatened Species;  
Initiation of 5-Year Review for the  
Endangered Gulf of Maine Distinct  
Population Segment of Atlantic  
Salmon**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of initiation of 5-year review; request for information.

**SUMMARY:** We, NMFS, announce our intent to conduct a 5-year review for the Gulf of Maine distinct population segment (DPS) of Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*) under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA). The DPS is listed as endangered under the ESA. We are required by the ESA to conduct 5-year reviews to ensure that the listing classifications of the species are accurate. The 5-year review must be based on the best scientific and commercial data available at the time of the review. We request submission of any such information on the Gulf of Maine DPS of Atlantic salmon, particularly information on the status, threats and recovery of the species that has become available since the final listing determination in 2009.

**DATES:** To allow us adequate time to conduct this review, we must receive your information no later than July 20, 2017. However, we will continue to accept new information about Atlantic salmon at any time.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit your comments by including NOAA-NMFS-2017-0050, by either of the following methods:

- *Federal e-Rulemaking Portal.* Go to [www.regulations.gov/](http://www.regulations.gov/) !docketDetail;D=[NOAA-NMFS-2017-0050], Click the "Comment Now!" icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments.
- *Mail:* Submit written information to Dan Kircheis, NMFS, Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office, Maine Field Station, 17 Godfrey Drive, Orono, Maine 04473

*Instructions:* We may not consider comments if they are sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the end of the specified period. All comments received are a part of the public record and we will generally post for public viewing on [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) without change. All personal identifying information (e.g., name, address, etc.), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive or protected information submitted voluntarily by the sender is publicly accessible. We will accept anonymous comments (enter "N/A" in the required fields if you wish to remain anonymous).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dan Kircheis at the above address, by phone at 207-866-7320 or [Dan.Kircheis@noaa.gov](mailto:Dan.Kircheis@noaa.gov) or Julie Crocker 978-282-8480 or [Julie.Crocker@noaa.gov](mailto:Julie.Crocker@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Gulf of Maine DPS of Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*) was listed as endangered under the ESA on June 19, 2009 (74 FR 29344) by NMFS and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (the Services). The Services

have agreed that NMFS will serve as the lead agency for this 5-year review. Section 4(c)(2)(A) of the ESA requires that we conduct a review of listed species at least once every five years. On the basis of such reviews, under section 4(c)(2)(B) we determine whether a species should be delisted or reclassified from endangered to threatened or from threatened to endangered. Delisting a species must be supported by the best scientific and commercial data available and only considered if such data substantiates that the species is neither endangered nor threatened for one or more of the following reasons: (1) The species is considered extinct; (2) the species is considered to be recovered; or (3) the original data available when the species was listed, or the interpretation of such data, were in error (see 50 CFR 424.11(d)). The ESA implementing regulations at 50 CFR 424.21 require that we publish a notice in the **Federal Register** announcing those species currently under active review. This notice announces our active review of the Gulf of Maine DPS of Atlantic salmon, currently listed as endangered.

Background information about this species, including the endangered listing, is available on the NMFS Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office Web site: <https://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/protected/atlsalmon/>.

#### **Determining if a Species Is Threatened or Endangered**

Section 4(a)(1) of the ESA requires that we determine whether a species is endangered or threatened based on one or more of the five following factors: (1) The present or threatened destruction, modification, or curtailment of its habitat or range; (2) overutilization for commercial, recreational, scientific, or educational purposes; (3) disease or predation; (4) the inadequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms; or (5) other natural or manmade factors affecting its continued existence. Section 4(b) also requires that our determination be made on the basis of the best scientific and commercial data available after taking into account those efforts, if any, being made by any State or foreign nation, to protect such species.

#### **Application of the DPS Policy**

In the application of the DPS Policy, we are responsible for determining whether species, subspecies, or DPSs of marine and anadromous species are threatened or endangered under the ESA. For Atlantic salmon, we use the joint U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service-NMFS DPS policy (61 FR 4722;

February 7, 1996) in identifying the appropriate taxonomic unit for listing consideration. Under this policy, a DPS must be discrete from other conspecific populations, and it must be significant to its taxon. A group of organisms is discrete if physical, physiological, ecological or behavioral factors make it markedly separate from other populations of the same taxon. Under the DPS policy, if a population group is determined to be discrete, the agency must then consider whether it is significant to the taxon to which it belongs. Considerations in evaluating the significance of a discrete population include: (1) Persistence of the discrete population in an unusual or unique ecological setting for the taxon; (2) evidence that the loss of the discrete population segment would cause a significant gap in the taxon's range; (3) evidence that the discrete population segment represents the only surviving natural occurrence of a taxon that may be more abundant elsewhere outside its historical geographic range; or (4) evidence that the discrete population has marked genetic differences from other populations of the species.

#### **Public Solicitation of New Information**

To ensure that the 5-year review is complete and based on the best scientific and commercial data, we are soliciting new information from the public, governmental agencies, Tribes, the scientific community, industry, environmental entities, and any other interested parties concerning the status of the Gulf of Maine DPS. The 5-year review will consider the best scientific and commercial data that has become available since the listing determination for the Gulf of Maine DPS in June 2009. Our Northeast Fisheries Science Center will assist the Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office in gathering and analyzing this information. Categories of requested information include: (1) Population abundance; (2) population productivity; (3) changes in species distribution or population spatial structure; (4) genetics or other indicators of diversity; (5) changes in habitat conditions and associated limiting factors and threats; (6) conservation measures that have been implemented that benefit the species, including monitoring data demonstrating the effectiveness of such measures in addressing identified limiting factors or threats; (7) data concerning the status and trends of identified limiting factors or threats; (8) information that may affect determinations regarding the composition of the DPS; (9) other new information, data, or corrections including, but not limited to, taxonomic

or nomenclatural changes, identification of erroneous information in the previous listing determination, and improved analytical methods for evaluating extinction risk.

If you wish to provide information for this 5-year review, you may submit your information and materials electronically via email (see **ADDRESSES** section). We request that all information be accompanied by supporting documentation such as maps, bibliographic references, or reprints of pertinent publications. We also would appreciate

the submitter's name, address, and any association, institution, or business that the person represents; however, anonymous submissions will be accepted.

**Authority:** 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*

**Dated:** June 15, 2017.

**Angela Somma,**

*Chief, Endangered Species Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

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## **COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION**

### **Agency Information Collection Activities: Comment Request—Notice of Intent To Amend Collection 3038-0079: Conflicts of Interest Policies and Procedures by Swap Dealers and Major Swap Participants**

**AGENCY:** Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC or Commission) is announcing an opportunity for public comment on a proposed amendment to the collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), 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 comment on an amendment to the collection of information under OMB Control No. 3038-0079 (Conflicts of Interest Policies and Procedures by Swap Dealers and Major Swap Participants).

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before August 21, 2017.