

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-533-887]

Carbon and Alloy Steel Threaded Rod From India: Preliminary Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review, 2019–2021

AGENCY: Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (Commerce) preliminarily determines that carbon and alloy steel threaded rod (steel threaded rod) from India is not being sold in the United States at below normal value. The period of review (POR) is September 25, 2019, through March 31, 2021. Interested parties are invited to comment on these preliminary results.

DATES: Applicable May 6, 2022.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nicolas Mayora, AD/CVD Operations, Office V, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-3053.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On April 9, 2020, Commerce published in the *Federal Register* an antidumping duty order on steel threaded rod from India.¹ On April 1, 2021, we published in the *Federal Register* a notice of opportunity to request an administrative review of the *Order*.² On June 11, 2021, based on timely requests for an administrative review, Commerce initiated the administrative review of 328 companies.³ Commerce selected Maharaja International (Maharaja) and Mangal Steel Enterprises Limited (Mangal) as the two mandatory respondents for individual examination.⁴

On December 9, 2021, Commerce extended the time limit for completing

¹ See *Carbon and Alloy Steel Threaded Rod from India: Amended Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Antidumping Duty Order*, 85 FR 19925 (April 9, 2020) (*Order*).

² See *Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Order, Finding, or Suspended Investigation; Opportunity to Request Administrative Review*, 86 FR 17137 (April 1, 2021).

³ See *Initiation of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Administrative Reviews*, 86 FR 31282 (June 11, 2021) (*Initiation Notice*); see also *Initiation of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Administrative Reviews*, 87 FR 21619 (April 12, 2022) that includes Kova Fasteners Pvt., Ltd. Commerce inadvertently omitted this company from the initial *Initiation Notice*.

⁴ See Memorandum, “Respondent Selection,” dated July 16, 2021.

the preliminary results of this review until April 29, 2022.⁵ For a complete description of the events between the initiation of this review and these preliminary results, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.⁶

Scope of the Order

The merchandise covered by the scope of this *Order* is carbon and alloy steel threaded rod. A complete description of the scope of the *Order* is contained in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.⁷

Methodology

Commerce is conducting this review in accordance with section 751(a)(2) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). Commerce has calculated export prices and constructed export prices in accordance with sections 772(a) and 772(b) of the Act, respectively. Normal Value (NV) is calculated in accordance with section 773(e) of the Act. For a full description of the methodology underlying these preliminary results, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum. See Appendix I for a complete list of topics discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum. The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is a public document and is made available to the public via Enforcement and Compliance’s Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at <https://access.trade.gov>. In addition, a complete version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum is available at <https://access.trade.gov/public/FRNoticesListLayout.aspx>.

Rate for Non-Examined Companies

The Act and Commerce’s regulations do not address the establishment of a rate to be applied to companies not selected for examination when Commerce limits its examination in an administrative review pursuant to section 777A(c)(2) of the Act. Generally, Commerce looks to section 735(c)(5) of the Act, which provides instructions for calculating the all-others rate in a market economy investigation, for guidance when calculating the rate for companies which were not selected for

⁵ See Memorandum, “Extension of Deadline for Preliminary Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review; 2019–2021,” dated December 9, 2021.

⁶ See Memorandum, “Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Results of the Antidumping Duty Administrative Review of Carbon and Alloy Steel Threaded Rod from India; 2019–2021,” dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Preliminary Decision Memorandum).

⁷ See Preliminary Decision Memorandum at “Scope of the *Order*.”

individual examination in an administrative review. Under section 735(c)(5)(A) of the Act, the all-others rate is normally “an amount equal to the weighted average of the estimated weighted-average dumping margins established for exporters and producers individually investigated, excluding any zero and *de minimis* margins, and any margins determined entirely {on the basis of facts available}.”

Where the dumping margin for individually examined respondents are all zero, *de minimis*, or based entirely on facts available, section 735(c)(5)(B) of the Act provides that Commerce may use “any reasonable method to establish the estimated all-others rate for exporters and producers not individually investigated, including averaging the estimated weighted average dumping margins determined for the exporters and producers individually investigated.”

In this review, Commerce preliminarily determines that the estimated weighted-average dumping margins for both Maharaja and Mangal are zero percent. Therefore, in accordance with section 735(c)(5)(B) of the Act, we are preliminarily applying to the 326 companies not selected for individual examination a rate of zero percent, because we calculated rates of zero percent for both mandatory respondents (see Appendix II for a full list of these companies).

Preliminary Results of the Review

Commerce preliminarily determines that the following estimated weighted-average dumping margins exist during the period September 25, 2019, through March 31, 2021:

Exporter/producer	Estimated weighted-average dumping margin (percent)
Maharaja International	0.00
Mangal Steel Enterprises Limited	0.00
Non-Examined Companies ⁸	0.00

Disclosure and Public Comment

Commerce intends to disclose to interested parties the calculations performed for these preliminary results within five days of the date of publication of this notice in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b). Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.309(c), interested parties may submit case briefs no later than 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. Rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in the case briefs, may be filed no

⁸ See Appendix II for a list of these companies.

later than seven days after the date for filing case briefs.⁹ Commerce modified certain of its requirements for servicing documents containing business proprietary information until further notice.¹⁰ Parties who submit case briefs or rebuttal briefs in this proceeding are encouraged to submit with each argument: (1) A statement of the issue; (2) a brief summary of the argument; and (3) a table of authorities.¹¹ Note that Commerce has temporarily modified certain portions of its requirements for serving documents containing business proprietary information, until further notice.¹²

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.310(c), interested parties who wish to request a hearing, limited to issues raised in the case and rebuttal briefs, must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, U.S. Department of Commerce, filed electronically *via* ACCESS within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice. Requests should contain: (1) The party's name, address, and telephone number; (2) the number of participants; and (3) a list of the issues to be discussed. If a request for a hearing is made, Commerce intends to hold the hearing at a time and date to be determined. Parties should confirm by telephone the date, time, and location of the hearing two days before the scheduled date. An electronically-filed hearing request must be received successfully in its entirety by ACCESS by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on the established deadline.

Commerce intends to issue the final results of this administrative review, including the results of its analysis of issues raised in the case briefs, no later than 120 days after the date of publication of this notice, pursuant to section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Act, unless otherwise extended.

Assessment Rates

Upon issuance of the final results of this administrative review, Commerce shall determine, and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) shall assess, antidumping duties on all appropriate entries covered by this review.¹³ If a respondent's weighted-average dumping margin is not zero or *de minimis* (*i.e.*, less than 0.5 percent) in the final results of this review, we will calculate

importer-specific *ad valorem* antidumping duty assessment rates based on the ratio of the total amount of dumping calculated for the importer's examined sales to the total entered value of those same sales in accordance with 19 CFR 351.212(b)(1). We intend to instruct CBP to assess antidumping duties on all appropriate entries covered by this review when the importer-specific assessment rate calculated in the final results of this review is not zero or *de minimis*. Where an importer-specific assessment rate is zero or *de minimis* in the final results of this review, we intend to instruct CBP to liquidate the appropriate entries without regard to antidumping duties in accordance with 19 CFR 351.106(c)(2). If Commerce calculates margins above *de minimis* in the final results of this review, we intend to instruct CBP to take into account the "provisional measures deposit cap," in accordance with 19 CFR 351.212(d). The final results of this review shall be the basis for the assessment of antidumping duties on entries of merchandise covered by this review and for future deposits of estimated duties, where applicable.¹⁴

In accordance with Commerce's "automatic assessment" practice, for entries of subject merchandise during the POR produced by Maharaja or Mangal for which these companies did not know that the merchandise was destined for the United States, we will instruct CBP to liquidate those entries at the all-others rate if there is no rate for the intermediate company(ies) involved in the transaction.¹⁵ For the companies which were not selected for individual review, we will assign an assessment rate based on the review-specific average rate, calculated as noted in the "Preliminary Results of Review" section above.

We intend to issue instructions to CBP no earlier than 35 days after the publication date of the final results of this review in the **Federal Register**. If a timely summons is filed at the U.S. Court of International Trade, the assessment instructions will direct CBP not to liquidate relevant entries until the time for parties to file a request for a statutory injunction has expired (*i.e.*, within 90 days of publication).

Cash Deposit Requirements

The following cash deposit requirements will be effective upon publication in the **Federal Register** of

the notice of final results of this administrative review for all shipments of the subject merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of publication, as provided by section 751(a)(2)(C) of the Act: (1) The cash deposit rate for the companies listed in the final results of this review will be equal to the weighted-average dumping margin established in the final results of this administrative review; (2) for merchandise exported by producers or exporters not covered in this review but covered in a prior segment of the proceeding, the cash deposit rate will continue to be the company-specific rate published for the most recently-completed segment of this proceeding in which they were reviewed; (3) if the exporter is not a firm covered in this review, or the original investigation but the producer is, then the cash deposit rate will be the rate established for the most recently completed segment of this proceeding for the producer of the merchandise; (4) the cash deposit rate for all other producers or exporters will continue to be 0.00 percent, the all-others rate established in the less-than-fair-value investigation, adjusted for the export-subsidy rate in the companion countervailing duty investigation.¹⁶ The cash deposit requirements, when imposed, shall remain in effect until further notice.

Notification to Importers

This notice serves as a preliminary reminder to importers of their responsibility under 19 CFR 351.402(f)(2) to file a certificate regarding the reimbursement of antidumping duties prior to liquidation of the relevant entries during the POR. Failure to comply with this requirement could result in Commerce's presumption that reimbursement of antidumping duties occurred and the subsequent assessment of double antidumping duties.

Notification to Interested Parties

Commerce is issuing and publishing these results in accordance with sections 751(a)(1) and 777(i)(1) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.221(b)(4).

Dated: April 28, 2022.

Lisa W. Wang,

Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

Appendix I

List of Topics Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum

- I. Summary
- II. Background

¹⁶ See *Order*, 85 FR at 19926.

⁹ See 19 CFR 351.309(d).

¹⁰ See *Temporary Rule Modifying AD/CVD Service Requirements Due to COVID-19; Extension Effective Period*, 85 FR 41363 (July 10, 2020) (*Temporary Rule*).

¹¹ See 19 CFR 351.309(c) and (d); see also 19 CFR 351.303 (for general filing requirements).

¹² See *Temporary Rule*.

¹³ See 19 CFR 351.212(b)(1).

¹⁴ See section 751(a)(2)(C) of the Act.

¹⁵ For a full description of this practice, see *Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Proceedings: Assessment of Antidumping Duties*, 68 FR 23954 (May 6, 2003).

- III. Scope of the Order
 IV. Rates for Non-Examined Companies
 V. Affiliation
 VI. Discussion of the Methodology
 VII. Currency Conversion
 VIII. Recommendation

Appendix II

List of Companies Not Individually Examined

- A H Enterprises
 A S International
 Aadi Shree Fastener Industries
 Aanjaney Micro Engy Pvt., Ltd.
 Aaran 1 Engineering Pvt., Ltd.
 Aask Precision Engineers
 Abhi Metals
 Accumax Lab Devices Pvt., Ltd.
 Acmi Industries
 Adhi Automation (India) Pvt., Ltd.
 Adma Auto Components Pvt., Ltd.
 Adma Fabrications (P) Ltd.
 Aesthetic Living Merchants Pvt., Ltd.
 Agarwal Fastners Pvt., Ltd.
 Ajay Electric And Metal Industries
 Akg India Private Ltd.
 Ambana Exp.
 Amtek Auto Ltd.
 Ap Trading
 Apa Engineering Pvt., Ltd.
 Arcotherm Pvt., Ltd.
 Arohi International
 Aruna Alloy Steels Pvt., Ltd.
 Ashish International
 Asma International
 Asp Pvt., Ltd.
 August Industries
 Aura Industries Equipment & Project Pvt. Ltd.
 Avtar Exp.
 Babu Exp.
 Bajaj Auto Ltd.
 Balmer Lawrie & Co., Ltd.
 Bansal Wire Industries Ltd.
 Bee Dee Cycle Industries
 Belgaum Ferrocast India Pvt., Ltd.
 Beri Udyog Pvt., Ltd.
 Best Quality Fastners
 Bhansali Inc.
 Bhuj Polymers Pvt., Ltd.
 C Tech Engineers Pvt. Ltd.
 Caliber Enterprises
 Canco Fasteners
 Caparo Engineering India Pvt., Ltd.
 Capital Bolts And Hardwares
 Case New Holland Construction Equipment(I) Pvt. Ltd.
 Century Distribution System Inc.
 Challenger Sweepers Private Ltd.
 Chandra Mats Pvt., Ltd.
 Charu Enterprises
 Chhabra Forgings
 Chirag International
 Clasquin India Pvt., Ltd.
 Cnh Industries (India) Pvt., Ltd.
 Collection Exp.
 Concept Fasteners
 Conex Metals
 Continental Hardware Mart
 Cosmo International
 Cummins India Ltd.
 Cummins India Ltd. Pdc Mfg Unit
 Damco India Pvt., Ltd.
 Danesh Industries
 Danta Exim
 Dauji Engineering Ltd.
 Dcw Ltd.
 Deepak Brass Industries
 Deepak Fasteners Ltd.
 Deneb
 Dhara Foods Pvt., Ltd.
 Dmw Cnc Solutions India Pvt., Ltd.
 Dst Industries
 Durable Metalcraft
 Eagle Line Fixings&Fixtures (P) Ltd.
 Eastman Industries Ltd.
 Echjay Forgings Pvt. L
 Edicon Pneumatic Tool Co. Pvt. Ltd.
 Efficient Automotives Pvt., Ltd.
 Eicher Motors Ltd.
 Elite Green Pvt., Ltd.
 Ellias International
 Emmforce Inc.
 Emu Lines Pvt., Ltd.
 Ess Enn Auto Cnc .P. Ltd.
 Everest Engineering Equipment Pvt., Ltd.
 Everest Industries Ltd.
 Fence Fixings
 Fine Products (India)
 Fine Thread Form Industries
 Fit Right Nuts And Bolts Pvt., Ltd.
 Flowserve India Controls Pvt., Ltd.
 Ford India Pvt., Ltd.
 Ganesh Brass Industries
 Ganga Technocast
 Ganges International
 Ganpati Fastners Pvt., Ltd.
 Gayatri Metal Products
 Ghanshyamlal Co.
 Global Engineering Exports
 Gloster Jute Mills Limited
 Goel & Goel International
 Good Ways Corporation
 Goodgood Manufacturers
 GPDA Fasteners
 Gripwel Fasteners
 Gvn Fuels Ltd.
 Hamidi Exp.
 Haria Trading Co.
 Him Overseas
 Hind Metal & Industries Pvt., Ltd.
 Hindostan Expo
 Hiten Fastners Pvt., Ltd.
 Hobb International Pvt., Ltd.
 Humboldt Wedag India P Ltd.
 Husco Hydraulics Pvt., Ltd.
 Idea Fastners Pvt., Ltd.
 Imco Alloys Pvt., Ltd.
 Inder Industries
 India Yamaha Motor Pvt., Ltd.
 Indo Schottle Auto Parts Pvt., Ltd.
 Indra Engineering
 Induspro Auto Engineers Pvt., Ltd.
 Industrias Gol S.A.U.
 Ingersoll Rand India Ltd.
 Intex Home Solutions
 Intl Tractors Ltd.
 Irm Offshore & Marine Engineer Pvt., Ltd.
 Ispt India Pvt., Ltd.
 J.K. Fenner (India) Ltd.
 Jain Grani Marmo Pvt., Ltd.
 Jayson International
 Jhv Engicon Pvt., Ltd.
 Jindal Fasteners
 K V Tech India LLP
 Kalpana Brass Industries
 Kanika Exp.
 Kanika Overseas Inc.
 Kapil Enterprises
 Kapson India
 Kapurthala Industrial Corporation
 Karamtara Engineering Pvt., Ltd.
 Karna International
 KBV Industries India Pvt., Ltd.
 KEC International Ltd.
 Keith Ceramic India Private Ltd.
 Kewaunee Labway India Pvt., Ltd.
 King Exports
 Kmp Freight
 Knk Enterprises
 Knl Drive Line Parts Pvt., Ltd.
 Kohler India Corp. Pvt Ltd.
 Kova Fasteners Pvt., Ltd.
 Krisam Automation Pvt., Ltd.
 KSP Engineering Co.
 Kumar Auto Parts Pvt., Ltd.
 Kundan Industries Ltd.
 Lasercut Metal Technology Private Ltd.
 LCL Logistix (I) Pvt., Ltd.
 Lg Balakrishnan & Bros Ltd.
 Live Rock Bangalore Pvt., Ltd.
 M K Fastners
 M.D. Industries
 M.K.Fasteners
 M.M. Intl
 Mack Machine Products Pvt., Ltd.
 Maini Precision Products Ltd.
 Mangalam Alloys Ltd.
 Mansons International Pvt., Ltd.
 Mark Industries
 Marudhar Enterprises
 Maxop Engineering Co.
 Maya Enterprises
 MB Metallic Bellows Pvt., Ltd.
 Mechasoft
 Meeras International
 Mega Engineers
 Metaloft Industries Private Ltd.
 Metrix Autocomp Pvt., Ltd.
 Mohindra Fasteners Ltd.
 Movex Cargo Pvt., Ltd.
 MSS India Pvt., Ltd. (100%Eou)
 Mukund Overseas
 Multimech Engineers
 Multitech Products Pvt., Ltd.
 N. A. Roto Machines & Moulds India
 Navketan Engineering Works
 Neon Alloys
 Nexo Industries Ltd.
 Nipha Enterprises LLP
 Niranjani Engineering Works
 Nishant Steel Industries
 Nivic Technocast
 Norquest Brands Private Ltd.
 Northpole Industries
 Omni Forge Pvt., Ltd.
 Omnitech Engineering
 Onkar International
 Oriental Exp. Corporation
 Oriental Rubber Industries
 P N International
 P R Rolling Mills Pvt., Ltd.
 Paani Precision Products Llp
 Paloma Turning Co. Pvt., Ltd.
 Panesar Engineers
 Pankaj Exp.
 Paramount Agriparts
 Parshva India
 Parul Exp.
 Perfect Forgings
 Perfect Industries (India)
 Pheon Auto Tech Pvt., Ltd.
 Piping & Energy Products (P) Ltd
 Pooja Forge Ltd.
 Pooja Precision Screws Pvt., Ltd.
 Pr Professional Services
 Precision Engineering Industries
 Precision Products Marketing Pvt., Ltd.

Prime Steel Products
 Protech International
 Psl Pipe & Fittings Co.
 R F India
 R K Fasteners (India)
 R. Kay Exp.
 Raajratna Metal Industries Ltd.
 Raajratna Ventures Ltd.
 Rachna Fastners
 Randack Fasteners India Pvt., Ltd.
 Rar Exim Pvt., Ltd.
 Ravi Engineers
 Rbm International
 Resilient Autocomp Pvt., Ltd.
 Ridvan Fasteners India Pvt., Ltd.
 Right Tight Fastners Pvt., Ltd.
 Rishi International
 Rohlig India Pvt., Ltd.
 Roots Multiclean Ltd.
 Rotzler Services Private Ltd.
 S K Brass Works
 Sakthi Forgings
 Sameer Exports International
 Sandip Brass Industries
 Sanghvi Metal Coporation
 Sarveshwari Engineers
 Satyam Engineering Works
 Schenker India Pvt., Ltd.
 Scorpio Precisions
 Shalaka Shafts Private Ltd.
 Shiv Om Brass Industries
 Shree Exp.
 Shree Luxmi Fasteners
 Shree Raj Industries
 Shreeraj Industries
 Shri L.G. Hindustan Handicrafts
 Shri Ram Castings
 Shri Shirdi Sai Baba Moorti Art
 Shrijee Process Engineering
 Shrutee Exp. Pvt., Ltd.
 Shyam Enterprises
 Sigmaflow Production Solutions Priv
 Simplex Engineering Co.
 Singhania International
 Sivaramakrishna Forgings P. Ltd.
 Skf India Ltd.
 Sks Fasteners Ltd.
 Sonesta Corporation
 Sri Ranganathar Industries Private Limited
 Stelco Ltd.
 Sterling Tools Ltd.
 Strut Support Systems
 Sundram Fasteners Ltd.
 Sunil Chirag & Co.
 Sunil Industries, Ltd.
 Supreme Overseas Exports India Pvt. Ltd.
 Surelock Plastics Pvt., Ltd.
 Suzlon Energy Ltd.
 Suzy Industries Ltd.
 Sv Engineerings
 Swadesh Engineering Industries
 Swamiji Transmission Pvt., Ltd.
 Swati Enterprise
 Techbolt Industries Private Ltd.
 Technical Products
 Technocraft Industries (India) Ltd.
 Tega Industries Ltd.
 Teryair Equipment Pvt., Ltd.
 Texas Technology
 Tijjiya Engineering Pvt., Ltd.
 Tijjiya Exp. Pvt., Ltd.
 Torqbolt Inc.
 Total Transport Systems Pvt., Ltd.
 Trans Tool Pvt., Ltd.
 Tristar International
 Triton Foodworks Pvt., Ltd.

Trueform Exp. Pvt.L
 Turbo Tools Pvt., Ltd.
 Teyamaha Motor Asia Pte., Ltd.
 Umaa Engineers
 Unexo Life Sciences Private Ltd.
 Universal Precision Screws
 Unlimited Inc.
 UT Worldwide (India) Pvt., Ltd.
 V.K Fasteners Pvt., Ltd.
 V.R.Logistics Pvt., Ltd.
 V.S.Industries
 Vatsalya Metal Industries
 Vega Industries
 Velvin Paper Products
 Venu Engineering Services (P) Ltd.
 Versatile Instruments & Controls
 Vestas Wind Technology India Private Ltd.
 Vibracoustic Noida Pvt., Ltd.
 Victaulic Piping Products India Pvt., Ltd.
 Vidhi Industries
 Vidushi Wires Pvt., Ltd.
 Vijay Engineering Works
 Viraj Profiles Ltd.
 Vollan Shipping Pvt., Ltd.
 Vph International
 Waveerk Enterprises
 White Mountain Fixings India
 Wintage Engineers & Consultants
 Wire Rings
 Xcel Exports
 Yerik International
 Yogendra International
 Youyun Logistics & Technology Pvt. Ltd.
 Zenith Precision Pvt., Ltd.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Specified Fishing Agreements for U.S. Territorial Catch, Effort, and Allocation Limits

The Department of Commerce 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. We invite the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** on January 20th, 2022 during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments.

Agency: NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).

Title: Specified Fishing Agreements for U.S. Territorial Catch, Effort, and Allocation Limits.

OMB Control Number: 0648-0689.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Request: Regular (extension of a current collection of information).

Number of Respondents: 3.

Average Hours per Response: 30 hours per agreement; 15 hours per appeal.

Total Annual Burden Hours: 90.

Needs and Uses: The Fishery Ecosystem Plan for Pacific Pelagic Fisheries of the Western Pacific Region (FEP) and regulations at 50 CFR 665.819 allow the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) to recommend and NMFS to implement catch or fishing effort limits for pelagic fisheries in the Territory of American Samoa, the Territory of Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) (hereinafter, "territory" or "territories"). The regulations further allow NMFS to authorize the government of each territory to allocate a portion of its catch or fishing effort limit to U.S. fishing vessels through specified fishing agreements between the vessels and the respective territories. Payments made by the vessels under these agreements support fisheries development in the territories.

Specified fishing agreements include the identity of fishing vessels subject to the agreement, the amount (weight) of fish or fishing effort to which the agreement applies, and any amount paid under the agreement. Additionally, an authorized official of the U.S. territory and each vessel owner or their designated representative must sign the agreements. There is no specified form for an agreement.

NMFS uses the information in the agreements to determine vessel eligibility, and ensure the amount of fish or fishing effort allocated under the agreement is consistent with the FEP, the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, other applicable laws, and the conservation needs of the fish stock.

The request also includes a change to the collection's title for improved clarity, from "Amendment 7 to the Fishery Ecosystem Plan for Pelagic Fisheries of the Western Pacific Region—U.S. Territorial Catch and Fishing Effort Limits" to "Specified Fishing Agreements for U.S. Territorial Catch, Effort, and Allocation Limits."

Affected Public: Individuals or households; business or other for-profit organizations; State or Territorial governments.

Frequency: Annual.