

Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Plan Rulemaking (GARFO Protected Resources Division Staff)

Update from NOAA Fisheries on anticipated Take Reduction Team activities and timeline

Wednesday, June 4th

Unmanaged Commercial Landings Report

Review and provide feedback

2025 Modular Ocean Model (MOM) 6 Presentation

(Vincent Saba, NEFSC Ecosystem Dynamics & Assessment Branch)

2025 ocean temperature forecast and ten year outlook

White Paper on Separate OFLs an ABCs for Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass

Review progress and provide guidance to SSC sub-group on next steps

Offshore Wind Monitoring Standards Update (Northeast Fisheries Science Center staff: Elizabeth Methratta, Chris Orphanides, and Angela Silva)

Update on NOAA Fisheries Offshore Wind monitoring standards

———— LUNCH ————

2026–2028 Chub Mackerel Specifications

Review recommendations from the Advisory Panel, SSC, Monitoring Committee, and staff

Adopt specifications for 2026–2028

2026 Butterfish Specifications

Review recommendations from the Advisory Panel, SSC, Monitoring Committee, and staff

Review previously adopted 2026 specifications and management measures, and recommend changes if necessary

2026 Longfin Squid Specifications

Review recommendations from the Advisory Panel, SSC, Monitoring Committee, and staff

Review previously adopted 2026 specifications and management measures, and recommend changes if necessary

2026 Atlantic Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Specifications

Review recommendations from the Advisory Panel, SSC, and staff

Review previously adopted 2026 specifications and management measures, and recommend changes if necessary

Gear Marking/On-Demand Gear Framework

Update from PDT/FMAT

Acknowledgement of Outgoing Council Members

Thursday, June 5th

Business Session

Committee Reports (SSC); Executive Director's Report (Discuss Council response to Executive Order on Restoring American Seafood Competitiveness); Organization Reports; and Liaison Reports

Other Business and General Public Comment

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. Actions will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under Section 305(c).

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aid should be directed to Shelley Spedden, (302) 526–5251, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: May 15, 2025.

Rey Israel Marquez,

Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XE795]

Takes of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to U.S. Coast Guard Base Kodiak Homeporting Facility in Kodiak, Alaska

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

ACTION: Notice; issuance of incidental harassment authorization.

SUMMARY: In accordance with regulations implementing the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) as amended, notification is hereby given that NMFS has issued two consecutive incidental harassment authorizations (IHA) to the United States Coast Guard (USCG) for authorization to take marine mammals incidental to Base Kodiak Homeporting Facility in Womens Bay, Kodiak, Alaska.

DATES: The year 1 authorization is effective from May 19, 2025, through May 18, 2026. The year 2 authorization is effective from May 19, 2026, through May 18, 2027.

ADDRESSES: Electronic copies of the application and supporting documents, as well as a list of the references cited in this document, may be obtained online at: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/marine-mammal-protection/incidental-take-authorizations-construction-activities>. In case of problems accessing these documents, please call the contact listed below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kate Fleming, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, (301) 427–8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

MMPA Background and Determinations

The MMPA prohibits the “take” of marine mammals, with certain exceptions. Among the exceptions is section 101(a)(5)(D) of the MMPA (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) which directs the Secretary of Commerce (as delegated to NMFS) to allow, upon request, the incidental, but not intentional, taking by harassment of small numbers of marine mammals by U.S. citizens who engage in a specified activity (other than commercial fishing) within a specified geographical region if certain findings are made and the public has an opportunity to comment on the proposed IHA.

Specifically, NMFS will issue an IHA if it finds that the taking will have a negligible impact on the species or stock(s) and will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of the species or stock(s) for taking for subsistence uses (where relevant). Further, NMFS must prescribe the permissible methods of taking and other “means of effecting the least [practicable] adverse impact” on the affected species or stocks and their habitat, paying particular attention to rookeries, mating grounds, and areas of similar significance, and on the availability of such species or stocks for taking for certain subsistence uses (referred to here as “mitigation”). NMFS

must also prescribe requirements pertaining to monitoring and reporting of such takings. The definition of key terms such as “take,” “harassment,” and “negligible impact” can be found in the MMPA and the NMFS’ implementing regulations (see 16 U.S.C. 1362; 50 CFR 216.103).

On March 14, 2025, a notice of NMFS’ proposal to issue two consecutive IHAs to USCG for take of marine mammals incidental to Base Kodiak Homeporting Facility construction in Womens Bay, Kodiak, Alaska, was published in the **Federal Register** (90 FR 12204). In that notice, NMFS indicated the estimated numbers, type, and methods of incidental take proposed for each species or stock and the mitigation, monitoring, and reporting measures that would be required should the IHAs be issued. The **Federal Register** notification (FRN) also included analysis to support NMFS’ preliminary conclusions and determinations that the IHAs, if issued, would satisfy the requirements of section 101(a)(5)(D) of the MMPA for issuance of the IHAs. The FRN included web links to a draft IHA for review and other supporting documents.

No comments were received during the public comment period. There are no changes to the specified activity, the species taken, the proposed numbers, type, or methods of take, or the mitigation, monitoring, or reporting measures in the proposed IHA notice. No new information that would change any of the preliminary analyses, conclusions, or determinations in the proposed IHA notice has become available since that notice was published and, therefore, the preliminary analyses, conclusions, and determinations included in the proposed IHA are considered final.

While there are no changes from the proposed authorization, the following clarifies a discrepancy in the notice of the proposed IHA (90 FR 12204, March 14, 2025). NMFS indicated in table 2 of notice of the proposed IHA, that in year 2, USCG planned to install 36-inch permanent piles using vibratory installation at a rate of 4 piles per day, and 36-inch temporary piles using vibratory installation of 6 piles per day. However, the Level A harassment isopleths for all 36-inch piles (temporary and permanent) were estimated based on 6 piles per day in the year 2 draft IHA (and table 9 of the notice of the proposed IHA, 90 FR 12204, March 14, 2025). After publication of the proposed IHA, USCG indicated that it would like to preserve flexibility to install up to 6 36-inch permanent piles in a day, and therefore,

the final year 2 IHA Level A harassment isopleths for all 36-inch piles (temporary and permanent) were estimated based on 6 piles per day as included in the proposed year 2 IHA.

National Environmental Policy Act

To comply with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA; 42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and NOAA Administrative Order (NAO) 216–6A, NMFS must review our proposed action (*i.e.*, the issuance of an IHA) with respect to potential impacts on the human environment.

This action is consistent with categories of activities identified in Categorical Exclusion B4 (IHAs with no anticipated serious injury or mortality) of the Companion Manual for NAO 216–6A, which do not individually or cumulatively have the potential for significant impacts on the quality of the human environment and for which we have not identified any extraordinary circumstances that would preclude this categorical exclusion. Accordingly, NMFS has determined that the issuance of the IHAs qualifies to be categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

Endangered Species Act

Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) requires that each Federal agency insure that any action it authorizes, funds, or carries out is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered or threatened species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated critical habitat. To ensure ESA compliance for the issuance of IHAs, NMFS consults internally whenever we propose to authorize take for endangered or threatened species.

There are three marine mammal species (humpback whale (Mexico and Western North Pacific DPSs), fin whale, and Steller sea lion (western DPS) with potential occurrence in the project area that is listed as endangered under the ESA. The NMFS Alaska Regional Office Protected Resources Division issued a Biological Opinion on May 7, 2025 under section 7 of the ESA, on the issuance of two consecutive IHAs to USCG under 101(a)(5)(D) of the MMPA by the NMFS Permits and Conservation Division. The Biological Opinion concluded that the action is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of humpback whale (Mexico and Western N. Pacific DPSs), fin whale or Steller sea lion (western DPS), and is not likely to destroy or adversely modify humpback whale or Steller sea lion critical habitat.

Authorization

Accordingly, consistent with the requirements of section 101(a)(5)(D) of the MMPA, NMFS has issued two consecutive IHAs to USCG for authorization to take marine mammals incidental to Base Kodiak Vessel Homeporting Facility Project in Womens Bay, Kodiak, Alaska.

Dated: May 13, 2025.

Kimberly Damon-Randall,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Notice of Publication of Housing Price Inflation Adjustment

AGENCY: Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Notice of housing price inflation adjustment for calendar year 2025.

SUMMARY: The DoD is publishing this notice to announce the 2025 Rent Threshold under the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (SCRA). Applying the housing price inflation adjustment, the maximum monthly rental amount calculated as of January 1, 2025, is \$10,239.63.

DATES: These housing price inflation adjustments are effective January 1, 2025.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Mike Yedinak, (703) 571–0106 (voice), osd.pentagon.ousd-p-r.mbx.legal-policy@mail.mil (email).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The SCRA, as codified at 50 United States Code (U.S.C.) 3951, prohibits a landlord from evicting a service member (or the service member’s family) from a residence during a period of military service, except by court order. The law as originally passed by Congress applied to dwellings with monthly rents of \$2,400 or less. The SCRA requires the Secretary of Defense to adjust this amount annually to reflect inflation and to publish the new amount in the **Federal Register**. Applying the housing price inflation adjustment for 2025, the maximum monthly rental amount for 50 U.S.C. 3951(a)(1)(A)(2) as of January 1, 2025, is \$10,239.63.