

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), a final determination has been made that the activities proposed are categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

Authority

Scientific research permits are issued in accordance with section 10(a)(1)(A) of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and regulations governing listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR 222–226). NMFS issues permits based on finding that such permits: (1) are applied for in good faith; (2) if granted and exercised, would not operate to the disadvantage of the listed species that are the subject of the permit; and, (3) are consistent with the purposes and policy of section 2 of the ESA. The authority to take listed species is subject to conditions set forth in the permits.

Dated: August 22, 2023.

Angela Somma,

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

[FR Doc. 2023–18420 Filed 8–25–23; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Request for Public Comment on Draft Hydrographic Survey Specifications and Deliverables

AGENCY: Office of Coast Survey, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Request for comments.

SUMMARY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA's) Office of Coast Survey (OCS) requests public comment from all interested parties on a draft of the newly-revised Hydrographic Survey Specifications and Deliverables document (HSSD). The HSSD has been rewritten to be more forward looking with respect to new and developing technologies, best facilitate the use of automated tools, and better integrate with the S–100 based products and the National Bathymetric Source (NBS), which is the OCS database for best-available bathymetry. Additionally, the revised HSSD will better accommodate the increasing amounts of hydrographic data obtained from external sources,

with metadata tags to denote data quality and universal data licenses to define terms of use, which will result in more streamlined, standardized workflows. Numerous subject matter experts collaborated to modernize the HSSD so that it best supports OCS as a data-driven organization.

DATES: Comments must be received via email by 5 p.m. ET on October 12, 2023.

ADDRESSES: A copy of the revised HSSD may be downloaded or viewed at: https://nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/publications/docs/standards-and-requirements/specs/HSSD_2023-2-02.pdf.

All comments must be submitted by email to hssd.staff@noaa.gov by 5 p.m. ET on October 12, 2023.

Instructions: Please include “Public Comment on Revised HSSD” in the subject line of the email message. If applicable, clearly indicate the HSSD section and page number to which submitted comments pertain. All submissions must be in English. Email attachments will be accepted in plain text, Microsoft Word, or Adobe PDF formats only. Each individual or institution is requested to submit only one comment. Please note that the U.S. Government will not pay for response preparation or the use of any information contained in the response.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information should be directed to Matt Wilson, NOAA Office of Coast Survey, at hssd.staff@noaa.gov, (757) 828–6915.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the Coast and Geodetic Survey Act, 33 U.S.C. 883 *et seq.*, and the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act, 33 U.S.C. 892 *et seq.*, NOAA promulgates standards and specifications for hydrographic data in the HSSD in order to ensure safe and efficient navigation in support of our maritime economy. NOAA has revised the HSSD to better accommodate new and developing technologies and increasing amounts of externally-sourced hydrographic data submissions. The revised HSSD facilitates more streamlined workflows via critical metadata tags and universal data licenses, and is better integrated with the NBS program, for a more efficient means of product generation and public access to our national bathymetry.

Authority: 33 U.S.C. 883 *et seq.*; 33 U.S.C. 892 *et seq.*

RDML Benjamin K. Evans,

Director, Office of Coast Survey, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

[FR Doc. 2023–18525 Filed 8–25–23; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XD239]

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of a public meeting.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling a public meeting of its Monkfish Committee via webinar to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Recommendations from this group will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

DATES: This webinar will be held on Wednesday, September 13, 2023, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

ADDRESSES:

Webinar registration URL information: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/774583284656558933>.

Council address: New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Thomas A. Nies, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; telephone: (978) 465–0492.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Agenda

The Monkfish Committee will meet to receive Advisory Panel comments on fishery performance and outlook for the remainder of fishing year 2023, as well as reviewing the outcomes and recommendations of the Monkfish Research-Set-Aside (RSA) Working Group and make recommendations to the Council on next steps with the RSA program. They will make recommendations to the Council for monkfish-related work in 2024, which could include developing regulatory changes to the RSA program.

Other business will be discussed as necessary.

Although non-emergency issues not contained on the agenda may come before this Council for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Council action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency. The public also should be aware that the meeting will be recorded. Consistent with 16 U.S.C. 1852, a copy of the recording is available upon request.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Thomas A. Nies, Executive Director, at (978) 465-0492, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: August 22, 2023.

Key Israel Marquez,

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

[FR Doc. 2023-18434 Filed 8-25-23; 8:45 am]

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CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

[CPSC Docket No. 23-C0003]

Whirlpool Corporation

AGENCY: Consumer Product Safety Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commission publishes in the **Federal Register** any settlement that it provisionally accepts under the Consumer Product Safety Act. Published below is a provisionally accepted Settlement Agreement with Whirlpool Corporation containing a civil penalty in the amount of \$11,500,000, subject to the terms and conditions of the Settlement Agreement. The Commission voted unanimously (4-0) to provisionally accept the proposed Settlement Agreement and Order pertaining to Whirlpool Corporation.

DATES: Any interested person may ask the Commission not to accept this agreement or otherwise comment on its contents by filing a written request with the Office of the Secretary by September 12, 2023.

ADDRESSES: Persons wishing to comment on this Settlement Agreement should send written comments to Comment 23-C0003, Office of the Secretary, Consumer Product Safety Commission, 4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, MD 20814; telephone: (240) 863-8938 (mobile), (301) 504-7479 (office); email: cpsc-os@cpsc.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joseph Kessler, Trial Attorney, Division of Enforcement and Litigation, Office of Compliance and Field Operations, Consumer Product Safety Commission, 4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, Maryland 20814; jkessler@cpsc.gov, 301-504-7602 (office).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The text of the Settlement Agreement and Order appear below.

Dated: August 23, 2023.

Alberta E. Mills,
Secretary.

United States of America

Consumer Product Safety Commission

In the Matter of: Whirlpool Corporation
CPSC Docket No.: 23-C0003

Settlement Agreement

1. In accordance with the Consumer Product Safety Act, 15 U.S.C. 2051-2089 ("CPSA"), and 16 CFR 1118.20, Whirlpool Corporation ("Whirlpool" or the "Firm"), and the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission ("Commission"), through its staff, hereby enter into this Settlement Agreement ("Agreement"). The Agreement and the incorporated attached Order resolve staff's charges set forth below.

The Parties

2. The Commission is an independent federal regulatory agency, established pursuant to, and responsible for, the enforcement of the CPSA, 15 U.S.C. 2051-2089. By executing the Agreement, staff is acting on behalf of the Commission, pursuant to 16 CFR 1118.20(b). The Commission issues the Order under the provisions of the CPSA.

3. Whirlpool is a corporation, organized and existing under the laws of the state of Delaware, with its principal place of business in Benton Harbor, Michigan.

Staff Charges

4. Between December 2016 and July 2019, Whirlpool manufactured and distributed in the United States approximately 20,000 units of various KitchenAid, Whirlpool, and JennAir electric radiant heat glass cooktops, model numbers KCES950HSS, KCES950HBL, KCES956HSS,

KCES956HBL, WCE97US0HS, WCE97US0HB, WCE97US6HS, WCE97US6HB, JEC4430HS, JEC4430HB, JEC4536HS, JEC4536HB, JEC4424HB, JED4430GB, JED4430GS, JED4536GB, and JED4536GS ("Subject Products").

5. The Subject Products are "consumer products" that were "manufactured" and "distributed" in commerce," as those terms are defined or used in sections 3(a)(5), (7), and (10) of the CPSA, 15 U.S.C. 2052(a)(5), (8), and (10). Whirlpool is a "manufacturer" of the Subject Products, as such term is defined in section 3(a)(11) of the CPSA, 15 U.S.C. 2052(a)(11).

Violation of CPSA Section 19(a)(4)

6. The Subject Products contain a defect which could create a substantial product hazard or create an unreasonable risk of serious injury or death because one or more cooktop surface elements can turn on by themselves, posing a fire and burn hazard.

7. Beginning in November 2017 and continuing into 2019, Whirlpool received numerous reports from consumers that cooktop surface elements turned on by themselves.

8. Between 2007 and 2015, CPSC had publicly announced at least five recalls involving gas or electric cooktops manufactured by other firms reportedly turning on by themselves or not turning off, with each recall announcement warning that the defect presented a fire or burn hazard.

9. Despite possessing information that reasonably supported the conclusion that the Subject Products contained a defect that could create a substantial product hazard or created an unreasonable risk of serious injury or death, Whirlpool did not immediately report to the Commission.

10. By the time Whirlpool filed an initial report with the Commission under 15 U.S.C. 2064(b) concerning the Subject Products, the Firm had received at least 157 reports of Subject Products turning on by themselves, including 14 reports of property damage, four reports of objects igniting, and two reports of minor burns.

11. The Commission and Whirlpool jointly announced the recall of the Subject Products on August 28, 2019.

Failure to Timely Report

12. Despite having information reasonably supporting the conclusion that the Subject Products contained a defect or created an unreasonable risk of serious injury or death, Whirlpool did not notify the Commission immediately of such defect or risk, as required by section 15(b)(4) of the CPSA, 15 U.S.C.