

and 19 CFR 351.213(d)(1), 19 CFR 351.213(h)(2), and 351.221(b)(4).

Dated: January 5, 2026.

Christopher Abbott,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Negotiations, performing the non-exclusive functions and duties of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

Appendix

List of Topics Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum

- I. Summary
- II. Background
- III. Scope of the Order
- IV. Application of Facts Available with Adverse Inferences
- V. Recommendation

[FR Doc. 2026–00225 Filed 1–8–26; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XF465]

Fisheries of the South Atlantic, Gulf of America, and Caribbean; Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of the Southeast Data Assessment and Review Steering Committee meeting.

SUMMARY: The Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review (SEDAR) Steering Committee will meet to discuss the SEDAR stock assessment process and assessment schedule. See

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.

DATES: The SEDAR Steering Committee will meet Wednesday, February 11, 2026, from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. Eastern and from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Eastern on Thursday, February 12, 2026. The established times may be adjusted as necessary to accommodate the timely completion of discussion relevant to the SEDAR process. Such adjustments may result in the meeting being extended from or completed prior to the time established by this notice.

ADDRESSES:

Meeting address: The SEDAR Steering Committee meeting will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn Charleston Airport & Convention Center, 5265 International Blvd., Charleston, SC 29418; phone: 843–308–9330.

SEDAR address: 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, N Charleston, SC 29405. www.sedarweb.org.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Julie A. Neer, SEDAR Program Manager, 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North Charleston, SC 29405; phone 843/571–4366 or toll free 866/SAFMC–10; FAX 843/769–4520; email: Julie.neer@safmc.net.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The SEDAR Steering Committee provides guidance and oversight of the SEDAR stock assessment program and manages assessment scheduling. The items of discussion for this meeting are as follows: SEDAR Projects Update; SEDAR Projects Schedule; SEDAR Process Review and discussions; and other business as needed.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action 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) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of the intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids should be directed to the SEDAR office (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 business days prior to the meeting.

Note: The times and sequence specified in this agenda are subject to change.

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

Dated: January 7, 2026.

Rey Israel Marquez,

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

[FR Doc. 2026–00287 Filed 1–8–26; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XF411]

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling a webinar of its Risk Policy Working Group 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 Friday, January 23, 2026, at 12 p.m.

Webinar registration URL information: <https://nefmc-org.zoom.us/j/9876543210>

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cate O'Keefe, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; telephone: (978) 465–0492.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Agenda

The Risk Policy Working Group will meet to discuss the development and use of Risk Policy Matrix in Council actions. They will continue to refine elements of the Risk Policy Concept for future use. The group will also review feedback from simulation testing and consider recommending adjustments to the Risk Policy factors, data sources, and scoring rubric and recommend changes to the Risk Policy Concept. They will discuss how the Risk Policy can be used to support longer-term (up to 5 years) specification setting. Other business will be discussed, if 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 Cate O'Keefe, Executive Director, at (978) 465–0492, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: January 7, 2026.

Rey Israel Marquez,

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

[FR Doc. 2026-00279 Filed 1-8-26; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XF397]

Takes of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Yakutat Small Boat Harbor Replacement Project in Yakutat, Alaska

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

ACTION: Notice; issuance of an incidental harassment authorization.

SUMMARY: Notification is hereby given that NMFS has issued an incidental harassment authorization (IHA) to the City & Borough of Yakutat, Alaska (CBY) to incidentally harass marine mammals during construction activities associated with the Yakutat Small Boat Harbor Replacement Project in Yakutat, Alaska.

DATES: This authorization is effective for 1 year from the date of notification by the IHA-holder, not to exceed 1 year from the date of issuance (January 6, 2026).

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/action/incidental-take-authorization-city-borough-yakutat-alaskas-yakutat-small-boat-harbor>. In case of problems accessing these documents, please call the contact listed below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert Pauline, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, (301) 427-8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Marine Mammal Protection Act (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 the monitoring and reporting of such takings. The definitions 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).

Summary of Request

On September 30, 2025, a notice of NMFS’ proposal to issue an IHA to CBY for take of marine mammals incidental to the Yakutat Small Boat Harbor Replacement Project Seward Cruise Ship Passenger Dock and Terminal Facility published in the **Federal Register** (90 FR 46812). Following NMFS’ review of the application and subsequent discussions between NMFS and CBY, the application was deemed adequate and complete on September 16, 2025.

CBY’s request is for take of nine species of marine mammals by Level B harassment only, and for a subset of these species, Level A harassment. Neither CBY nor NMFS expect serious injury or mortality to result from this activity and, therefore, an IHA is appropriate.

Description of the Specified Activity

CBY is replacing the existing Yakutat Small Boat Harbor (YSBH) infrastructure which has been in use for approximately 60 years. The replacement project will improve accessibility, public safety, and continue to provide the current level of public service and vessel mooring in Yakutat, Alaska. The existing gangway, headwalk, mainwalk, finger, and seaplane floats will be removed. The

existing approach dock will be extended. New modular floats will be installed following completion of the approach dock extension. Temporary and permanent piles will secure the floats during and after installation.

In-water pile driving would occur on approximately 54 non-consecutive days over the course of 1 year. The planned activities that have the potential to take marine mammals, by Level A and Level B harassment, include vibratory removal of current steel and timber piles, vibratory installation and removal of temporary steel pipe piles, vibratory and impact installation of permanent steel pipe piles, and down-the-hole drilling (DTH) of rock sockets.

A detailed description of the planned construction project is provided in the **Federal Register** notice for the proposed IHA (90 FR 46812, September 30, 2025). Since that time, no changes have been made to the planned activities. Therefore, a detailed description is not provided here. Please refer to that **Federal Register** notice for the description of the specific activity.

Comments and Responses

NMFS published a notice of its proposal to issue an IHA to CBY in the **Federal Register** on September 30, 2025 (90 FR 46812). That notice described, in detail, CBY’s specified activities, the marine mammal species that may be affected by the activities, and the anticipated effects on marine mammals. In that notice, we requested public input on the request for authorization described therein, our analyses, the proposed authorization, and any other aspect of the notice of the proposed IHA, and requested that interested persons submit relevant information, suggestions, and comments.

No comments were received during the 30-day public comment period.

Changes From the Proposed IHA to Final IHA

Since the publication of the proposed IHA (90 FR 46812, September 30, 2025), NMFS has revised one of the assumptions made about construction processes and has corrected several minor errors and omissions.

Scientific papers by Miner (2020) and Heyvaert and Reyff (2021) were cited in the proposed IHA but were not included in the formal list of References. These items have since been added. A new reference above to Denes *et al.* (2016) has also been added to the list of References. The updated reference list may be found at: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/action/incidental-take-authorization-city-borough-yakutat-alaskas-yakutat-small-boat-harbor>.