

IV. Request for Comments

We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department/Bureau to: (a) Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the time and cost burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) Evaluate ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. We will include or summarize each comment in our request to OMB to approve this ICR. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Sheleen Dumas,

Departmental PRA Compliance Officer, Office of the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, Commerce Department.

[FR Doc. 2026–06391 Filed 4–1–26; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

Board of Overseers of the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: The Board of Overseers of the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award (“Board of Overseers” or “Board”) will meet in open session on Thursday, June 11, 2026, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time. The purpose of this meeting is for the Board of Overseers to review and discuss the work of the Baldrige Performance Excellence Program, to implement improvements to the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award (“Award”), and

to provide recommendations to the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) as the Board deems necessary. The agenda will include the Baldrige Program Update, Baldrige Foundation Update, Ethics Review, Alliance for Performance Excellence Update, Communities of Excellence Update, and New Business/Public Comment. Details of the agenda are noted in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Thursday, June 11th, 2026, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time. The meeting will be open to the public.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held virtually via webinar. Please note admittance instructions under the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert Fangmeyer, Director, Baldrige Performance Excellence Program, National Institute of Standards and Technology, 100 Bureau Drive, Mail Stop 1020, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899–1020, via telephone at (301) 975–2361 or via email at robert.fangmeyer@nist.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: 15 U.S.C. 3711a(d)(1); 15 U.S.C. 3711a(d)(2)(B); and the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, 5 U.S.C. 1000 *et seq.*

Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, 5 U.S.C. 1000 *et seq.*, notice is hereby given that the Board of Overseers will meet in open session on Thursday, June 11, 2026, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time. The Board is composed of six members preeminent in the field of organizational performance excellence and appointed by the Secretary of Commerce, makes an annual report on the results of Award activities to the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), and submits recommendations to the Director for improvement of the Award process. The Board consists of a balanced representation from U.S. service, manufacturing, nonprofit, education, and healthcare industries; its members are familiar with the quality, performance improvement operations, and competitiveness issues of manufacturing companies, service companies, small businesses, nonprofits, healthcare providers, and educational institutions.

The purpose of this meeting is to welcome and introduce the Board and to review and discuss the work of the Baldrige Performance Excellence Program (“Program”). The agenda will include the Baldrige Program Update,

Baldrige Foundation Update, Judges Panel of the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award Update (“Judges Panel”) Update, Ethics Review for both the Judges Panel and the Board, Alliance for Performance Excellence Update, Communities of Excellence Update, and New Business/Public Comment. The agenda may change to accommodate the Board of Overseers business. The final agenda will be posted on the NIST Baldrige Performance Excellence website at <http://www.nist.gov/baldrige/community/overseers.cfm>. The meeting is open to the public. Individuals and representatives of organizations who would like to offer verbal comments and suggestions related to the Board’s affairs are invited to request a place on the agenda.

Approximately thirty minutes will be reserved for public comments during the meeting, and speaking times will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. The amount of time devoted to each speaker will be determined by the number of requests received, and it is likely to be limited to approximately three minutes. The exact time for public comments will be included in the final agenda that will be posted on the Baldrige Performance Excellence Program website at <http://www.nist.gov/baldrige/community/overseers.cfm>. Questions from the public will not be considered during this period. Requests must be submitted by email to Robyn Decker at robyn@nist.gov and must be received by 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time, June 4, 2026, to be considered. Speakers who wish to expand upon their oral statements, individuals who wished to speak but could not be accommodated on the agenda, and those who were unable to attend the meeting are invited to submit written statements by email to robyn@nist.gov. Written statements may be submitted at any time.

Admittance Instructions: All participants will be attending virtually via webinar and need to pre-register to be admitted. Please contact Mrs. Robyn Decker via email at robyn@nist.gov; via U.S. mail at the National Institute of Standards and Technology c/o Robyn Decker, 100 Bureau Drive, Mail Stop 1020, Gaithersburg, MD 20899; or via telephone at (301) 975–2361. Please include your name, email, and telephone number with all registration requests, and you will receive instructions for webinar admittance. All requests to attend must be received by 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time, June 4, 2026.

Special Accommodations: Individuals requiring special accommodations to access the public meeting should contact robyn@nist.gov, no later than

June 4, 2026, so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Alicia Chambers,

NIST Executive Secretariat.

[FR Doc. 2026–06419 Filed 4–1–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XF620]

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC); Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's Tilefish Advisory Panel will hold a public meeting.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 16, 2026, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. EST. For agenda details, see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.**

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held via webinar. Webinar connection, agenda items, and any additional information will be available at <https://www.mafmc.org/council-events>.

Council address: Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 800 N State Street, Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901; telephone: (302) 674–2331; <https://www.mafmc.org>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christopher M. Moore, Ph.D., Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, telephone: (302) 526–5255.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of this meeting is to discuss recent performance of the blueline and golden tilefish commercial and recreational fisheries and develop Fishery Performance Reports. These reports will be considered by the Scientific and Statistical Committee, the Monitoring Committee, and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council when setting 2027–2029 blueline and reviewing 2027 golden tilefish catch and landings limits as well as commercial or recreational management measures.

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Shelley Spedden at the Council Office,

(302) 526–5251, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: March 31, 2026.

Rey Israel Marquez,

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

[FR Doc. 2026–06427 Filed 4–1–26; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XF562]

Whaling Provisions; Aboriginal Subsistence Whaling Quotas

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

ACTION: Notice; notification of quota for bowhead whales.

SUMMARY: NMFS notifies the public of the aboriginal subsistence whaling quota for bowhead whales assigned to the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission (AEWC), and of limitations on the use of the quota deriving from regulations of the International Whaling Commission (IWC). For 2026, the AEWC quota is 93 bowhead whales struck. This quota and other applicable limitations govern the harvest of bowhead whales by licensed whaling captains of the AEWC.

DATES: Applicable April 2, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Office of International Affairs, Trade, and Commerce, National Marine Fisheries Service, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Madison Harris, (202) 480–4592.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Aboriginal subsistence whaling (ASW) in the United States is governed by the Whaling Convention Act (WCA; 16 U.S.C. 916 *et seq.*). Under the WCA, IWC regulations shall become effective with respect to all persons and vessels subject to the jurisdiction of the United States within 90 days of notification from the IWC Secretariat of an amendment to the IWC Schedule (16 U.S.C. 916k). Regulations that implement the WCA, found at 50 CFR part 230, require the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries to publish, at least annually, aboriginal subsistence whaling quotas and any other limitations on aboriginal subsistence whaling deriving from regulations of the IWC.

At the 69th meeting of the IWC in 2024, the Commission extended existing ASW strike/catch limits, including those for the bowhead whales from the Bering-Chukchi-Beaufort Seas stock, for the 6-year period 2026–2031. The new IWC quota block maintains that the number of bowhead whales struck each year shall not exceed 67, with the total quota block for the 6-year period at 336 bowhead whales landed. Unused strikes from the three prior quota blocks shall be carried forward and added to the annual strike quota of subsequent years, provided that no more than 50 percent of the annual strike limit is added to the strike quota for any 1 year. For the 2026 harvest, there are 33 strikes available for carry-forward, so the combined bowhead whale strike quota set by the IWC for 2026 is 100 (67 + 33).

The extension of existing ASW strike/catch limits at the 2024 meeting of the IWC was carried out following a process agreed to by the Commission in 2018 that would extend ASW strike/catch limits under certain circumstances. Under this process, commencing in 2026, bowhead whale strike/catch limits shall be extended every 6 years provided: (a) the IWC Scientific Committee advises in 2024, and every 6 years thereafter, that such limits will not harm the stock; (b) the IWC does not receive a request from the United States or the Russian Federation for a change in the bowhead whale catch limits based on need; and (c) the IWC determines that the United States and the Russian Federation have complied with the IWC's approved timeline and that the information provided represents a status quo continuation of the hunts. In 2024, the Commission reviewed the above ASW extension criteria and determined by consensus that all of the conditions had been met, and thus extended the ASW strike/catch limits for 6 years, for the period from 2026 through 2031.

Both Alaska and Russian Natives hunt the bowhead whale, thus the IWC quota for the bowhead whale is shared between the two Native groups. To account for the shared quota, the United States and Russia have an understanding that the two countries share the bowhead whale quota. To facilitate the management of the bowhead quota, NOAA entered into a cooperative agreement with the AEWC. NOAA has assigned 93 strikes to the AEWC through its cooperative agreement with the AEWC, accounting for bowhead whales that may be hunted by Russian Natives. The AEWC will in turn allocate these strikes among the 11 villages whose cultural and subsistence needs have been documented and will