

# Rules and Regulations

Federal Register

Vol. 91, No. 107

Thursday, June 4, 2026

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains regulatory documents having general applicability and legal effect, most of which are keyed to and codified in the Code of Federal Regulations, which is published under 50 titles pursuant to 44 U.S.C. 1510.

The Code of Federal Regulations is sold by the Superintendent of Documents.

## OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

### 5 CFR Part 532

[Docket ID: OPM–2026–0133]

RIN 3206–AP11

### Prevailing Rate Systems; Redefinition of the Raven Rock Mountain Complex to the Washington-Baltimore-Arlington Federal Wage System Wage Area

**AGENCY:** Office of Personnel Management.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) is issuing a final rule to redefine the Federal Wage System (FWS) wage area coverage of the Raven Rock Mountain Complex (RRMC), which spans small portions of Washington County, Maryland, which is in the Washington-Baltimore-Arlington wage area, and Adams County, Pennsylvania, which is in the Harrisburg-York-Lebanon, PA wage area. OPM will redefine the RRMC portion of Adams County from the Harrisburg-York-Lebanon, PA wage area to the Washington-Baltimore-Arlington wage area so that all of the RRMC is in the same wage area. Portions of Adams County outside of RRMC will continue to be defined to the Harrisburg-York-Lebanon, PA, wage area. This change will align wage area coverage for installations within the Pentagon Reservation and prevent pay disparities among FWS employees working at the RRMC.

**DATES:**

*Effective date:* This regulation is effective July 6, 2026.

*Applicability date:* This change applies on the first day of the first applicable pay period beginning on or after July 6, 2026.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ana Paunoiu by telephone at (202) 606–2858 or by email at [paypolicy@opm.gov](mailto:paypolicy@opm.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On February 25, 2026, OPM issued a proposed rule (91 FR 9170) to amend Appendix C of 5 CFR part 532, subpart B—Appropriated Fund Wage and Survey Areas, to redefine the FWS wage area coverage of the RRMC. The rule also proposed several additional corrections and revisions to Appendix C and corrections and revisions to Appendix A of 5 CFR part 532, subpart B—Nationwide Schedule of Appropriated Fund Regular Wage Surveys. These additional corrections and revisions concern formatting, spelling, typographical errors, inconsistencies, and omissions made in final rule 90 FR 7428, published on January 21, 2025. The proposed rule had a 60-day comment period, during which OPM received no comments. Therefore, this final rule adopts the proposed rule at 91 FR 9170 without change.

The revisions to Appendix A and Appendix C of 5 CFR part 532, subpart B, in this final rule are as follows:

This final rule will make the following revision to Appendix A: adds the State of Connecticut, and a listing for the New Haven-Hartford wage area, with “DOD” as lead agency; “April” as the listing of the beginning month of survey; and “Odd” Fiscal Year of full-scale survey. The listing for the New Haven-Hartford wage area was inadvertently omitted in final rule.

This final rule will make the following revisions to Appendix C:

**(1) Birmingham-Cullman-Talladega Wage Area**

Adds “until” between “effective” and “January” to read “(effective until January 2028)” for Talladega County, Alabama, in the area of application. Talladega County, AL, was moved from the Anniston-Gadsden survey area to the Birmingham-Cullman-Talladega area of application, effective October 1, 2025, until January 2028. This county will subsequently be moved from the Birmingham-Cullman-Talladega area of application to the Birmingham-Cullman-Talladega survey area effective for local wage surveys beginning in January 2028. The final rule inadvertently omitted the word “until.”

**(2) Washington-Baltimore-Arlington Wage Area**

Adds Adams (Only includes the Raven Rock Mountain Complex) County, PA, to the area of application of

the Washington-Baltimore-Arlington wage area.

Revises the name of “Berkley” County, West Virginia, to read “Berkeley.”

**(3) Miami-Port St. Lucie-Fort Lauderdale Wage Area**

Adds St. Lucie County, Florida, to the area of application of the Miami-Port St. Lucie-Fort Lauderdale wage area. Due to a formatting error, St. Lucie County was listed as a separate wage area, instead of being part of the Miami-Port St. Lucie-Fort Lauderdale wage area.

Deletes “St. Lucie” as a wage area entry.

**(4) Augusta Wage Area**

Replaces “:” with “.” after “Survey area,” to read “Area of Application. Survey area,” for the Augusta wage area, in the State of Maine. The Augusta wage area does not have an area of application. As such, the correct punctuation is a period instead of a colon.

**(5) Chicago-Naperville Wage Area**

Deletes “IL” from the title of the “Chicago-Naperville, IL” wage area to read “Chicago-Naperville” to be consistent with how we list the titles of other wage areas.

**(6) Harrisburg-York-Lebanon Wage Area**

Adds “(Does not include the Raven Rock Mountain Complex)” after “Adams” to read “Adams (Does not include the Raven Rock Mountain Complex)” in the area of application of the Harrisburg-York-Lebanon wage area.

**(7) Roanoke Wage Area**

Deletes the Cities of Staunton and Waynesboro, Virginia, which were incorrectly included and duplicated in the area of application of the Roanoke wage area. These cities were moved to the Washington-Baltimore-Arlington wage area and were inadvertently not deleted from the Roanoke wage area.

Deletes Augusta (Does not include the Shenandoah National Park portion) County, VA, which was incorrectly included and duplicated in the area of application of the Roanoke wage area. The entire Augusta County was moved to the Washington-Baltimore-Arlington wage area, and the Shenandoah National Park portion was inadvertently not deleted from the Roanoke wage area.

**Expected Impact of This Rule**

Section 5343 of title 5, U.S. Code, provides OPM with the authority and responsibility to define the boundaries of FWS wage areas. Any changes in wage area definitions can have the long-term effect of increasing pay for Federal employees in affected locations. OPM expects this rulemaking to impact around 50 FWS employees. Considering the small number of employees affected, OPM does not anticipate that this rule will substantially impact local economies or have a large impact in local labor markets. As this and future wage area changes may impact higher volumes of employees in geographical areas and could rise to the level of impacting local labor markets, OPM will continue to study the implications of such impacts in this or future rules as needed.

**Regulatory Review**

OPM has examined the impact of this rulemaking as required by Executive Orders 12866 and 13563 which direct agencies to assess all costs and benefits of available regulatory alternatives and, if regulation is necessary, to select regulatory approaches that maximize net benefits (including potential economic, environmental, public health and safety effects, distributive impacts, and equity). This rulemaking is not a “significant regulatory action” under Executive Order 12866. The rule is not an E.O. 14192 regulatory action because it is not significant under E.O. 12866.

**Regulatory Flexibility Act**

The Director of OPM certifies that this rule would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

**Federalism**

OPM has examined this rule in accordance with Executive Order 13132, Federalism, and has determined that this rule will not have any negative impact on the rights, roles and responsibilities of State, local, or Tribal governments.

**Civil Justice Reform**

This rulemaking will not result in the expenditure by State, local, and Tribal governments, in the aggregate, or by the private sector, of \$100 million or more in any year in 1995 dollars, updated annually for inflation. That threshold is currently approximately \$206 million. This rulemaking will not significantly or uniquely affect small governments. Therefore, no actions were deemed necessary under the provisions of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995.

**Unfunded Mandates Act of 1995**

This rulemaking will not result in the expenditure by State, local, and Tribal governments, in the aggregate, or by the private sector, of \$100 million or more in any year in 1995 dollars, updated annually for inflation. That threshold is currently approximately \$206 million. This rulemaking will not significantly or uniquely affect small governments. Therefore, no actions were deemed necessary under the provisions of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995.

**Congressional Review Act**

The Office of Management and Budget’s (OMB) Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs has determined this rule does not meet the criteria listed in 5 U.S.C. 804(2). In addition, this is a rule relating to agency management or personnel and does not come within the meaning of the term “rule” as used in

5 U.S.C. 804(3)(C). Therefore, the reporting requirement of 5 U.S.C. 801 does not apply.

**Paperwork Reduction Act**

This rulemaking does not impose any reporting or record-keeping requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act.

**List of Subjects in 5 CFR Part 532**

Administrative practice and procedure, Freedom of information, Government employees, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Wages.

**Signing Statement**

The Director of OPM, Scott Kupor, reviewed and approved this document and has authorized the undersigned to electronically sign and submit this document to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Office of Personnel Management

**Jerson Matias,**

*Federal Register Liaison.*

Accordingly, OPM amends 5 CFR part 532 as follows:

**PART 532—PREVAILING RATE SYSTEMS**

■ 1. The authority citation for part 532 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 5 U.S.C. 5343, 5346. Sec. 532.707 also issued under 5 U.S.C. 552.

■ 2. In Appendix A to subpart B, amend the table by adding in alphabetic order by state the New Haven-Hartford wage survey listing for the State of Connecticut.

**Appendix A to Subpart B of Part 532— Nationwide Schedule of Appropriated Fund Regular Wage Surveys**

\* \* \* \* \*

State	Wage area	Lead agency	Beginning month of survey	Fiscal year of full-scale survey odd or even
* * * * *				
Connecticut .....	New Haven-Hartford .....	DoD .....	April .....	Odd.
* * * * *				

■ 3. In Appendix C to subpart B—Appropriated Fund Wage and Survey Areas, amend the table by revising the wage area listing for the District of Columbia and for the States of Alabama, Florida, Illinois, Maine, Pennsylvania, and Virginia to read as follows:

**Appendix C to Subpart B of Part 532— Appropriated Fund Wage and Survey Areas**

\* \* \* \* \*

**Definitions of Wage Areas and Wage Area Survey Areas**

**ALABAMA**

**Birmingham-Cullman-Talladega**

*Survey Area*

Alabama:

Calhoun (effective for wage surveys beginning in January 2028)

Etowah (effective for wage surveys beginning in January 2028)  
 Jefferson  
 St. Clair  
 Shelby  
 Talladega (effective for wage surveys beginning in January 2028)  
 Tuscaloosa  
 Walker

*Area of Application. Survey area plus:*

Alabama:  
 Bibb  
 Blount  
 Calhoun (effective until January 2028)  
 Chilton  
 Clay  
 Coosa  
 Cullman  
 Etowah (effective until January 2028)  
 Fayette  
 Greene  
 Hale  
 Lamar  
 Marengo  
 Perry  
 Pickens  
 Talladega (effective until January 2028)  
 Winston

**Dothan**

*Survey Area*

Alabama:  
 Dale  
 Houston  
 Georgia:  
 Early

*Area of Application. Survey area plus:*

Alabama:  
 Barbour  
 Coffee  
 Geneva  
 Henry  
 Georgia:  
 Clay  
 Miller  
 Seminole

**Huntsville**

*Survey Area*

Alabama:  
 Limestone  
 Madison  
 Marshall  
 Morgan

*Area of Application. Survey area plus:*

Alabama:  
 Colbert  
 DeKalb  
 Franklin  
 Lauderdale  
 Lawrence  
 Marion  
 Tennessee:  
 Giles  
 Lincoln  
 Wayne

**Montgomery-Selma**

*Survey Area*

Alabama:  
 Autauga  
 Elmore

Montgomery  
*Area of Application. Survey area plus:*

Alabama:  
 Bullock  
 Butler  
 Crenshaw  
 Dallas  
 Lowndes  
 Pike  
 Wilcox

\* \* \* \* \*

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

**Washington-Baltimore-Arlington**

*Survey Area*

District of Columbia:  
 Washington, DC  
 Maryland (city):  
 Baltimore (effective for wage surveys beginning in July 2027)  
 Maryland (counties):  
 Anne Arundel (effective for wage surveys beginning in July 2027)  
 Baltimore (effective for wage surveys beginning in July 2027)  
 Carroll (effective for wage surveys beginning in July 2027)  
 Charles  
 Frederick  
 Harford (effective for wage surveys beginning in July 2027)  
 Howard (effective for wage surveys beginning in July 2027)  
 Montgomery  
 Prince George's  
 Washington (effective for wage surveys beginning in July 2027)  
 Pennsylvania:  
 Franklin (effective for wage surveys beginning in July 2027)  
 Virginia (cities):  
 Alexandria  
 Fairfax  
 Falls Church  
 Manassas  
 Manassas Park  
 Virginia (counties):  
 Arlington  
 Fairfax  
 King George (effective for wage surveys beginning in July 2027)  
 Loudoun  
 Prince William  
 West Virginia:  
 Berkeley (effective for wage surveys beginning in July 2027)

*Area of Application. Survey area plus:*

Maryland (city):  
 Baltimore (effective until July 2027)  
 Maryland (counties):  
 Allegany  
 Anne Arundel (effective until July 2027)  
 Baltimore (effective until July 2027)  
 Calvert  
 Caroline  
 Carroll (effective until July 2027)  
 Dorchester  
 Garrett  
 Harford (effective until July 2027)  
 Howard (effective until July 2027)  
 Kent  
 Queen Anne's  
 St. Mary's

Talbot  
 Washington (effective until July 2027)  
 Pennsylvania:  
 Adams (Only includes the Raven Rock Mountain Complex)  
 Franklin (effective until July 2027)  
 Fulton  
 Virginia (cities):  
 Fredericksburg  
 Harrisonburg  
 Staunton  
 Waynesboro  
 Winchester  
 Virginia (counties):  
 Albemarle (Only includes the Shenandoah National Park portion)  
 Augusta  
 Caroline  
 Clarke  
 Culpeper  
 Fauquier  
 Frederick  
 Greene (Only includes the Shenandoah National Park portion)  
 King George (effective until July 2027)  
 Madison  
 Orange  
 Page  
 Rappahannock  
 Rockingham  
 Shenandoah  
 Spotsylvania  
 Stafford  
 Warren  
 Westmoreland  
 West Virginia:  
 Berkeley (effective until July 2027)  
 Hampshire  
 Hardy  
 Jefferson  
 Mineral  
 Morgan

**FLORIDA**

**Cocoa-Beach**

*Survey Area*

Florida:  
 Brevard

*Area of Application. Survey area.*

**Jacksonville**

*Survey Area*

Florida:  
 Alachua  
 Baker  
 Clay  
 Columbia (effective for wage surveys beginning in January 2027)  
 Duval  
 Nassau  
 Orange (effective for wage surveys beginning in January 2027)  
 St. Johns  
 Sumter (effective for wage surveys beginning in January 2027)  
 Georgia:  
 Camden

*Area of Application. Survey area plus:*

Florida:  
 Bradford  
 Citrus  
 Columbia (effective until January 2027)  
 Dixie

Flagler  
 Gilchrist  
 Hamilton  
 Lafayette  
 Lake  
 Levy  
 Madison  
 Marion  
 Orange (effective until January 2027)  
 Osceola  
 Polk  
 Putnam  
 Seminole  
 Sumter (effective until January 2027)  
 Suwannee  
 Taylor  
 Union  
 Volusia  
 Georgia:  
 Charlton

**Miami-Port St. Lucie-Fort Lauderdale***Survey Area*

Florida:  
 Miami-Dade  
 Palm Beach (effective for wage surveys  
 beginning in May 2027)

*Area of Application. Survey area plus:*

Florida:  
 Broward  
 Collier  
 Glades  
 Hendry  
 Highlands  
 Indian River  
 Lee  
 Martin  
 Monroe  
 Okeechobee  
 Palm Beach (effective until May 2027)  
 St. Lucie

**Panama City***Survey Area*

Florida:  
 Bay  
 Gulf

*Area of Application. Survey area plus:*

Florida:  
 Calhoun  
 Franklin  
 Gadsden  
 Holmes  
 Jackson  
 Jefferson  
 Leon  
 Liberty  
 Wakulla  
 Washington

Georgia:  
 Decatur

**Pensacola***Survey Area*

Florida:  
 Escambia  
 Santa Rosa

*Area of Application. Survey area plus:*

Alabama:  
 Baldwin  
 Clarke  
 Conecuh

Covington  
 Escambia  
 Mobile  
 Monroe  
 Washington  
 Florida:  
 Okaloosa  
 Walton

**Tampa-St. Petersburg***Survey Area*

Florida:  
 Hillsborough  
 Pasco  
 Pinellas

*Area of Application. Survey area plus:*

Florida:  
 Charlotte  
 De Soto  
 Hardee  
 Hernando  
 Manatee  
 Sarasota

\* \* \* \* \*

**ILLINOIS****Bloomington-Pontiac***Survey Area*

Illinois:  
 Champaign  
 Menard  
 Sangamon  
 Vermilion

*Area of Application. Survey area plus:*

Illinois:  
 Christian  
 Clark  
 Coles  
 Crawford  
 Cumberland  
 De Witt  
 Douglas  
 Edgar  
 Ford  
 Jasper  
 Livingston  
 Logan  
 McLean  
 Macon  
 Morgan  
 Moultrie  
 Piatt  
 Scott  
 Shelby

**Chicago-Naperville***Survey Area*

Illinois:  
 Cook  
 Du Page  
 Kane  
 Lake  
 McHenry  
 Will

*Area of Application. Survey area plus:*

Illinois:  
 Boone  
 Bureau  
 De Kalb  
 Grundy  
 Iroquois

Kankakee  
 Kendall  
 La Salle  
 Ogle  
 Putnam  
 Stephenson  
 Winnebago

## Indiana:

Jasper  
 Lake  
 La Porte  
 Newton  
 Porter  
 Pulaski  
 Starke

## Wisconsin:

Kenosha

\* \* \* \* \*

**MAINE****Augusta***Survey Area*

Maine:  
 Kennebec  
 Knox  
 Lincoln

*Area of Application. Survey area.***Central And Northern Maine***Survey Area*

Maine:  
 Aroostook  
 Penobscot

*Area of Application. Survey area plus:*

Maine:  
 Hancock  
 Piscataquis  
 Somerset  
 Waldo  
 Washington

\* \* \* \* \*

**PENNSYLVANIA****Harrisburg-York-Lebanon***Survey Area*

Pennsylvania:  
 Cumberland  
 Dauphin  
 Lebanon  
 Union (effective for wage surveys  
 beginning in May 2026)  
 York

*Area of Application. Survey area plus:*

Pennsylvania:  
 Adams (Does not include the Raven Rock  
 Mountain Complex)  
 Clinton  
 Juniata  
 Lancaster  
 Lycoming  
 Mifflin  
 Perry  
 Snyder  
 Union (effective until May 2026)

**Philadelphia-Reading-Camden***Survey Area*

Delaware:  
 Kent (effective for wage surveys beginning  
 in October 2027)

New Castle (effective for wage surveys beginning in October 2027)  
 Maryland:  
 Cecil (effective for wage surveys beginning in October 2027)  
 New Jersey:  
 Burlington (Excluding the Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst portion)  
 Camden  
 Gloucester  
 Salem (effective for wage surveys beginning in October 2027)  
 Pennsylvania:  
 Bucks  
 Chester  
 Delaware  
 Montgomery  
 Philadelphia

*Area of Application. Survey area plus:*

Delaware:  
 Kent (effective until October 2027)  
 New Castle (effective until October 2027)  
 Sussex  
 Maryland:  
 Cecil (effective until October 2027)  
 Somerset  
 Wicomico  
 Worcester (Does not include the Assateague Island portion)  
 New Jersey:  
 Atlantic  
 Cape May  
 Cumberland  
 Salem (effective until October 2027)  
 Pennsylvania:  
 Berks  
 Schuylkill

**Pittsburgh***Survey Area*

Pennsylvania:  
 Allegheny  
 Beaver  
 Butler  
 Cambria (effective for wage surveys beginning in July 2027)  
 Washington  
 Westmoreland

*Area of Application. Survey area plus:*

Ohio:  
 Belmont  
 Harrison  
 Jefferson  
 Pennsylvania:  
 Armstrong  
 Bedford  
 Blair  
 Cambria (effective until July 2027)  
 Cameron  
 Centre  
 Clarion  
 Clearfield  
 Crawford  
 Elk (Does not include the Allegheny National Forest portion)  
 Erie  
 Fayette  
 Forest (Does not include the Allegheny National Forest portion)  
 Greene  
 Huntingdon  
 Indiana  
 Jefferson  
 Lawrence

Mercer  
 Potter  
 Somerset  
 Venango  
 West Virginia:  
 Brooke  
 Hancock  
 Marshall  
 Ohio

**Scranton-Wilkes-Barre***Survey Area*

Pennsylvania:  
 Lackawanna  
 Luzerne

*Area of Application. Survey area plus:*

Pennsylvania:  
 Bradford  
 Columbia  
 Montour  
 Northumberland  
 Sullivan  
 Susquehanna  
 Wyoming  
 \* \* \* \* \*

**VIRGINIA****Richmond***Survey Area*

Virginia (cities):  
 Colonial Heights  
 Hopewell  
 Petersburg  
 Richmond  
 Virginia (counties):  
 Charles City  
 Chesterfield  
 Dinwiddie  
 Goochland  
 Hanover  
 Henrico  
 New Kent  
 Powhatan  
 Prince George

*Area of Application. Survey area plus:*

Virginia (cities):  
 Charlottesville  
 Emporia  
 Virginia (counties):  
 Albemarle (Does not include the Shenandoah National Park portion)  
 Amelia  
 Brunswick  
 Buckingham  
 Charlotte  
 Cumberland  
 Essex  
 Fluvanna  
 Greene (Does not include the Shenandoah National Park portion)  
 Greensville  
 King and Queen  
 King William  
 Lancaster  
 Louisa  
 Lunenburg  
 Mecklenburg  
 Nelson  
 Northumberland  
 Nottoway  
 Prince Edward  
 Richmond  
 Sussex

**Roanoke***Survey Area*

Virginia (cities):  
 Radford  
 Roanoke  
 Salem  
 Virginia (counties):  
 Botetourt  
 Craig  
 Montgomery  
 Roanoke

*Area of Application. Survey area plus:*

Virginia (cities):  
 Buena Vista  
 Covington  
 Danville  
 Galax  
 Lexington  
 Lynchburg  
 Martinsville  
 Virginia (counties):  
 Alleghany  
 Amherst  
 Appomattox  
 Bath  
 Bedford  
 Bland  
 Campbell  
 Carroll  
 Floyd  
 Franklin  
 Giles  
 Halifax  
 Henry  
 Highland  
 Patrick  
 Pittsylvania  
 Pulaski  
 Rockbridge  
 Wythe

**Virginia Beach-Chesapeake***Survey Area*

North Carolina:  
 Currituck  
 Pasquotank (effective for wage surveys beginning in May 2026)

Virginia (cities):  
 Chesapeake  
 Hampton  
 Newport News  
 Norfolk  
 Poquoson  
 Portsmouth  
 Suffolk  
 Virginia Beach  
 Williamsburg  
 Virginia (counties):  
 Gloucester  
 James City  
 York

*Area of Application. Survey area plus:*

Maryland:  
 Worcester (Only includes the Assateague Island portion)  
 North Carolina:  
 Camden  
 Chowan  
 Dare  
 Gates  
 Hertford  
 Pasquotank (effective until May 2026)  
 Perquimans

Tyrrell  
Virginia (city):  
Franklin  
Virginia (counties):  
Accomack  
Isle of Wight  
Mathews  
Middlesex  
Northampton  
Southampton  
Surry

\* \* \* \* \*

[FR Doc. 2026-11182 Filed 6-3-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6325-39-P

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2025-2558; Project Identifier MCAI-2021-00022-T; Amendment 39-23367; AD 2026-11-06]

RIN 2120-AA64

#### Airworthiness Directives; De Havilland Aircraft of Canada Limited (Type Certificate Previously Held by Bombardier, Inc.) Airplanes

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** The FAA is adopting a new airworthiness directive (AD) for all De Havilland Aircraft of Canada Limited Model DHC-8 airplanes. This AD was prompted by reports of cracked barrel nuts at the wing front spar and horizontal stabilizer to vertical stabilizer joint. This AD requires repetitive inspections for cracking and corrosion of the affected barrel nuts and applicable corrective actions. The FAA is issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

**DATES:** This AD is effective July 9, 2026.

The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of certain publications listed in this AD as of July 9, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:**

*AD Docket:* You may examine the AD docket at [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov) under Docket No. FAA-2025-2558; or in person at Docket Operations between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this final rule, the mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI), any comments received, and other information. The address for Docket Operations is U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.

*Material Incorporated by Reference:*

- For De Havilland Aircraft of Canada Limited material identified in this AD, contact De Havilland Aircraft of Canada Limited, Dash 8 Series Customer Response Centre, 5800 Explorer Drive, Mississauga, Ontario, L4W 5K9, Canada; telephone North America (toll-free): 855-310-1013, Direct: 647-277-5820; email [thd@dehavilland.com](mailto:thd@dehavilland.com); website [dehavilland.com](https://www.dehavilland.com).

- You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206-231-3195. It is also available at [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov) under Docket No. FAA-2025-2558.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Christopher Spencer, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; phone: 516-228-7300; email: [9-avs-nyaco-cos@faa.gov](mailto:9-avs-nyaco-cos@faa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background**

The FAA issued a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) to amend 14 CFR part 39 by adding an AD that would apply to all De Havilland Aircraft of Canada Limited Model DHC-8 airplanes. The NPRM was published in the **Federal Register** on September 29, 2025 (90 FR 46538). The NPRM was prompted by AD CF-2020-06R1, dated January 7, 2021 (also referred to as the MCAI), issued by Transport Canada, which is the aviation authority for Canada. The MCAI states there were findings related to cracked barrel nuts at the wing front spar and horizontal stabilizer to vertical stabilizer joint. For those locations, Transport Canada issued Transport Canada AD CF-2011-24R1 (which corresponds to FAA AD 2019-20-09, Amendment 39-19762 (84 FR 56680, October 23, 2019)) and Transport Canada AD CF-2015-13R1 (which corresponds to FAA AD 2018-22-03, Amendment 39-19476 (83 FR 53563, October 24, 2018)) to address the unsafe condition. Barrel nuts are also installed in other locations on the airplane. An investigation determined that the cracking is caused by corrosion from inadequate cadmium plating on the barrel nuts. This condition, if not addressed, could result in failed barrel nuts that could compromise the structural integrity of the affected joints (*i.e.*, of the airplane) and could lead to loss of control of the airplane.

In the NPRM, the FAA proposed to require repetitive inspections for cracking and corrosion of the affected barrel nuts and applicable corrective

actions. The FAA is issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

You may examine the MCAI in the AD docket at [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov) under Docket No. FAA-2025-2558.

#### Discussion of Final Airworthiness Directive

##### Comments

The FAA received a comment from the Air Line Pilots Association, International (ALPA) who supported the NPRM without change.

The FAA received additional comments from the Citizens Rulemaking Alliance. The following presents the comments received on the NPRM and the FAA's response to each comment.

##### Request To Justify Forgoing Notice and Comment or Issue an NPRM

The commenter requested that the FAA provide its justification for finding good cause to bypass notice and comment procedures and either convert this action to an NPRM, or stay the effective date to allow comments. The commenter asserted the FAA has not adequately justified use of the good cause exemption to bypass notice and comment and the 30-day delayed effective date.

The FAA notes the comment was submitted in response to an NPRM for which the FAA provided a 45-day comment period. This final rule is effective 35 days after its publication in the **Federal Register**. Therefore, no change to this AD is necessary.

##### Request To Make Incorporation by Reference (IBR) Materials Reasonably Available

The Citizens Rulemaking Alliance requested the FAA ensure that IBR materials or summaries of them are in the public docket and are accessible for free to the public and affected parties for both commenting and compliance purposes. The commenter stated that the FAA's rule must comply with statutory and regulatory requirements for the reasonable availability of material incorporated by reference.

The FAA's practices comply with 5 U.S.C. 552(a) of the Administrative Procedure Act and 14 CFR part 51. The FAA makes IBR materials available in the AD docket when the final rule is published in the **Federal Register**, following formal approval of the IBR by the Office of the Federal Register. Materials may only be posted before the final rule's publication if they are already publicly available or if there is written consent from the owner of the IBR material. All relevant materials incorporated by reference will be