

early in anticipation of a final rulemaking that will modify the reporting requirements but may not be finalized before the current ICR expiration date. Under the provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*), the NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is responsible for management of the nation's marine fisheries. In addition, NMFS must comply with the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act of 1975 (16 U.S.C. 971 *et seq.*), under which the agency implements binding recommendations by the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT).

NMFS collects information via vessel logbooks to monitor the United States (U.S.) catch of Atlantic swordfish, sharks, billfish, and tunas in relation to the quotas, thereby ensuring that the U.S. complies with its domestic and international obligations. The Highly Migratory Species (HMS) logbook program, OMB Control No. 0648–0371, was specifically designed to collect the vessel-level information needed for the management of Atlantic HMS, and includes set forms, trip forms, negative reports, and cost-earning requirements for both commercial and recreational vessels. The information supplied through the HMS logbook program provides the catch and effort data on a per-set or per-trip level of resolution for both directed and incidental species. In addition to HMS fisheries, the HMS logbook program is also used to report catches of dolphin and wahoo by commercial permit holders that do not hold any other federal permits. Additionally, the HMS logbook collects data on incidental species, such as sea turtles, which is necessary to evaluate the fisheries in terms of bycatch and encounters with protected species. While most HMS fishermen use the HMS logbook program, HMS can also be reported as part of several other logbook collections including the Northeast Region Fishing Vessel Trip Reports (0648–0212) and Southeast Region Coastal Logbook (0648–0016).

These data are necessary to assess the status of HMS, dolphins, and wahoo in each fishery. International stock assessments for tunas, swordfish, billfish, and some species of sharks are conducted through ICCAT's Standing Committee on Research and Statistics periodically and provide, in part, the basis for ICCAT management recommendations, which become binding on member nations. Domestic stock assessments for most species of sharks and for dolphin and wahoo are

used as the basis of managing these species.

Supplementary information on fishing costs and earnings has been collected via the HMS logbook program. This economic information enables NMFS to assess the economic impacts of regulatory programs on small businesses and fishing communities, consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Executive Order 12866, the Regulatory Flexibility Act, and other domestic laws.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profit organizations (vessel owners).

Frequency: Trip summary reports are submitted within 7 days following the completion of each fishing trip, trip cost-earnings reports are due within 30 days of trip completion, no catch/fishing reports are due at the end of each month in which no fishing occurs, and annual expenditure reports are submitted annually.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

Legal Authority: Under the provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*), the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is responsible for management of the Nation's marine fisheries. NMFS must also promulgate regulations, as necessary and appropriate, to carry out obligations the United States (U.S.) undertakes internationally regarding tuna management through the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act (ATCA, 16 U.S.C. 971 *et seq.*).

This information collection request may be viewed at reginfo.gov. Follow the instructions to view Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function and entering either the title of the collection or the OMB Control Number 0648–0371.

Sheleen Dumas,

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

[FR Doc. 2026–14556 Filed 7–17–26; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XF868]

Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; General Provisions for Domestic Fisheries; Application for Exempted Fishing Permits

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

ACTION: Notice; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Assistant Regional Administrator for Sustainable Fisheries, Greater Atlantic Region, NMFS, has made a preliminary determination that an Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) application contains all of the required information and warrants further consideration. The EFP would allow a federally permitted fishing vessel to fish outside fishery regulations in support of exempted fishing activities proposed by Scallop Shack Farms, LLC. Regulations under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act require publication of this notification to provide interested parties the opportunity to comment on applications for proposed EFPs.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before August 4, 2026.

ADDRESSES: You may submit written comments by email: nmfs.gar.efp@noaa.gov. Include in the subject line "Increasing efficiency of the scallop fishery by allowing combined trips for scallops and tilefish." All comments received are part of the public record and may be posted for public viewing without change. All personal identifying information (e.g., name, address), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the sender will be publicly accessible. NMFS will accept anonymous comments (enter "anonymous" as the signature if you wish to remain anonymous).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ashley Trudeau, Fishery Resource Management Specialist, ashley.trudeau@noaa.gov, (978) 281–9252.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Scallop Shack Farms, LLC submitted a complete application for an EFP to conduct commercial fishing activities that the regulations would otherwise restrict. This EFP would exempt the participating vessel from the following Federal regulations:

TABLE 1—REQUESTED EXEMPTIONS

CFR citation	Regulation	Need for exemption
§ 648.80(h)(3)(iii)(A)	Vessels fishing in the Scallop Dredge Fishery Exemption Areas may not fish for, possess, or land any species of fish other than scallops and monkfish.	In this pilot project, a Limited Access General Category (LAGC) vessel would evaluate the changes in fuel use, transit time, catch, and effort resulting from combining trips for scallop and tilefish. This pilot project requires an exemption from the prohibition on landing additional species in the Georges Bank (GB) and Southern New England (SNE) Scallop Dredge Fishery Exemption Area. Combined trips within the Mid-Atlantic Exemption Area do not require this exemption.

TABLE 2—PROJECT SUMMARY

Project title	Increasing efficiency of the LAGC scallop fishery by allowing combined trips for scallops and tilefish.
Project start	Upon issuance.
Project end	July 1, 2027.
Project objectives	Evaluate the changes in fuel use, transit time, catch, and fishing effort associated with combining tilefish and LAGC scallop fishing trips.
Project location	Mid-Atlantic, SNE, GB.
Number of vessels	1.
Number of trips	33.
Trip duration (days)	2–4 days.
Total number of days	66–132 days.
Gear type(s)	Scallop dredge, bottom longline.
Number of tows or sets	10–20 tows per trip, 4–8 bottom longline sets.
Duration of tows or sets	1–2 hour tows, 1-hour longline sets.

Project narrative

Scallop Shack Farms, LLC is requesting an EFP in support of a pilot project to evaluate combined scallop and tilefish fishing trips to increase operational efficiency. Combining scallop and tilefish trips would decrease transit time and fuel consumption and increase the profit margin of LAGC vessels that hold commercial/incidental tilefish permits. Currently, 195 vessels hold both LAGC scallop and commercial/incidental tilefish permits. LAGC scallop vessels are prohibited from fishing for, possessing, or landing any species other than scallop or monkfish while fishing in the Georges Bank (GB) and Southern New England (SNE) Scallop Dredge Fishery Exemption Area, and this EFP would allow one participating vessel to fish for, possess, and land both scallops and tilefish. The prohibition on landing species other than scallops and monkfish in the GB/SNE Scallop Dredge Fishery Exemption Area pre-dates Federal regulation of the tilefish fishery and was intended to limit bycatch or targeting of Northeast multispecies. The requested exemption would not introduce restricted fishing gear or incentivize capture of Northeast multispecies. For the participating LAGC scallop vessel, the exemption would instead eliminate the need for a long return trip to land scallops before transiting further offshore to target tilefish. These combination fishing trips would occur year-round with the highest fishing effort between May and

October. On fishing trips under this EFP, the participating vessel would first transit to scallop fishing grounds to catch up to the scallop possession limit and then transit further offshore to use bottom longline gear to catch up to the blueline and golden tilefish possession limits. Apart from possessing tilefish while on a LAGC scallop trip, all other regulations would apply, unless otherwise exempted by a separate permit. On trips under this EFP, the vessel operator would record the dock-to-dock distance traveled, fuel consumption and cost, and revenue from scallop and tilefish landings, which could be compared to such metrics from previous separate trips to evaluate cost savings. The vessel owner anticipates that a combined scallop and tilefish trip would save 24 hours of steam time, reducing fuel use by approximately 300 gallons and therefore reducing fuel cost by \$1,500 per trip (assuming diesel price of \$5/gallon). This exemption could, therefore, reduce costs to the vessel owner by \$49,500 across 33 trips.

Under current regulations, LAGC scallop vessels may land up to 600 lb (272 kg) of scallop meats every 24 hours. Frequency of tilefish landings is not explicitly regulated, but because tilefish are found further offshore, these trips in practice take between 24 and 48 hours to complete. The combination trips taken under this EFP would be between 48 and 96 hours long. The applicant anticipates increased efficiency in terms of landings per day-at-sea by converting

transit time to time spent fishing and reducing fuel costs. However, these optimized landings do not exceed what is allowable for a vessel under current fishing regulations, and the fishery-wide effects of this vessel’s exemption on landings, effort, and fishing behavior would, therefore, be minor.

Per trip, vessels with commercial/incidental tilefish permits may land up to 500 lb (227 kg) of blueline tilefish (or 300 lb (136 kg) if 70 percent of the blueline tilefish commercial total allowable landings (TAL) has been landed). Between 2020 and 2025, the blueline tilefish commercial TAL was exceeded five times, with overages of between 3 and 26 percent. However, starting in 2026 the commercial TAL increased 426 percent from 20,894 lb (9,477 kg) to 109,846 lb (49,825 kg) with no corresponding change in possession limit (91 FR 35897, June 15, 2026). The reduced transit time for this EFP’s participating vessel could result in higher annual landings of blueline tilefish. However, due to the very large increase in quota this year, this EFP is not expected to result in a significant increase in landings that would result in an early reduction in possession limits or a commercial TAL overage.

Possession of golden tilefish is limited to either 500 lb (227 kg) or 50 percent, by weight, of the total weight of all species being landed, whichever is less. If the incidental (*i.e.*, commercial non-Individual Fishing Quota) TAL is reached, the incidental golden tilefish fishery is closed for the remainder of the

fishing year. As an accountability measure, any overages would result in a reduction to the incidental quota in the following fishing year. Between 2020 and 2025, the golden tilefish incidental TAL was never exceeded, and the percent of quota landed ranged from 35 percent in 2023 to 93 percent in 2025. The golden tilefish incidental TAL for 2026 remains the same as in 2025 at 68,949 lb (31,275 kg). From 2020 to 2025, vessels with incidental tilefish permits took between 585 and 804 annual trips where golden tilefish were landed, with the number of annual trips tending to increase over time. The 33 trips that may be taken under this EFP would represent approximately 4 percent of this total fishing effort. Between the small scale of this permit (one participating vessel) and existing possession limits on golden tilefish, this EFP is not likely to result in substantially increased golden tilefish landings and a premature incidental closure.

If approved, the applicant may request minor modifications and extensions to the EFP throughout the year. EFP modifications and extensions may be granted without further notice if they are deemed essential to facilitate completion of the proposed research and have minimal impacts that do not change the scope or impact of the initially approved EFP request. Any fishing activity conducted outside the scope of the exempted fishing activity would be prohibited.

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

Dated: July 15, 2026.

Shannon Bettridge,

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

[FR Doc. 2026–14522 Filed 7–17–26; 8:45 am]

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NATIONAL COMMISSION ON THE FUTURE OF THE NAVY

Public Hearing on Improving America's Maritime Seapower

AGENCY: National Commission on the Future of the Navy.

ACTION: Announcement of public hearing.

SUMMARY: The Commissioners of the National Commission on the Future of the Navy (FNC), in accordance with the National Defense Authorization Act of 2023, will hold a public hearing to hear from leaders in the Department of War and Department of Navy and better understand department actions to improve America's maritime seapower. Those wishing to attend, present at, or

submit a written statement to the Board prior to the public hearing must provide advance notice to the agency as detailed below.

DATES: The public hearing will be held at 10 a.m. EST, Wednesday, July 22, 2026.

ADDRESSES: The public hearing will take place in room 2118 of the Rayburn House Office Building. The hearing is open to the public.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Congress established the National Commission on the Future of the Navy in the Fiscal Year 2023 National Defense Authorization Act to provide an independent, bipartisan assessment of U.S. naval force structure, readiness, and long-term maritime requirements. The statute directs the Commission to conduct a comprehensive review of fleet size and force mix, naval aviation, shipbuilding capacity, personnel policies, and the force-generation model that sustains combat power at sea. It authorizes the Commission to hold public hearings, receive testimony, and obtain information from Federal departments and agencies to support recommendations to Congress. This hearing is the second in support of this effort.

The hearing is comprised of one panel that is open to the public. It will consist of leaders from the Department of War and Department of Navy; they will provide perspectives on what a future Navy looks like to include strategy, force structure and needs of the industrial base to meet such strategy and force structure.

For further information on the Commission, go to www.futurenavy.senate.gov.

Matthew Neumeyer,

Chief of Staff, National Commission on the Future of the Navy.

[FR Doc. 2026–14533 Filed 7–17–26; 8:45 am]

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COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Renewal of the Agricultural Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

ACTION: Notice of renewal.

SUMMARY: The Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC or Commission) is publishing this notice to announce the renewal of the Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC). The Commission has determined

that the renewal of the AAC is necessary and in the public's interest.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Emma Johnston, Senior Agricultural Advisor and AAC Designated Federal Officer, at 202–418–5172 or EJohnston@cftc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with section 9(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C. 1008, and 41 CFR 102–3.65, the CFTC is announcing the AAC's renewal and providing herein the Commission-approved public interest determination. The AAC's objectives and scope of activities are to provide the Commission with advice and recommendations on issues affecting agricultural producers; consumers; processors; lenders; other major market participants, including derivatives intermediaries, buy-side representatives, and exchanges; regulators; and others interested in or affected by the agricultural derivatives markets. The AAC will operate for two years from the date of renewal unless the Commission directs that the AAC terminate on an earlier date. A copy of the renewal charter will be posted on the CFTC's website at www.cftc.gov.

Public Interest Determination

Pursuant to 41 CFR 102–3.60(a), to establish, renew, reestablish, or merge a discretionary (agency discretion) advisory committee, an agency must first consult with the General Services Administration's Committee Management Secretariat (the Secretariat) and, as part of the consultation, provide a written public interest determination approved by the head of the agency to the Secretariat with a copy to the Office of Management and Budget. In addition, pursuant to 41 CFR 102–3.35, an agency shall follow the same consultation process and document in writing the same determination of need before creating a subcommittee under a discretionary committee that is not made up entirely of members of a parent advisory committee.

Information on the following factors for the committee is provided to the Secretariat to demonstrate that renewing the committee is in the public interest:

1. *Annual budget:* The estimated annual operating cost for supporting the AAC is \$56, 227.

a. *Federal personnel on a full-time equivalent (FTE) basis:* .10 FTE.

b. *Other Federal internal costs:* \$24,400.

c. *Proposed payments to members:* The CFTC does not compensate AAC members for their services. However, there are government costs (salary and