

Dated: August 31, 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. Discussion of the Methodology
- V. Currency Conversion
- VI. Recommendation

[FR Doc. 2026-18248 Filed 9-4-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XG024]

Marine Mammals; File No. 29915

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

ACTION: Notice; receipt of application.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the BBC Natural History and Factual Productions Ltd., Bridgewater House, Counterslip, Redcliffe, Bristol BS1 6BX (Responsible Party: Briony Jones) has applied in due form for a permit to conduct commercial and educational photography on pinnipeds.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before October 8, 2026.

ADDRESSES: The application and related documents are available for review upon written request via email to NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov.

Written comments on this application should be submitted via email to NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov. Please include File No. 29915 in the subject line of the email comment.

Those individuals requesting a public hearing should submit a written request via email to NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov. The request should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this application would be appropriate.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sara Young or Jennifer Skidmore, (301) 427-8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject permit is requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the regulations governing the taking and importing of marine mammals (50 CFR part 216).

The applicant requests a 15-month permit to film gray seals on Monomoy Island for a documentary series. Up to 1,000 gray seals (*Halichoerus grypus*) may be harassed during ground-based and uncrewed aircraft system filming and behavioral observations. Up to 23 hooded seals (*Cystophora cristata*), 23, harp seals (*Pagophilus groenlandicus*), and 23 harbor seals (*Phoca vitulina*) may be unintentionally harassed, observed, and opportunistically filmed during these activities.

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

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, NMFS is forwarding copies of the application to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Dated: September 3, 2026.

Larissa Plants,

Deputy Director, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2026-18236 Filed 9-4-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XG029]

Management Track Assessment for American Plaice and Gulf of Maine Haddock; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: NMFS will convene the Management Track Assessment Peer Review Meeting for the purpose of

reviewing American plaice and Gulf of Maine haddock stocks. The Management Track Assessment Peer Review is a formal scientific peer-review process for evaluating and presenting stock assessment results to managers for fish stocks in the offshore U.S. waters of the northwest Atlantic. Assessments are prepared by the lead stock assessment scientist and reviewed by an independent panel of stock assessment experts. The public is invited to attend the presentations and discussions between the review panel and the scientists who have participated in the stock assessment process.

DATES: The public portion of the Management Track Assessment Peer Review Meeting will be held from September 22, 2026–September 23, 2026. The public portion of the meeting will conclude on September 23, 2026 at 3 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time. Please see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for the daily meeting agenda.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in the S.H. Clark Conference Room in the Aquarium Building of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC), 166 Water Street, Woods Hole, MA 02543 and virtually using this Google Meet link: <http://meet.google.com/qyi-zjqz-eat>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Brian Hooper, 508-258-9580; brian.hooper@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: For further information, please visit the NEFSC website at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/new-england-mid-atlantic/population-assessments/fishery-stock-assessments-new-england-and-mid-atlantic>. For additional information about management track assessment peer review, please visit the NEFSC web page at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/new-england-mid-atlantic/population-assessments/management-track-stock-assessments>.

Daily Meeting Agenda—Management Track Peer Review Meeting

The agenda is subject to change; all times are approximate and may be changed at the discretion of the Peer Review Chair.

Tuesday, September 22, 2026

Time	Stock	Subject	Presenter
9 a.m. ....	.....	Welcome/Logistics, Conduct of Meeting.	Brian Hooper, Kristan Blackhart, Kai Lorenzen, Chair.
9:15 a.m.	American Plaice	Terms of Reference (TOR) Review & Panel Questions.	Amanda Hart, Panel.
10:30 a.m. ....	.....	Break.	

Time	Stock	Subject	Presenter
10:45 a.m	American Plaice	TOR Review & Panel Questions, continued.	Amanda Hart, Panel.
11:45 a.m	American Plaice	Public Comment	Panel.
12 p.m .....	.....	Lunch.	.....
1 p.m	American Plaice	Panel Deliberations	Panel.
2:15 p.m	American Plaice	Panel Conclusions/Recommendations and Final Stock Wrap Up.	Panel.
3 p.m	American Plaice	Closed Panel Writing Session.	.....
5 p.m .....	.....	Adjourn.	.....

Wednesday, September 23, 2026

Time	Stock	Subject	Presenter
9 a.m .....	.....	Welcome/Logistics, Conduct of Meeting.	Brian Hooper, Kristan Blackhart, Kai Lorenzen, Chair.
9:05 a.m	Gulf of Maine Haddock	Terms of Reference (TOR) Review & Panel Questions.	Charles Perretti, Panel.
10:30 a.m .....	.....	Break.	.....
10:45 a.m	Gulf of Maine Haddock	TOR Review & Panel Questions, continued.	Charles Perretti, Panel.
11:45 a.m	Gulf of Maine Haddock	Public Comment	Panel.
12 p.m .....	.....	Lunch.	.....
1 p.m	Gulf of Maine Haddock	Panel Deliberations	Panel.
2:15 p.m	Gulf of Maine Haddock	Panel Conclusions/Recommendations and Final Stock Wrap Up.	Panel.
3 p.m	Gulf of Maine Haddock	Closed Panel Writing Session .....	.....
5 p.m .....	.....	Adjourn.	.....

The meeting is open to the public; however, during the 'Closed Panel Writing Session' on Tuesday, September 22nd, and Wednesday, September 23rd, the public should not engage in discussion with the Peer Review Panel.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Special requests should be directed to Brian Hooper, via the email provided in the ADDRESSES section.

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

Dated: September 2, 2026.

Kelly Denit,

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

[FR Doc. 2026-18254 Filed 9-4-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XG010]

Takes of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Seward Cruise Ship Passenger Dock and Terminal Facility Project in Seward, Alaska

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice; request for comments on proposed renewal incidental harassment authorization.

SUMMARY: NMFS has received a request from Turnagain Marine Construction (TMC) for the renewal of their currently active incidental harassment authorization (IHA) (hereinafter, the "initial IHA") to take marine mammals incidental to Seward Cruise Ship Passenger Dock and Terminal Facility project in Seward, Alaska. TMC activities will not be completed prior to the IHA's expiration. Pursuant to the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), prior to issuing the currently active IHA, NMFS requested comments on both the proposed IHA and the potential for renewing the initial authorization if certain requirements were satisfied. The renewal requirements have been satisfied, and NMFS is now providing an additional 15-day comment period to allow for any additional comments on the proposed renewal not previously provided during the initial 30-day comment period.

DATES: Comments and information must be received no later than September 23, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to the Permits and Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, and should

be submitted via email to ITP.esch@noaa.gov. Electronic copies of the original application, renewal request, and supporting documents (including NMFS' **Federal Register** notices of the original proposed and final authorizations, and the previous IHA), as well as a list of the references cited in this document, may be obtained online at: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/permit/incidental-take-authorizations-under-marine-mammal-protection-act>. In case of problems accessing these documents, please call the contact listed below.

Instructions: NMFS is not responsible for comments sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the end of the comment period. Comments, including all attachments, must not exceed a 25-megabyte file size. All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted online at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/permit/incidental-take-authorizations-under-marine-mammal-protection-act> without change. All personal identifying information (e.g., name, address) voluntarily submitted by the commenter may be publicly accessible. Do not submit confidential business information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

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