

and marine ecological research. The NEFSC is the research arm of NMFS in the Greater Atlantic Region. The NEFSC conducts research and provides scientific advice to manage fisheries and conserve protected species in the Atlantic Ocean, primarily from Maine through North Carolina. However, some limited fisheries research is conducted in more southern estuaries and Atlantic Ocean. The NEFSC provides scientific information to support the North Atlantic and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council and numerous other domestic and international fisheries management organizations.

The NEFSC collects a wide array of information necessary to evaluate the status of exploited fishery resources and the marine environment. NEFSC scientists and their partners conduct fisheries-independent research onboard NOAA-owned and operated vessels or on chartered vessels. The gear types used fall into several categories: trawl gear used at various levels in the water column, longlines with multiple hooks, gillnets, and other gear. Of research gear used by NEFSC, only trawl, hook and line gear (including longline gears), fyke nets, and gillnets are likely to interact with marine mammals resulting in serious injury or mortality.

Information Solicited

Interested persons may submit information, suggestions, and comments concerning the NEFSC's request (see **ADDRESSES**). NMFS will consider all information, suggestions, and comments related to the request during the development of proposed regulations governing the incidental taking of marine mammals by the NEFSC, if appropriate.

Dated: September 8, 2026.

Kimberly Damon-Randall,

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

[FR Doc. 2026-18613 Filed 9-10-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Notice of Meeting

Per 45 CFR Chapter XXI § 2102.3, the next meeting of the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts is scheduled for September 17, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. and will be held in the Commission offices at the National Building Museum, Suite 312, Judiciary Square, 401 F Street NW, Washington, DC 20001-2728. Items of discussion may include buildings, infrastructure, parks, memorials, and public art.

Draft agendas and additional information regarding the Commission are available on our website: www.cfa.gov. Inquiries regarding the agenda, as well as any public testimony, and requests to submit written or oral statements should be addressed to Thomas Luebke, Secretary, U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, at the above address; by emailing cfastaff@cfa.gov; or by calling 202-504-2200. Individuals requiring sign language interpretation for the hearing impaired should contact the Secretary at least 10 days before the meeting date.

Dated September 4, 2026 in Washington, DC.

Zakiya N. Walters,

Administrative Officer.

[FR Doc. 2026-18545 Filed 9-10-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6330-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Notice of Availability of Final Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact

AGENCY: Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the provisions of Title 41 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST-41) (42 United States Code (U.S.C.) 4370m *et seq.*), The DoD (referred to herein as "the Department of War" or "DoW") announces the availability of the Final Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), following DoW's evaluation of the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of an integrated non-ferrous smelting and refining facility and associated infrastructure in Montgomery County, Tennessee.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rose Johnson, Office of the Assistant Secretary of War for Energy, Installations, and Environment, (571) 372-6793, rose.m.johnson140.civ@mail.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Project Crucible is a covered project under the FAST-41 statute. FAST-41 is intended to provide transparency into the environmental review and authorization process for infrastructure projects, which is accomplished by posting projects on the Permitting Dashboard. The Project Crucible FAST-41 Permitting Dashboard can be viewed at <https://www.permits.performance.gov/>

permitting-project/fast-41-covered-projects/project-crucible.

The Final EA evaluates the reasonably foreseeable environmental effects associated with the construction and operation of Project Crucible, an integrated non-ferrous smelting and refining facility near Clarkesville, Montgomery County, Tennessee. The EA was prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and DoW NEPA Implementing Procedures to inform DoW's decision whether to provide financial assistance through the DoW Office of Strategic Capital to Crucible Metals, LLC for Project Crucible and to inform the Tennessee Valley Authority's (TVA) decision-making responsibilities associated with the Connected Actions. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Tennessee State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), federally recognized Indian Tribes, TVA, and other participating agencies were involved in review and consultation related to the Proposed Action.

The Final EA evaluates the reasonably foreseeable environmental effects of the Proposed Action and no action alternative. Environmental resource areas carried forward for detailed analysis in the EA include air quality and greenhouse gases, water resources, acoustic environment, biological resources, cultural resources, utilities, solid and hazardous waste and hazardous materials, transportation, and socioeconomics. Based on the analysis presented in the EA, which was prepared in accordance with the requirements of NEPA and DoW NEPA Implementing Procedures, and in coordination with the USACE, Tennessee SHPO, federally recognized Indian Tribes, USFWS, and TVA, DoW finds that implementation of the Proposed Action would not significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

Endangered Species Act Section 7. The DoW consulted with the USFWS under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act regarding the proposed action and received concurrence with DoW's finding that the Proposed Action may affect but is not likely to adversely affect ESA-listed species. USFWS also acknowledged DoW's "no jeopardy" conference determinations for species proposed for listing. There are no federally designated critical habitats in the proposed project area.

National Historic Preservation Act Section 106. In consultation with