

completion of the environmental analysis, APHIS authorized issuance of permits for the release.

Flowering rush is an herbaceous aquatic perennial in the plant family Butomaceae. Native to Europe and Asia, flowering rush was introduced into North America by 1900, possibly both accidentally in ballast water and packing material and intentionally via the horticulture trade. It is now widely naturalized in wetlands, lakes, ditches, and slow-moving rivers in 23 States and 9 provinces surrounding the United States/Canada border and is continuing to expand outward. Flowering rush displaces native plant species, impedes water flow, alters habitat structure and nutrient cycling, damages fishing, hunting, boating, and other recreational sectors, and is difficult to control. In western North America, it provides habitat for highly damaging invasive and nuisance species.

Permitting the release of *B. nodulosus* in the continental United States is necessary to help control invasive flowering rush. *B. nodulosus*, a semi-aquatic weevil, is a highly specific and potentially very damaging biological control agent for flowering rush. Both adult and larval feeding of *B. nodulosus* have been shown to reduce the vigor of flowering rush. *B. nodulosus* attacks flowering rush very early during the field season (adults are active from April onwards) and over a long period of time (larvae can be found feeding in the plants from April to September), which should reduce the ability of the plant to compensate for the attack. Host-specificity testing indicates *B. nodulosus* is unlikely to attack non-target species.

On September 3, 2024, we published in the **Federal Register** (89 FR 71250–71251, Docket No. APHIS–2024–0032) a notice¹ in which we announced the availability, for public review and comment, of a draft environmental assessment (EA) that examined the potential environmental impacts associated with the release of *B. nodulosus* Gyllenhal (Coleoptera: Curculionidae) in the continental United States for the biological control of flowering rush (*Butomus umbellatus* L.). Comments on the notice were required to be received on or before October 3, 2024. We received 21 comments on the EA by that date, 20 of which were in favor of the environmental release of *B. nodulosus*. One commenter was opposed to the

release but did not raise substantive issues relating to the release of *B. nodulosus* into the environment. Of the 20 comments in favor of release of *B. nodulosus* into the environment, 2 commenters had additional questions related to stakeholder consultation with Canadian natural resource officials and Native American Tribes, the availability of a cost-benefit analysis, and the impacts of predation by native bird and fish populations.

We reviewed and considered the questions raised by these commenters. We have revised the final EA, where appropriate, and provided responses to the concerns expressed. Our full responses can be found in Appendix 4 of the final EA.

In this document, we are advising the public of the availability of the final EA and our finding of no significant impact (FONSI) regarding the field release of the insect, *B. nodulosus*, for biological control of flowering rush in the continental United States. Our finding, which is based on the analysis in the final EA, reflects our determination that the field release of *B. nodulosus* for the classical biological control of flowering rush in the continental United States will not have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment. Based on this finding, we have authorized permits for the field release of *B. nodulosus* for the classical biological control of flowering rush in the continental United States.

The final EA and FONSI may be viewed on the *Regulations.gov* website (see footnote 1). Copies of the final EA and FONSI are also available for public inspection at room 1620 of the USDA South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC. Normal reading room hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Persons wishing to inspect copies are requested to call ahead at (202) 799–7039 to facilitate entry into the reading room. In addition, copies may be obtained by calling or writing to the individual listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

The final EA and FONSI have been prepared in accordance with: (1) The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*); (2) the former regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500–1508) as of February 25, 2021; (3) U.S. Department of Agriculture regulations implementing NEPA (7 CFR part 1b) effective through July 2, 2025; and (4) APHIS' NEPA Implementing

Procedures (7 CFR part 372) effective through July 2, 2025.

Done in Washington, DC, this 30th day of September 2026.

Kelly Moore,

Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 2026–21206 Filed 10–15–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–34–P

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Notice of Public Meeting of the South Carolina Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights

AGENCY: U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

ACTION: Notice of virtual business meeting.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (Commission) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act, that the South Carolina Advisory Committee (Committee) to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will hold a public meeting via Zoom. The purpose will be to discuss and potentially vote on panelists for the implementation stage of their study on Occupational Licensing.

DATES: Monday, November 2, 2026, from 1:30 p.m.–3:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held via Zoom.

Registration Link (Audio/Visual): https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_-2BtTZaNSuww9D-wyaklFQ.

Join by Phone (Audio Only): 1–833–435–1820 USA Toll Free; Webinar ID: 165 666 4515 #.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Victoria Moreno, Designated Federal Officer, at vmoreno@usccr.gov or (434) 515–0204.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This Committee meeting is available to the public through the registration link above. Any interested members of the public may attend this meeting. An open comment period will be provided to allow members of the public to make oral comments as time allows. Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, public minutes of the meeting will include a list of persons who are present at the meeting. If joining via phone, callers can expect to incur regular charges for calls they initiate over wireless lines, according to their wireless plan. The Commission will not refund any incurred charges. Callers will incur no charge for calls they

¹ To view the notice, supporting documents, and the comments we received, go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and enter APHIS–2024–0032 in the Search field.

initiate over land-line connections to the toll-free telephone number. Closed captioning is available by selecting "CC" in the meeting platform. To request additional accommodations, please email csanders@usccr.gov at least 10 business days prior to the meeting.

Members of the public are entitled to submit written comments; the comments must be received in the regional office within 30 days following the scheduled meeting. Written comments may be submitted via the following form: <https://wkf.ms/4n7DKT3>. Persons who desire additional information may contact the Regional Programs Coordination Unit at (434) 515-0204.

Records generated from this meeting may be inspected and reproduced at the Regional Programs Coordination Unit Office, as they become available, both before and after the meeting. Records of the meetings will be available via the file sharing website, <https://usccr.box.com/s/fnqfsb0fcfhn0nmca2sdpgnldqv2etv7>.

Persons interested in the work of this Committee are directed to the Commission's website, <http://www.usccr.gov>, or may contact the Regional Programs Coordination Unit at csanders@usccr.gov.

Agenda: Will be available at the following link in advance of the meeting date—<https://usccr.box.com/s/fnqfsb0fcfhn0nmca2sdpgnldqv2etv7>.

Dated: October 14, 2026.

David Mussatt,

Supervisory Chief, Regional Programs Unit.

[FR Doc. 2026-21227 Filed 10-15-26; 8:45 am]

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COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Notice of Public Meeting of the Rhode Island Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights

AGENCY: Commission on Civil Rights.

ACTION: Announcement of meeting.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (Commission), and the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), that a meeting of the Rhode Island Advisory Committee to the Commission will hold a public meeting via Zoom. The purpose is for the committee to discuss topic ideas and possibly select a topic as part of the Concept Stage. They will also begin the Proposal Stage if time allows.

DATES: Monday, October 26, 2026; 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held via Zoom.

Registration Link (Audio/Visual): https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_ZlZqbRavQ-SHOU3xSNrYyg.

Join by Phone (Audio Only): 1-833 435 1820 USA Toll Free; Webinar ID: 165 795 5160 #.

Agenda: <https://usccr.box.com/s/kreey9srm7ofl9catdbnn2oj7ntx6lf8> (note: a final meeting agenda will be available prior to the meeting date).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Victoria Moreno, Designated Federal Officer, at vmoreno@usccr.gov or 1-434-515-0204.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This virtual committee meeting is available to the public through the registration link above. Any interested member of the public may join at the link to listen to this meeting. An open comment period will be provided to allow members of the public to make a statement as time allows. Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, public minutes of the meeting will include a list of persons who are present at the meeting. If joining via phone, callers can expect to incur regular charges for calls they initiate over wireless lines, according to their wireless plan. The Commission will not refund any incurred charges. Callers will incur no charge for calls they initiate over land-line connections to the toll-free telephone number. Closed captioning is available by selecting "CC" in the Zoom meeting platform. To request additional accommodations, please email ebohor@usccr.gov at least 10 business days prior to the meeting.

Members of the public are entitled to submit written comments; the comments must be received in the regional office within 30 days following the meeting. Written comments may be emailed to Evelyn Bohor, ebohor@usccr.gov. Persons who desire additional information may contact the Regional Programs Coordination Unit at (202) 809-9618.

Records generated from this meeting may be inspected and reproduced at the Regional Programs Coordination Unit Office, as they become available, both before and after the meeting. Records of the meetings will be available via the file sharing website: <https://usccr.box.com/s/kreey9srm7ofl9catdbnn2oj7ntx6lf8> as well as at: www.facadatabase.gov under the Commission on Civil Rights, selecting the Advisory Committee of interest. Persons interested in the work of this Committee are directed to the Commission's website, <http://www.usccr.gov>.

www.usccr.gov, or may contact the Regional Programs Coordination Unit at ebohor@usccr.gov.

Dated: October 14, 2026.

David Mussatt,

Supervisory Chief, Regional Programs Unit.

[FR Doc. 2026-21224 Filed 10-15-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6335-01-P

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Notice of Public Meeting of the New York Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights

AGENCY: Commission on Civil Rights.

ACTION: Announcement of public meeting.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (Commission), and the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), that the New York Advisory Committee to the Commission will hold a public briefing via Zoom. The purpose is for the committee to continue to hear expert testimony on the committee's project, Discrimination Against Jews on College and University Campuses Since October 7, 2023.

DATES: Wednesday, October 21, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held via Zoom.

Registration Link (Audio/Visual): https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_dsLdAT1aQAuwf3gOXFSJVQ.

Join by Phone (Audio Only): 1-833-435-1820 USA Toll Free; Webinar ID: 165 625 2478 #.

Agenda: <https://usccr.box.com/s/c17e2xbgn1b4l4xd9m6i005c1j16ve6b> (note: a final briefing agenda will be available prior to the briefing date).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Barreras, Designated Federal Officer at dbarreras@usccr.gov, or 202-656-8937.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This virtual committee meeting is available to the public through the registration link above. Any interested member of the public may join at the link to listen to this meeting. An open comment period will be provided to allow members of the public to make a statement as time allows. Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, public minutes of the meeting will include a list of people who are present at the meeting. If joining via phone, callers can expect to incur regular charges for calls they initiate over wireless lines, according to their