

surveys using active acoustic sources; the detonation of up to 10 unexploded ordnance or munitions and explosives of concern (UXOs/MECs) of different charge weights; fishery and ecological monitoring surveys; the placement of scour protection; the installation of the export cable route from OSSs to shore-based converter stations and inter-array cables between turbines by trenching, laying, and burial activities; vessel transits within the specified geographical region to transport crew, supplies, and materials to support construction and operation.

Marine mammals exposed to elevated noise levels during impact driving, or UXO/MEC detonations may be taken by Level A harassment, and marine mammals exposed to elevated noise levels during impact and vibratory pile driving, site characterization surveys, or UXO/MEC detonations may be taken by Level B harassment. No Level A harassment of North Atlantic right whales, blue whales, sperm whales, Atlantic spotted dolphins, Atlantic white-sided dolphins, common dolphins, long-finned or short-finned pilot whales, or Risso's dolphins is anticipated or authorized. No mortality or serious injury of any marine mammal is anticipated or authorized.

#### Authorization

In accordance with the final rule (88 FR 62898, September 13, 2023, *see* 50 CFR 217.266), we have issued a LOA to Ocean Wind authorizing the take, by harassment, of marine mammals incidental to specified construction activities within the specified geographical region. No mortality or serious injury of any marine mammal species is anticipated or authorized. The incidental takes authorized herein are the same as those analyzed and authorized in the final rule (88 FR 62898, September 13, 2023). Takes of marine mammals will be minimized through the following planned mitigation and monitoring measures, as applicable for each specified activity: (1) implementation of seasonal/time of day work restrictions; (2) use of multiple NMFS-approved Protected Species Observers (PSOs) to visually observe for marine mammals (with any detection within specifically designated zones triggering a delay or shutdown, as applicable); (3) use of NMFS-approved passive acoustic monitoring (PAM) operators to acoustically detect marine mammals, with a focus on detecting baleen whales (with any detection within designated zones triggering a delay or shutdown, as applicable); (4) implementation of clearance and shutdown zones; (6) use of soft-start

prior to the start of impact pile driving; (7) use of noise attenuation technology during impact pile driving and UXO/MEC detonations; (8) use of situational awareness monitoring for marine mammal presence; (9) use of sound field verification monitoring; (10) use of soft-start impact pile driving and ramp-up acoustic sources during HRG surveys; (11) implementation of vessel separation zones between marine mammals and project vessels; (12) use of PAM within the vessel transit corridor for Project vessels to travel over 10 knots (11.5 miles per hour); and (13) implementation of additional Vessel Strike Avoidance measures to reduce the risk of a vessel collision with a marine mammal. Additionally, NMFS may modify the LOA's mitigation, monitoring, or reporting measures, based on new information, when appropriate (*see also* 50 CFR 217.267(c)). Ocean Wind is also required to submit reports, as specified in the final rule.

Based on the findings and information discussed in the preamble of the final rule, the take authorized in the LOA will have a negligible impact on marine mammal stocks, will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of the affected marine mammal stock for subsistence uses, and the mitigation measures provide a means of affecting the least practicable adverse impact on the affected stocks and their habitat.

Dated: October 16, 2023.

**Kimberly Damon-Randall,**

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

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**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Application for Appointment in the NOAA Commissioned Officer Corps

The Department of Commerce will submit the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice. We invite the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing

information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** on August 10, 2023 during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments.

*Agency:* National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Commerce.

*Title:* Application for Appointment in the NOAA Commissioned Officer Corps.

*OMB Control Number:* 0648-0047.

*Form Number(s):* NOAA Forms 56-42 and 56-42a.

*Type of Request:* Regular submission [revision and extension of a current information collection].

*Number of Respondents:* 300.

*Average Hours per Response:* Written applications: 2 hours; Interviews: 5 hours; References: 15 minutes.

*Total Annual Burden Hours:* 2,475.

*Needs and Uses:* This is a request for revision and extension of an existing information collection.

The NOAA Commissioned Officer Corps is the uniformed service of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), a bureau of the United States Department of Commerce. Officers serve under Senate-confirmed appointments and Presidential commissions (33 U.S.C. chapter 17, subchapter 1, sections 853 and 854). The NOAA Corps provides a cadre of professionals trained in engineering, earth sciences, oceanography, meteorology, fisheries science, and other related disciplines who serve their country by supporting NOAA's mission of surveying the Earth's oceans, coasts, and atmosphere to ensure the economic and physical well-being of the Nation.

NOAA Corps officers operate vessels and aircraft engaged in scientific missions and serve in leadership positions throughout NOAA. Persons wishing to apply for an appointment in the NOAA Commissioned Officer Corps must complete an application package, including NOAA Form 56-42, at least three letters of recommendation, and official transcripts. A personal interview must also be conducted. Eligibility requirements include a bachelor's degree with at least 48 credit hours of science, engineering, or other disciplines related to NOAA's mission, excellent health, and normal color vision with uncorrected visual acuity no worse than 20/400 in each eye (correctable to 20/20).

The revision includes updates which reflect the current status of the NOAA Corps. This includes amending the essay questions and updating the

instructions to reflect a new direct-to-aviation recruitment model.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Required to obtain or retain benefits.

*Legal Authority:* 33 U.S.C. chapter 17, subchapter 1, sections 853 and 854.

This information collection request may be viewed at [www.reginfo.gov](http://www.reginfo.gov). Follow the instructions to view the 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](http://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 0648–0047.

**Sheleen Dumas,**

*Department PRA Clearance Officer, Office of the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, Commerce Department.*

[FR Doc. 2023–23015 Filed 10–18–23; 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 October 19, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. and will be held via online videoconference. Items of discussion may include buildings, infrastructure, parks, memorials, and public art.

Draft agendas, the link to register for the online public meeting, and additional information regarding the Commission are available on our website: [www.cfa.gov](http://www.cfa.gov). Inquiries regarding the agenda, as well as any public testimony, should be addressed to Thomas Luebke, Secretary, U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, at the above address; by emailing [cfastaff@cfa.gov](mailto: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: October 10, 2023 in Washington, DC.

**Susan M. Raposa,**

*Technical Information Specialist.*

[FR Doc. 2023–23009 Filed 10–18–23; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6330–01–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

**Department of the Air Force**

**Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for Master Plan and Installation Development at Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada**

**AGENCY:** Department of the Air Force.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Air Force (Air Force) is issuing this Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to assess the potential social, economic, and environmental impacts associated with the proposed master plan and installation development at Nellis Air Force Base (AFB), Nevada.

**DATES:** A public scoping period of 30 days will take place starting from the date of the publication of this NOI in the **Federal Register**. Comments will be accepted at any time during the environmental impact analysis process; however, to ensure the Air Force has sufficient time to consider public scoping comments during preparation of the Draft EIS, please submit comments within the 30-day scoping period. The Draft EIS is anticipated in late 2024. The Final EIS and a decision on which alternative to implement is expected in late 2025.

During the scoping period, the Air Force will hold two in-person public scoping meetings: November 14 and 15, 2023, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., at the Cora Coleman Senior Center located at 2100 Bonnie Lane, Las Vegas, NV 89156. Both meetings are at the same location but offered on two different days to provide options to interested individuals.

**ADDRESSES:** All public meeting materials may be viewed on the EIS website (<https://www.nellisafbeis.com>). For those without access to a computer or the internet, copies of the scoping materials may be obtained by submitting a request to Nellis AFB Public Affairs at (702) 652–2750. Scoping comments may be submitted by one of the following methods: (1) submit a written comment in person at one of the two public scoping meetings, (2) mail a written comment to Attn: Master Plan and Installation Development at Nellis AFB, 2222 S 4th Avenue, P.O. Box 6257, Yuma, AZ 85366, and/or (3) submit a comment via the project website at <https://www.nellisafbeis.com>. For questions regarding the Proposed Action or EIS development, or to request sign language assistance at the in-person scoping meetings, contact Daniel Fisher

at [daniel.fisher.26@us.af.mil](mailto:daniel.fisher.26@us.af.mil) or (210) 925–2738.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Nellis AFB is proposing to develop the east side of the Installation. The purpose of the Proposed Action is to optimize Nellis AFB's current operational capabilities and capacity for future warfighting training and testing. The Proposed Action is needed because the current Nellis and United States Air Force Warfare Center mission sets are outpacing the ability to expand resources and capacity. In addition, the Air Force anticipates that facility requirements are likely to increase over time through normal attrition and the arrival of new missions and that the number of active duty and civilian personnel would also increase. The existing infrastructure does not meet current and future mission needs; mission capability at Nellis AFB is nearing physical capacity, and additional flightline support facilities and infrastructure are needed to meet anticipated future growth. The Proposed Action is also needed to relieve stress on facility and infrastructure constraints on the west side of the Installation. Flying units are currently sharing hangar space, which is not conducive to future mission growth. Presently, the Installation's infrastructure and utilities are a limitation to operational expansion and growth; utilities and the west-side ramp are reaching full operational capacity and must be expanded to accommodate future operations. Without expansion, the existing facilities and infrastructure at Nellis AFB would be insufficient to meet Air Force and Department of Defense current and future mission requirements.

The Proposed Action is development of the east side of Nellis AFB to address current mission constraints and future mission growth because the majority of the land available to construct facilities and infrastructure is located in the undeveloped area on the east side of the Installation. Constructed facilities and infrastructure will be grouped by functional land use category, and facilities with similar uses and mission functions will be located in the same general area. For planning purposes, the Air Force grouped similar mission activities into eight categories based on facility and infrastructure function and conservatively estimated the anticipated amount of impervious surface coverage typical of each functional category. The eight functional categories are Airfield Operations/Industrial/Light Industrial; Administrative/Small-scale Administrative; Medical/Community