

### *Special Accommodations*

There will be no public participation during this meeting; therefore, public accommodations will not be necessary.

### *Public Participation*

There will be no public participation during this meeting.

### *Closure Determination*

The Deputy Assistant Secretary for Administration, performing the non-exclusive functions and duties of the Deputy Secretary of Commerce, with the concurrence of the delegate of the General Counsel, formally determined, pursuant to Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended by Section 5(c) of the Government in the Sunshine Act, Public Law 94-409, that the June 24, 2025 meeting of the Judges Panel may be closed to the public in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(4) because the meeting is likely to disclose trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and are privileged or confidential, and 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(9)(B) because the meeting is likely to disclose information the premature disclosure of which would be likely to significantly frustrate implementation of a proposed agency action. This meeting is closed to the public in order to protect the proprietary data to be examined and discussed.

### *Meeting Cancellation*

If the meeting is canceled, a cancellation notice will be posted on the website at: <https://www.nist.gov/baldrige/how-baldrige-works/baldrige-community/judges-panel>.

**Alicia Chambers,**

*NIST Executive Secretariat.*

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## **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

### **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[RTID 0648-XE877]

### **Pacific Island Fisheries; Marine Conservation Plan for Guam; Western Pacific Sustainable Fisheries Fund**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of agency decision.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS announces approval of a Marine Conservation Plan (MCP) for Guam.

**DATES:** This agency decision is effective from June 10, 2025 through August 3, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** You may obtain a copy of the MCP, identified by NOAA-NMFS-2025-0039, from the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal, <https://www.regulations.gov/docket/NOAA-NMFS-2025-0039>, or from the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council), 1164 Bishop St., Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI 96813, 808-522-8220, <https://www.wpcouncil.org>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Keith Kamikawa, Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS Pacific Islands Regional Office, 808-725-5177.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 204(e) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act) authorizes the Secretary of State, with the concurrence of the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary), and in consultation with the Council, to negotiate and enter into a Pacific Insular Area fishery agreement (PIAFA). A PIAFA would allow foreign fishing within the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) adjacent to American Samoa, Guam, or the Northern Mariana Islands. The Governor of the Pacific Insular Area to which the PIAFA applies must request the PIAFA. The Secretary of State may negotiate and enter the PIAFA after consultation with, and concurrence of, the applicable Governor.

Before entering into a PIAFA, the applicable Governor, with concurrence of the Council, must develop and submit to the Secretary a 3-year MCP providing details on uses for any funds collected by the Secretary under the PIAFA. The MCP must be consistent with the Council's Fishery Ecosystem Plans, must identify conservation and management objectives (including criteria for determining when such objectives have been met), and must prioritize planned marine conservation projects. NMFS is the designee of the Secretary for MCP review and approval. The Magnuson-Stevens Act requires payments received under a PIAFA to be deposited into the United States Treasury and then conveyed to the Treasury of the Pacific Insular Area for which funds were collected.

In the case of violations by foreign fishing vessels in the EEZ around any Pacific Insular Area, amounts received by the Secretary attributable to fines and penalties imposed under the Magnuson-Stevens Act, including sums collected from the forfeiture and disposition or sale of property seized subject to its authority, are deposited into the Treasury of the Pacific Insular Area

adjacent to the EEZ in which the violation occurred, after direct costs of the enforcement action are subtracted. The Pacific Insular Area government may use funds deposited into the Treasury of the Pacific Insular Area for fisheries enforcement and for implementation of a MCP.

At its September 2023 meeting, the Council reviewed and concurred with the Guam MCP. On November 27, 2023, the Governor of Guam submitted the MCP to NMFS for review and approval. NMFS approved this MCP on March 18, 2024, it became effective on March 27, 2024, and it is in effect through August 3, 2026 (89 RF 21241). Following the approval in March 2024, the Governor of Guam submitted an amended MCP to the Council, which reviewed and concurred with the amended MCP at its meeting in December 2024. The Governor of Guam submitted the amended MCP to NMFS for review and approval on January 14, 2025. The amended MCP included revisions to Program Strategy 5.3, the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessible Fishing Platform, to refine its scope and implementation. The approved strategy initially outlined objectives focused on community fishing access, cultural preservation, conservation, education, and inclusivity in Guam's fisheries. The amendments shifted the focus toward structural improvements, including the replacement of steel guardrails and wheel stops with fiberglass; replacing railings on the platform, stairway, and wheelchair ramp; and securing funding for regular maintenance. These refinements increased the priority level of the project from high to very high by emphasizing critical structural improvements that enhance safety and accessibility for users with disabilities. The overall cost was reduced from \$320,000 to \$140,000 as a result of a more defined scope and the use of more cost-effective materials. All other elements of Program Strategy 5.3 remain unchanged.

The conservation and management objectives of this amended MCP are identical to those included in the MCP currently in effect. Please refer to the amended MCP for projects and activities designed to meet each objective, the evaluative criteria, and priority rankings. The evaluative criteria have also not been amended.

This notice announces that NMFS has reviewed the amended MCP and determined that it satisfies the requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. Accordingly, NMFS has approved the amended MCP for the time period from the publication of this notice through August 3, 2026. This MCP

supersedes the plan approved previously for March 27, 2024, through August 3, 2026 (89 FR 21241, March 27, 2024).

Dated: June 4, 2025.

**Kelly Denit,**

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

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XE881]

#### **Takes of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities Angoon Ferry Terminal Modification Project in Angoon, Alaska**

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

**ACTION:** Notice; issuance of incidental harassment authorization.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with regulations implementing the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) as amended, notification is hereby given that NMFS has issued an incidental harassment authorization (IHA) to Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT&PF) for authorization to take marine mammals incidental to the Angoon Ferry Terminal Modification Project in Angoon, Alaska. **DATES:** This authorization is effective for one year from the date of effectiveness.

**ADDRESSES:** Electronic copies of the application and supporting documents, as well as a list of the references cited in this document, may be obtained online at: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/marine-mammal-protection/incidental-take-authorizations-construction-activities>. In case of problems accessing these documents, please call the contact listed below.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kelsey Potlock, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, (301) 427–8401.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### **MMPA Background and Determinations**

The MMPA prohibits the “take” of marine mammals, with certain exceptions. Among the exceptions is section 101(a)(5)(D) of the MMPA (16

U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) which directs the Secretary of Commerce (as delegated to NMFS) to allow, upon request, the incidental, but not intentional, taking by harassment of small numbers of marine mammals by U.S. citizens who engage in a specified activity (other than commercial fishing) within a specified geographical region if certain findings are made and the public has an opportunity to comment on the proposed IHA.

Specifically, NMFS will issue an IHA if it finds that the taking will have a negligible impact on the species or stock(s) and will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of the species or stock(s) for taking for subsistence uses (where relevant). Further, NMFS must prescribe the permissible methods of taking and other “means of effecting the least [practicable] adverse impact” on the affected species or stocks and their habitat, paying particular attention to rookeries, mating grounds, and areas of similar significance, and on the availability of such species or stocks for taking for certain subsistence uses (referred to here as “mitigation”). NMFS must also prescribe requirements pertaining to monitoring and reporting of such takings. The definition of key terms such as “take,” “harassment,” and “negligible impact” can be found in the MMPA and the NMFS’ implementing regulations (see 16 U.S.C. 1362; 50 CFR 216.103).

On March 24, 2025, a notice of NMFS’ proposal to issue an IHA to ADOT&PF for take of marine mammals incidental to the Angoon Ferry Terminal Modification Project in Angoon, Alaska was published in the **Federal Register** (90 FR 13463). In that notice, NMFS indicated the estimated numbers, type, and methods of incidental take proposed for each species or stock and the mitigation, monitoring, and reporting measures that would be required should the IHA be issued. The **Federal Register** notice also included analysis to support NMFS’ preliminary conclusions and determinations that the IHA, if issued, would satisfy the requirements of section 101(a)(5)(D) of the MMPA for issuance of the IHA. The **Federal Register** notice included web links to a draft IHA for review and other supporting documents.

No substantive comments were received during the public comment period. There are no changes to the specified activity, the species taken, the proposed numbers, type, or methods of take, or the mitigation, monitoring, or reporting measures in the proposed IHA notice. All information for species taken remains the same with one exception. In

the Description of Marine Mammals in the Area of Specified Activities section of the **Federal Register** notice of the proposed IHA (90 FR 13463, March 24, 2025), table 2 and the associated species description inadvertently misidentified the humpback whale stock as the Mainland Mexico-CA/OR/WA stock rather than the Mexico-North Pacific stock. However, NMFS’ analysis was based upon the appropriate stock information for the Mexico-North Pacific stock, and no changes to the IHA are necessary. Furthermore, no new information that would change any of the preliminary analyses, conclusions, or determinations in the proposed IHA notice has become available since that notice was published and, therefore, the preliminary analyses, conclusions, and determinations included in the proposed IHA are considered final.

#### **National Environmental Policy Act**

To comply with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA; 42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and NOAA Administrative Order (NAO) 216–6A, NMFS must review our proposed action (*i.e.*, the issuance of an IHA) with respect to potential impacts on the human environment.

This action is consistent with categories of activities identified in Categorical Exclusion B4 (IHAs with no anticipated serious injury or mortality) of the Companion Manual for NAO 216–6A, which do not individually or cumulatively have the potential for significant impacts on the quality of the human environment and for which we have not identified any extraordinary circumstances that would preclude this categorical exclusion. Accordingly, NMFS has determined that the issuance of this IHA qualifies to be categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

#### **Endangered Species Act**

Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) requires that each Federal agency insure that any action it authorizes, funds, or carries out is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered or threatened species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated critical habitat. To ensure ESA compliance for the issuance of IHAs, NMFS consults internally whenever we propose to authorize take for endangered or threatened species, in this case with the Alaska Regional Office.

There are two ESA-listed marine mammal species (Steller sea lion (Western Distinct Population Segment (DPS)) and humpback whale (Mexico