

beyond the immediate locality in which the particular prevailing rate employees are employed.”

On January 1, 1998, the minimum wage for the state of Oregon increased to \$6.00 per hour. Under section 532.205 of title 5, Code of Federal Regulations, the highest minimum wage applicable within a wage area must be applied to the entire wage area. Pay rates for NAF FWS employees stationed in Adams, Spokane, and Walla Walla Counties, WA, would have been increased to the higher minimum wage amount for the state of Oregon even though there are no NAF FWS employees working in Umatilla County, OR. OPM published an interim rule making this change and provided a 30-day public comment period. During this period, OPM did not receive any comments. Based on the previous recommendation of FPRAC, the interim rule is being adopted as a final rule without any changes.

#### Regulatory Flexibility Act

I certify that these regulations will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities because they will affect only Federal agencies and employees.

#### List of Subjects in 5 CFR Part 532

Administrative practice and procedure, Freedom of information, Government employees, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Wages.

Accordingly, under the authority of 5 U.S.C. 5343, the interim rule (62 FR 66973) amending 5 CFR part 532 published on December 23, 1997, is adopted as final with no changes.

Office of Personnel Management.

**Janice R. Lachance,**

*Director.*

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#### OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

#### 5 CFR Part 532

RIN 3206-AH58

#### Prevailing Rate Systems; Abolishment of the Norfolk, Massachusetts, Nonappropriated Fund Wage Area

**AGENCY:** Office of Personnel Management.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of Personnel Management is issuing a final rule to abolish the Norfolk, Massachusetts, nonappropriated fund Federal Wage

System wage area and redefine its five counties as areas of application to nearby wage areas for pay-setting purposes. This change is being made because the closure of the Naval Air Station at South Weymouth, MA, left the Department of Defense without an activity in the wage area capable of hosting local wage surveys.

**DATE:** This regulation is effective on March 31, 1999.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jennifer Hopkins, (202) 606-2848, FAX: (202) 606-0824, or email to jdhopkin@opm.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On September 23, 1996, the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) published an interim rule (61 FR 49649) to abolish the Norfolk, MA, nonappropriated fund (NAF) Federal Wage System (FWS) wage area and redefine its five counties having continuing FWS employment. The Federal Prevailing Rate Advisory Committee, the statutory national labor-management committee responsible for advising OPM on matters concerning the pay of FWS employees, recommended by majority vote that we abolish the Norfolk, MA, NAF wage area and redefine its five counties as areas of application to nearby NAF wage areas. Norfolk County, Plymouth County, and Suffolk County, MA, were redefined to the Middlesex, MA, NAF wage area. Barnstable County and Nantucket County, MA, were redefined to the Newport, Rhode Island, NAF wage area. This change was necessary due to the closure of the Norfolk wage area's host activity, the Naval Air Station South Weymouth, which left the wage area without an activity having the capability to conduct annual local wage surveys.

Employees being paid rates from the Norfolk, MA, NAF wage schedule were converted to new wage schedules on November 15, 1996. No permanent employee's wage rate was reduced as a result of this change. The interim rule provided a 30-day period for public comment, during which we did not receive any comments. Therefore, the interim rule is being adopted as a final rule.

#### Regulatory Flexibility Act

I certify that these regulations will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities because they will affect only Federal agencies and employees.

#### List of Subjects in 5 CFR Part 532

Administrative practice and procedure, Freedom of information,

Government employees, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Wages.

Accordingly, under the authority of 5 U.S.C. 5343, the interim rule (61 FR 49649) amending 5 CFR part 532 published on September 23, 1996, is adopted as final with no changes.

Office of Personnel Management,

**Janice R. Lachance,**

*Director.*

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#### DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

#### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 97-NM-254-AD; Amendment 39-11051; AD 99-05-02]

RIN 2120-AA64

#### Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 747 Series Airplanes

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** This amendment adopts a new airworthiness directive (AD), applicable to certain Boeing Model 747 series airplanes, that requires a one-time detailed visual inspection of the outboard sequence carriage attachment fitting for the presence and condition of a shim and any loose fastener, and follow-on corrective actions, if necessary. This amendment is prompted by a report that a piece of the left wing inboard foreflap came off during a landing approach and struck and penetrated the airplane fuselage. The actions specified by this AD are intended to prevent the failure of the outboard sequence carriage fitting, which could allow the wing inboard foreflap to separate and penetrate the fuselage, possibly injuring passengers and crewmembers.

**DATES:** Effective April 5, 1999.

The incorporation by reference of certain publications listed in the regulations is approved by the Director of the Federal Register as of April 5, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** The service information referenced in this AD may be obtained from Boeing Commercial Airplane Group, P.O. Box 3707, Seattle, Washington 98124-2207. This information may be examined at the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Transport Airplane Directorate, Rules Docket, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington; or at the Office of