

III. Conclusion

Accordingly, HUD extends the January 1, 2026, compliance date for implementing the changes made by the HOTMA final rule to 24 CFR parts 5, 92, 93, 570, and 574 for the CPD programs described in this document until January 1, 2027. Until this date, CPD grantees may continue to adhere, as applicable, to the requirements found in both their program regulations and the regulations at 24 CFR 5.603, 24 CFR 5.609, 24 CFR 5.611, and 24 CFR 5.617 as they existed prior to January 1, 2024.

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 3535(d).

Bryan W. Horn,

Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development, Office of Community Planning and Development.

[FR Doc. 2025–23989 Filed 12–29–25; 8:45 am]

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POSTAL SERVICE

39 CFR Part 111

Shape-Based Labeling Lists

AGENCY: Postal Service.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Postal Service (USPS®) is amending *Mailing Standards of the United States Postal Service*, Domestic Mail Manual (DMM®) in various sections to implement shape-based labeling lists for SCF letters, flats, and parcels.

DATES: *Effective Date:* February 1, 2025.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Doriane Harley at (202) 268–2537 or Dale Kennedy at (202) 268–6592.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Postal Service (USPS®) is implementing shape-based labeling lists for SCF prepared mailpieces. Labeling lists L005, L016, and L051 will be used for letters, flats, and parcels respectively.

Market Dominant comments on Proposed changes and USPS responses.

The Postal Service did not receive any formal comments on the April 2024 proposed rule (90 FR 52266–52270).

The Postal Service adopts the following changes to *Mailing Standards of the United States Postal Service*, Domestic Mail Manual (DMM), incorporated by reference in the *Code of Federal Regulations*. We will publish an appropriate amendment to 39 CFR part 111 to reflect these changes.

List of Subjects in 39 CFR Part 111

Administrative practice and procedure, Postal Service.

Accordingly, the Postal Service amends Mailing Standards of the United States Postal Service, Domestic Mail Manual (DMM), incorporated by reference in the Code of Federal Regulations as follows (see 39 CFR 111.1):

PART 111—[AMENDED]

■ 1. The authority citation for 39 CFR part 111 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 552(a); 13 U.S.C. 301–307; 18 U.S.C. 1692–1737; 39 U.S.C. 101, 401–404, 414, 416, 3001–3018, 3201–3220, 3401–3406, 3621, 3622, 3626, 3629, 3631–3633, 3641, 3681–3685, and 5001.

■ 2. Revise the *Mailing Standards of the United States Postal Service*, Domestic Mail Manual (DMM) as follows:

Mailing Standards of the United States Postal Service, Domestic Mail Manual (DMM)

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207 Periodicals

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18.0 General Mail Preparation

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18.3 Presort Terms

Terms used for presort levels are defined as follows:

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[Revise items (p) and (q) to read as follows:]

p. *SCF*: the separation includes pieces for two or more 3-digit areas served by the same sectional center facility (SCF)/local processing center (LPC [letters/flats]) or regional processing and distribution center (RPDC [parcels]) (see L005, Column B for letters, L016, Column B for flats, and L051, Column B for parcels).

q. *Origin/entry SCF*: the separation includes bundles for one or more 3-digit areas served by the same sectional center facility (SCF)/local processing center (LPC [letters/flats]) or regional processing and distribution center (RPDC [parcels]) (see L005, Column B for letters, L016, Column B for flats, and L051, Column B for parcels) in whose service area the mail is verified/entered.

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18.4 Mail Preparation Terms

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22.0 Preparing Nonbarcoded (Presorted) Periodicals

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22.6 Sack Preparation

[Revise items (c) and (d) to read as follows:]

c. *SCF/LPC*, required at 72 pieces, optional at 24 pieces minimum.

1. Line 1: use L016, Column B for flats, L051, Column B for parcels.

2. Line 2: “PER” or “NEWS” as applicable; followed by “FLTS” or “NONSTD” as applicable; followed by “SCF”; followed by “NON BC” for flats.

d. *Origin/entry SCF/LPC*, required for the SCF/LPC of the origin (verification) office, optional for the SCF/LPC of an entry office other than the origin office, (no minimum).

1. Line 1: use L016, Column B for flats, L051, Column B for parcels.

2. Line 2: use “PER” or “NEWS” as applicable; followed by “FLTS” or “NONSTD” as applicable; followed by “SCF”; followed by “NON BC” for flats.

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22.7 Tray Preparation—Flat-Size Nonbarcoded Pieces

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[Revise items (d) and (e) to read as follows:]

d. *SCF/LPC*, required at 72 pieces, optional at 24 pieces minimum.

1. Line 1: L016, Column B.

2. Line 2: “PER” or “NEWS” as applicable; followed by “FLTS”; followed by “SCF NON BC.”

e. *Origin SCF/LPC* (required) and entry SCF/LPC(s) (optional), no minimum, labeling:

1. Line 1: L016, Column B.

2. Line 2: “PER” or “NEWS” as applicable; followed by “FLTS”; followed by “SCF NON BC.”

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23.0 Preparing Carrier-Route Periodicals

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25.0 Preparing Flat-Size Barcoded (Automation) Periodicals

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25.4 Sacking and Labeling

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[Revise items (c) and (d) to read as follows:]

c. *SCF/LPC*, required at 72 pieces, optional at 24 pieces; fewer pieces not permitted; labeling:

1. Line 1: use L016, Column B.

2. Line 2: use “PER FLTS SCF BC” or “NEWS FLTS SCF BC,” as applicable.

d. *Origin SCF/LPC* (required) and entry SCF/LPC(s) (optional), no minimum; labeling:

1. Line 1: use L016, Column B.

2. Line 2: use “PER FLTS SCF BC” or “NEWS FLTS SCF BC,” as applicable.

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25.5 Tray Preparation—Flat-Size Barcoded Pieces

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[Revise items (d) and (e) to read as follows:]

d. SCF/LPC (required), 72-piece minimum, optional at 24 pieces, fewer pieces not permitted; labeling:

1. Line 1: L016, Column B.
2. Line 2: “PER” “NEWS” as applicable; followed by “FLTS”;

followed by “SCF BC.”
e. *Origin SCF/LPC* (required) and *entry SCF/LPCs* (optional), no minimum, labeling:

1. Line 1: L016, Column B.
2. Line 2: “PER” “NEWS” as applicable; followed by “FLTS”;

followed by “SCF BC.”

29.0 Destination Entry

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29.3 Destination Sectional Center Facility/Local Processing Center

29.3.1 Definition

[Revise the text of 29.3.1 to read as follows:]

For this standard, destination sectional center facility (DSCF)/local processing center (LPC [letters/flats])/regional processing and distribution center (RPDC [parcels]) includes a USPS-designated facility or the facilities listed in L005 for letters, L016 for flats, L051 for parcels.

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235 Mail Preparation

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1.0 General Definition of Terms

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1.3 Terms for Presort Levels

1.3.1 Letters and Cards

Terms used for presort levels are defined as follows: * * *

[Revise item (f) to read as follows:]

f. *Origin/optional entry SCF*: the separation includes bundles for one or more 3-digit areas served by the same sectional center facility (SCF)/local processing center (LPC) (see L005, Column B) in whose service area the mail is verified/entered. Subject to standard, this separation is required regardless of the mail volume.

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1.3.2 Flats

Terms used for presort levels are defined as follows: * * *

[Revise item (b) to read as follows:]

b. 3-digit: The ZIP Code in the delivery address on all pieces begins with the same three digits (see L002, Column C).

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7.0 Preparation of Nonautomation Flats

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7.4 Traying and Labeling

Preparation sequence, tray size, and labeling: * * *

b. 3-digit (optional); full tray or 50 piece minimum (no overflow), except for one less-than-full tray for each origin 3-digit(s); labeling:

[Revise item b(1) to read as follows:]

1. Line 1: L002, Column C.

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8.0 Preparation of Automation Flats

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8.5 Traying and Labeling

[Revise the text of 8.5 to read as follows:]

Tray size, preparation sequence, and Line 1 labeling:

a. 5-digit scheme: optional, but required for 5-digit price (full tray or 50-piece minimum); one less-than-full or overflow tray allowed; see 8.6 for scheme; labeling:

1. Line 1: L007, Column B.

2. Line 2: “FCM FLTS BC 5D

SCHEME”

b. 5-digit: optional, but required for 5-digit price (full tray or 50-piece minimum); one less-than-full or overflow tray allowed; labeling:

1. Line 1: city, state, and 5-digit ZIP Code on mail (see 204.3.0, for overseas military mail).

2. Line 2: “FCM FLTS 5D BC”

c. 3-digit: optional, but required for 3-digit price (full tray or 50-piece minimum); one less-than-full or overflow tray allowed; labeling:

1. Line 1: L002, Column C.

2. Line 2: “FCM FLTS 3D BC.”

d. Origin 3-digit: required for each 3-digit ZIP Code served by the SCF/LPC of the origin (verification) office; no minimum; labeling:

1. Line 1: L002, Column C.

2. Line 2: “FCM FLTS 3D BC.”

e. ADC: optional, but required for ADC price (full tray or 50-piece minimum); one less-than-full or overflow tray allowed; group pieces by 3-digit ZIP Code prefix; labeling:

1. Line 1: L004, Column B.

2. Line 2: “FCM FLTS ADC BC.”

Exception: Pieces are not required to be grouped by 3-digit ZIP Code prefix in ADC trays if the mailing is prepared using an MLOCR/barcode sorter, and standardized documentation is submitted.

f. Mixed ADC (required); no minimum for price eligibility. Group pieces by ADC. labeling:

1. Line 1 use L201; for mail originating in ZIP Code areas in Column

A, use “MXD” followed by city, state, and 3-digit ZIP Code prefix in Column C (use “MXD” instead of “OMX” in the destination line and ignore Column B).

2. Line 2: “FCM FLTS BC WKG.”

Mailers using a MLOCR/barcode sorter and submitting standardized documentation need not group pieces by ADC.

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245 Mail Preparation

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1.0 General Information for Mail Preparation

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1.3 Terms for Presort Levels

1.3.1 Letters

Terms used for presort levels are defined as follows: * * *

[Revise item (h) to read as follows:]

h. *Origin/optional entry SCF*: the separation includes bundles for one or more 3-digit areas served by the same sectional center facility (SCF)/local processing center (LPC) (see L005) in whose service area the mail is verified or entered. Subject to standard, this separation is required regardless of mail volume.

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1.3.2 Flats

Terms used for presort levels are defined as follows: * * *

[Revise items (l) and (m) to read as follows:]

l. SCF: the separation includes pieces for two or more 3-digit areas served by the same sectional center facility (SCF)/local processing center (LPC) (see L016). Exception: Where required or permitted by standard, mail for a single 3-digit area may be prepared in an SCF separation when no mail for other 3-digit ZIP Code areas is available. For pallets, the SCF sort may include mail for a single 3-digit ZIP Code area.

m. *Origin/optional entry SCF*: the separation includes bundles for one or more 3-digit areas served by the same sectional center facility (SCF)/local processing center (LPC) (see L016) in whose service area the mail is verified or entered. Subject to standard, this separation is required regardless of the mail volume.

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1.3.3 Marketing Parcels

Terms used for presort levels are defined as follows: * * *

[Revise item (d) to read as follows:]

d. SCF: The separation includes pieces for two or more 3-digit areas served by the same sectional center

facility (SCF)/regional processing and distribution center (RPDC) (see L051). Exception: Where required or permitted by standard, mail for a single 3-digit area may be prepared in an SCF separation when no mail for other 3-digit ZIP Code areas is available. For pallets, the SCF sort may include mail for a single 3-digit ZIP Code area.

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11.0 Preparing Presorted Parcels

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11.4 Preparing Nonstandard Marketing Parcels (Less Than 3.5 Ounces) and Nonprofit Nonstandard Priced Parcels

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11.4.3 Sacking and Labeling

Preparation sequence, sack size, and labeling: * * *

[Revise item (b) to read as follows:]

b. SCF; 10-pound minimum; labeling:

1. For Line 1, Use L051, Column B.
2. For Line 2, “STD NONSTD SCF.”

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246 Enter and Deposit

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3.0 Destination Sectional Center Facility (DSCF)/Local Processing Center (LPC) Entry

3.1 Definition

[Revise the text of 3.1 to read as follows:]

For this standard, *destination sectional center facility (DSCF)/local processing center (LPC)* refers to the facilities listed in L005 for letters, L016 for flats, L051 for parcels.

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255 Mail Preparation

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4.3 Preparing Destination SCF (DSCF)/Destination Regional Processing and Distribution Center (DRPDC) Parcel Select

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4.3.2 Basic Standards

Pieces must meet the applicable standards in 4.0 and the following criteria: * * *

[Revise item (d) to read as follows:]

d. Any remaining nonstandard parcels (as defined in 201.7.6) sorted to 3-digit ZIP Code prefixes in L051, Column B. Machinable parcels may not be sorted to the 3-digit level.

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265 Mail Preparation

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5.0 Preparing Presorted Flats

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5.3 Sacking

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5.3.3 Sacking and Labeling

Preparation sequence and labeling:

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[Revise item (c) to read as follows:]

c. SCF (optional); labeling:

1. Line 1: L016, Column B.
2. Line 2: “PSVC FLTS SCF NON BC.”

* * * * *

7.0 Preparing Barcoded Flats

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7.4 Sacking

Preparation sequence, sack size, and labeling: * * *

[Revise item (c) to read as follows:]

c. SCF (optional); minimum 20

addressed pieces; labeling:

1. Line 1: L016, Column B.
2. Line 2: “PSVC FLTS SCF BC.”

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8.0 Preparing Presorted Parcels

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8.2 Preparing Nonstandard Parcels

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8.2.3 Sacking and Labeling

Preparation sequence and labeling:

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[Revise item (c) to read as follows:]

c. SCF (optional); labeling:

1. Line 1: L051, Column B.
2. Line 2: “PSVC NONSTD SCF.”

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266 Enter and Deposit

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4.0 Destination Sectional Center Facility (DSCF)/Local Processing Center (LPC) Entry

4.1 Eligibility

Bound Printed Matter pieces in a mailing meeting the standards in 3.0 are eligible for the DSCF price when they meet all of the following additional conditions: * * *

[Revise the text of item (b) to read as follows:]

b. Are deposited at a DSCF/LPC (flats)/RPDC (parcels) listed in L016 for flats or L051 for parcels or a USPS-designated facility and are addressed for delivery within the DSCF's/LPC's/RPDC's service area.

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705 Advanced Preparation and Special Postage Payment Systems

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8.0 Preparing Pallets

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8.10 Pallet Presort and Labeling

8.10.1 First-Class Mail—Letter Trays or Flat Trays

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[Revise items (b) and (c) to read as follows:]

b. Origin SCF/LPC (local mail).

Required; no minimum. Pallets contain trays destined for the 3-digit ZIP Codes serviced by the origin SCF/LPC facility in L005 for letters, L016 for flats. 3-digit ZIP Code (from L005 for AADC trays and L004 for ADC trays) is within the origin SCF's/LPC's service area; and must place trays containing pieces paid at the single-piece price on origin SCF/LPC pallets, unless required to be presented separately by special postage-payment authorization or customer service agreement (CSA). Labeling:

1. Line 1: L005, Column B for Letters, L016, Column B for Flats.
2. Line 2: “FCM LTRS” or “FCM FLTS,” followed by “SCF.”

c. SCF/LPC. Required. For destinations listed in L201, based on origin ZIP Code. Pallets contain trays destined for the 3-digit ZIP Codes in L005 for Letters, L016 for Flats. Mailers may, at their option, place AADC or ADC trays on SCF/LPC pallets when the tray's “label to” 3-digit ZIP Code (L005 for AADC trays, and L004 for ADC) is within that SCF's/LPC's service area. Labeling:

1. Line 1: L005, Column B for letters, L016, Column B for flats.
2. Line 2: “FCM LTRS” or “FCM FLTS,” followed by “SCF.”

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8.10.2 Periodicals—Bundles, Sacks, Letter Trays or Flat Trays

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[Revise item (h) to read as follows:]

h. SCF/LPC (letters, flats)/RPDC (parcels), required, permitted for bundles, trays, and sacks (nonstandard parcels only). The pallet may contain carrier-route-price, automation-price, and/or Presorted-price mail for the 3-digit ZIP Code groups in L005 for letters, L016 for flats, L051 for parcels. Labeling:

1. Line 1: L005, Column B for letters, L016, Column B for flats, L051, Column B for parcels.

2. Line 2: “PER” or “NEWS,” as applicable; followed by “FLTS,” “NONSTD,” or “LTRS,” as applicable; followed by “SCF”; followed by “BARCODED” (or “BC”) if pallet contains automation-price mail; followed by “NONBARCODED” (or

“NBC”) if pallet contains carrier-route-price mail and/or Presorted-price mail.
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8.10.3 USPS Marketing Mail—Bundles, Sacks, or Trays

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[Revise item (f) to read as follows:]
f. SCF/LPC (letters, flats)/RPDC (parcels), required, permitted for bundles, trays, and sacks (nonstandard parcels only). The pallet may contain carrier-route, automation-price, and/or presorted-price mail for the 3-digit ZIP Code groups in L005 for letters, L016 for flats, L051 for parcels. Mailers may, at their option, place AADC trays on SCF/LPC (letters, flats)/RPDC (parcels) pallets when the tray’s “label to” 3-digit ZIP Code (from L005) is within that SCF’s/LPC’s (letters, flats)/RPDC’s (parcels) service area. Labeling:

1. Line 1: Use L005, Column B for letters, L016, Column B for flats, L051, Column B for parcels.
2. Line 2: For flats and nonstandard parcels, “STD” followed by “FLTS” or “NONSTD,” as applicable; followed by “SCF”; followed by “BARCODED” (or “BC”) if pallet contains automation price mail; followed by “NONBARCODED” (or “NBC”) if pallet contains carrier route and/or Presorted price mail. For letters, “STD LTRS SCF”; followed by “BC” if pallet contains barcoded letters; followed by “MACH” if pallet contains machinable letters; followed by “MAN” if pallet contains nonmachinable letters.
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8.10.4 Package Services Flats—Bundles and Sacks

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[Revise item (e) to read as follows:]
e. SCF/LPC, required, permitted for bundles and sacks. The pallet may contain carrier route and/or Presorted price mail with or without a barcode for the 3-digit ZIP Code groups in L016. Labeling:

1. Line 1: Use L016, Column B.
2. Line 2: “PSVC FLTS SCF”; followed by “BARCODED” (or “BC”) if pallet contains Presorted price mail with a barcode; followed by “NONBARCODED” (or “NBC”) if pallet contains carrier route and/or Presorted price mail without a barcode.
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8.10.5 Package Services Nonstandard Parcels—Bundles and Sacks

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[Revise item (h) to read as follows:]
h. SCF/RPDC, required, permitted for bundles and sacks. The pallet may contain carrier-route-price and/or

Presorted-price mail for the 3-digit ZIP Code groups in L051. Labeling:
1. Line 1: Use L051, Column B.
2. Line 2: “PSVC NONSTD SCF.”
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8.10.6 Combined Mailings of USPS Marketing Mail Marketing Parcels 3.5 Ounces or More, USPS Marketing Mail, Package Services, and Parcel Select Machinable Parcels

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[Revise item (c) to read as follows:]
c. SCF/RPDC, optional, but required for DSCF prices. Pallets must contain only parcels for the 3-digit ZIP Code groups in L051. Labeling:
1. Line 1: Use L051, Column B.
2. Line 2: “STD/PSVC MACH SCF.”
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8.10.8 Nonstandard Parcels Weighing 2 Ounces or More—USPS Marketing Mail, Including Marketing Parcels

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[Revise item (c) to read as follows:]
c. SCF/RPDC, required. Allowed only for mail deposited at a DSCF/DRPDC to claim SCF price. Labeling:
1. Line 1: Use L051, Column B.
2. Line 2: Use “STD NONSTD SCF.”
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9.0 Combining Bundles of Automation and Nonautomation Flats in Flat Trays and Sacks

9.1 Periodicals

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9.1.4 Optional Sack Preparation and Labeling

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[Revise item (c) to read as follows:]
c. SCF, required at 72 pieces, optional at 24 pieces minimum; labeling:
1. Line 1: use L016, Column B.
2. Line 2: use “PER” or “NEWS” as applicable and “FLTS SCF BC/NBC.”
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9.1.5 Flat Tray Preparation—Flat-Size Machinable Pieces

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[Revise items (d) and (e) to read as follows:]
d. SCF, required at 72 pieces; optional at 24 pieces minimum, labeling:
1. Line 1: L016, Column B.
2. Line 2: “PER” or “NEWS” as applicable; followed by “FLTS”; followed by “SCF BC/NBC.”
e. Origin SCF (required) and entry SCF(s) (optional), no minimum, labeling:
1. Line 1: L016, Column B.
2. Line 2: “PER” or “NEWS” as applicable; followed by “FLTS”; followed by “SCF BC/NBC.”
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9.3 Bound Printed Matter

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9.3.4 Flat Tray/Sack Preparation and Labeling

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[Revise item (c) to read as follows:]
c. SCF, optional, minimum 20 addressed pieces; labeling:
1. Line 1: L016, Column B.
2. Line 2: “PSVC FLTS SCF BC/NBC.”
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10.0 Merging Bundles of Flats Using the City State Product

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10.2 USPS Marketing Mail

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10.2.5 Pallet Preparation and Labeling

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[Revise item (g) to read as follows:]
g. SCF/LPC, required, may contain carrier-route price, automation-price, and Presorted-price bundles. Labeling:
1. Line 1: use L016, Column B.
2. Line 2: “STD FLTS SCF”; followed by “BARCODED” or “BC” if the pallet contains automation price mail; followed by “NONBARCODED” or “NBC” if the pallet contains Presorted price mail and/or carrier route price mail.
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12.0 Merging Bundles of Flats on Pallets Using a 5 Percent Threshold

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12.2 USPS Marketing Mail

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12.2.3 Pallet Preparation and Labeling

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[Revise item (g) to read as follows:]
g. SCF/LPC, required, may contain carrier-route price, automation-price, and Presorted-price bundles. Labeling:
1. Line 1: use L016, Column B.
2. Line 2: “STD FLTS SCF”; followed by “BARCODED” or “BC” if the pallet contains automation price mail; followed by “NONBARCODED” or “NBC” if the pallet contains Presorted price mail and/or carrier route price mail.
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13.0 Merging Bundles of Flats on Pallets Using the City State Product and a 5-Percent Threshold

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13.2 USPS Marketing Mail

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13.2.4 Pallet Preparation and Labeling

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[Revise item (g) to read as follows:]

g. *SCF/LPC*, required, may contain carrier-route price, automation-price, and Presorted-price bundles. Labeling:

1. Line 1: use L016, Column B.

2. Line 2: “STD FLTS SCF”; followed by “BARCODED” or “BC” if the pallet contains automation price mail; and followed by “NONBARCODED” or “NBC” if the pallet contains Presorted price mail and/or carrier route price mail.

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15.0 Combining USPS Marketing Mail Flats, Bound Printed Matter Flats, and Periodicals Flats

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15.4 Pallet Preparation

15.4.1 Pallet Preparation, Sequence and Labeling

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[Revise item (g) to read as follows:]

g. *SCF/LPC*, required. Pallet may contain carrier route, automation or Presorted mail for the 3-digit ZIP Code groups in L016. Labeling:

1. Line 1: Use L016, Column B.

2. Line 2: “STD/BPM/PER FLTS SCF”; followed by “BARCODED” (or “BC”); “NONBARCODED” (or “NBC”) for Presorted mail, or “BARCODED/NONBARCODED” (or “BC/NBC”) for mixed pallets; followed by “MIX COMAIL.”

* * * * *

Colleen Hibbert-Kapler,

Attorney, Ethics and Legal Compliance.

[FR Doc. 2025–23996 Filed 12–29–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[EPA–R04–OAR–2022–0367; FRL–10406–02–R4]

Air Plan Approval; South Carolina; Second Planning Period Regional Haze Plan

Correction

In Rule document, 2025–22565, appearing on pages 57636 through 57674, in the issue of Thursday, December 11, 2025, make the following correction:

■ On page 57636, in the first column, in the in the document heading section, the entry “National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration” was

erroneously added and is hereby removed.

[FR Doc. C1–2025–22565 Filed 12–29–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 0099–10–D

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 622

[Docket No. 160426363–7275–02; RTID 0648–XF373]

Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of America and Atlantic Region; 2025–2026 Commercial Accountability Measure for the King Mackerel Run-Around Gillnet Fishery

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

ACTION: Temporary rule; commercial accountability measure.

SUMMARY: NMFS implements an accountability measure (AM) for king mackerel using run-around gillnet gear in the southern zone of the Gulf of America (Gulf) exclusive economic zone (EEZ) for the 2025–2026 fishing year. NMFS has determined that commercial landings of king mackerel harvested by run-around gillnet gear in the Gulf southern zone in the 2024–2025 fishing year have exceeded the component’s annual catch limit (ACL). Therefore, NMFS implements the AM to reduce the commercial gillnet component ACL for king mackerel in the Gulf southern zone for the 2025–2026 fishing year.

DATES: This rule is effective December 30, 2025, through June 30, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The fishery for coastal migratory pelagic fish in the Gulf includes king mackerel, Spanish mackerel, and cobia, and is managed under the Fishery Management Plan for the Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf and Atlantic Region (FMP). The FMP was prepared by the Gulf and South Atlantic Fishery Management Councils and NMFS, approved by the Secretary of Commerce, and is implemented by NMFS under the authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act) by regulations at 50 CFR part 622. All weights for the Gulf migratory group of king mackerel

(Gulf king mackerel) apply as either round or gutted weight.

The commercial fishery for Gulf king mackerel is divided into western, northern, and southern zones. The southern zone for Gulf king mackerel encompasses an area of the Gulf EEZ off Collier and Monroe Counties in south Florida, south of a line extending due west from the boundary of Lee and Collier Counties on the Florida west coast, and south of a line extending due east from the boundary of Monroe and Miami-Dade Counties on the Florida east coast (50 CFR 622.369(a)(1)(iii)). For an illustration of the king mackerel zones, see Figure 1 in Appendix G to part 622 at <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-50/chapter-VI/part-622/appendix-Appendix%20G%20to%20Part%20622>.

The commercial ACL for Gulf king mackerel is divided into separate ACLs for hook-and-line and run-around gillnet gear. The use of run-around gillnets for king mackerel is restricted to the Gulf southern zone. For the 2024–2025 fishing year, the king mackerel commercial gillnet quota (equivalent to the commercial gillnet ACL) is 671,328 pounds (lb) (304,509 kilograms (kg)) (50 CFR 622.384(b)(1)(iii)(B)). The fishing year for Gulf king mackerel in the southern zone is from July 1 through June 30 (50 CFR 622.7(b)(1)(i)) but the gillnet component has a seasonal closure from July 1 until 6 a.m. eastern time on the day after the Martin Luther King, Jr. Federal holiday (50 CFR 622.378(a)).

Regulations at 50 CFR 622.388(a)(1)(iii) state that if commercial landings of Gulf king mackerel caught by run-around gillnet gear in the southern zone exceed the commercial gillnet component ACL, then in the following fishing year, NMFS will reduce the commercial gillnet component ACL by the amount of the commercial gillnet component ACL overage in the prior fishing year. NMFS’ most recent commercial landings data for the 2024–2025 fishing year indicate that the commercial gillnet component exceeded its ACL of 671,328 lb (304,509 kg) by 1,188 lb (539 kg) for the fishing year that ended on June 30, 2025. Accordingly, for the 2025–2026 fishing year and consistent with the commercial AM, NMFS reduces the commercial gillnet component ACL for the Gulf southern zone to 670,140 lb (303,970 kg).

The fishing season for Gulf king mackerel using run-around gillnet gear in the southern zone is currently closed and will open again at 6 a.m., local time, on January 20, 2026 (50 CFR 622.378(a)).