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 Laboratory Corporation of America Holdings, 1120 Main Street, Southaven, MS 38671, 866-827-8042/800-233-6339, (Formerly: LabCorp Occupational Testing Services, Inc.; MedExpress/National Laboratory Center)
 MedTox Laboratories, Inc., 402 W County Road D, St. Paul, MN 55112, 651-636-7466/800-832-3244
 Minneapolis Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Forensic Toxicology Laboratory, 1 Veterans Drive, Minneapolis, MN 55417, 612-725-2088, Testing for Veterans Affairs (VA) Employees Only
 Omega Laboratories, Inc., 2150 Dunwin Drive, Unit 1 & 2, Mississauga, ON, Canada L5L 5M8, 289-919-3188
 Pacific Toxicology Laboratories, 9348 DeSoto Ave., Chatsworth, CA 91311, 800-328-6942, (Formerly: Centinela Hospital Airport Toxicology Laboratory)
 Phamatech, Inc., 15175 Innovation Drive, San Diego, CA 92128, 888-635-5840
 US Army Forensic Toxicology Drug Testing Laboratory, 2490 Wilson St., Fort George G. Meade, MD 20755-5235, 301-677-7085, Testing for Department of Defense (DoD) Employees Only

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

[Docket No. USCG-2026-0070]

Application for Recertification of Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of availability and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard announces the availability of, and seeks comments on, the recertification of the Prince William Sound Regional Citizen's Advisory Council (PWSRCAC) for a period of March 1, 2026 through February 28, 2027. Under the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA 90), the Coast Guard may recertify the

PWSRCAC on an annual basis. This group monitors the activities of terminal facilities and crude oil tankers under the Prince William Sound program established by the OPA 90 statute. The current certification for the PWSRCAC will expire February 28, 2026.

DATES: Comments must be received by the Coast Guard on or before February 15, 2026.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by docket number USCG-2026-0070 at www.regulations.gov. See the "Public Participation and Request for Comments" portion of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for further instructions on submitting comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information about this document call or email LT Case Kuikhoven, United States Coast Guard Arctic District; telephone 907-463-2809, email case.a.kuikhoven@uscg.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Public Participation and Comments

We encourage you to submit comments (or related material) on the recertification of the PWSRCAC. We will consider all comments and material received during the comment period. If you submit a comment, please include the docket number for this notice, indicate the specific section of this document to which each comment applies, and provide a reason for each suggestion or recommendation.

Submitting comments. We encourage you to submit comments at www.regulations.gov. To do so, go to www.regulations.gov, type USCG-2026-0070 in the search box and click "Search." Next, look for this document in the Search Results column, and click on it. Then click on the Comment option. If you cannot submit your material using www.regulations.gov, contact the person in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document for alternate instructions.

Viewing material in docket. To view documents mentioned in this notice as being available in the docket, find the docket as described in the previous paragraph, and then select "Supporting & Related Material" in the Document Type column. Public comments will also be placed in our online docket and can be viewed by following instructions on the www.regulations.gov Frequently Asked Questions web page.

Personal information. We accept anonymous comments. Comments we post to www.regulations.gov will include any personal information you have provided. For more about privacy and submissions in response to this

document, see DHS's eRulemaking System of Records notice (85 FR 14226, March 11, 2020).

II. Background and Purpose

On December 31, 1992, the Coast Guard published Guidelines for Recertification of Alternative Voluntary Groups In Lieu of a Council (57 FR 62600) to assist groups seeking recertification under the Oil Terminal and Oil Tanker Environmental Oversight and Monitoring Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2732) (the OPA 90 Act). On July 7, 1993, the Coast Guard published a notice (58 FR 36504) identifying the factors that the Coast Guard would consider in making its determination as to whether advisory groups should be certified in accordance with the OPA 90 Act, and the procedures which the Coast Guard would follow in meeting its recertification responsibilities under the OPA 90 Act. On September 16, 2002, the Coast Guard published revised recertification procedure for alternative voluntary advisory groups established in lieu of councils (67 FR 58440). According to the revised procedures, an applicant alternative group requesting recertification is required to provide the Coast Guard with a comprehensive application once every 3 years (triennially). For each of the two years between the triennial application procedures, the applicant utilizes a streamlined process and submits a recertification application describing any substantive changes to the information provided at the previous triennial recertification. Public comment is only solicited during the triennial comprehensive review. 2026 is the year in this triennial cycle that PWSRCAC must provide comprehensive information.

The Coast Guard is accepting comments concerning the recertification of PWSRCAC. At the conclusion of the comment period on February 15, 2026, the Coast Guard will review all public comments received and will take one of the following actions:

(a) Recertify the PWSRCAC under 33 U.S.C. 2732(o);

(b) Issue a conditional recertification for a period of 90 days, with a statement of any discrepancies, which must be corrected to qualify for recertification for the remainder of the year; or

(c) Deny recertification of PWSRCAC if the Coast Guard finds that the group is not broadly representative of the interests and communities in the area or is not adequately fostering the goals and purposes of 33 U.S.C. 2732.

The Coast Guard will notify PWSRCAC by letter of the action taken on its application. A notice will be

published in the **Federal Register** to advise the public of the Coast Guard's determination.

R.R. Little,

*Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard, Commander,
United States Coast Guard Arctic District.*

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[Docket No. FWS-R7-ES-2025-1100;
FXES11607MRG01-256-FF07CMM00]

Marine Mammals; Proposed Incidental Harassment Authorization for Polar Bears in the Beaufort Sea and Arctic Ocean; Ice Exercise Activities by the U.S. Navy

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of application; proposed incidental harassment authorization; draft environmental assessment; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, in response to a request under the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (MMPA), as amended, from the U.S. Department of the Navy (Navy), propose to authorize nonlethal, incidental take by harassment of Southern Beaufort Sea polar bears (*Ursus maritimus*) from February 18, 2026, to April 18, 2026. The applicant requested this authorization for take by harassment that may result from activities associated with the mobilization, operation, and demobilization of a temporary ice camp, aircraft transportation, submarine training and testing, and research in the Beaufort Sea and Arctic Ocean. This proposed authorization, if finalized, would be for up to six takes of polar bears by Level B harassment only. No take by injury or mortality is requested, expected, or proposed to be authorized. The Navy's activities are considered military readiness activities pursuant to the MMPA. We invite comments on the proposed incidental harassment authorization and the accompanying draft environmental assessment from the public, Tribes, and local, State, and Federal agencies.

DATES: Comments must be received by March 4, 2026.

ADDRESSES:

Document Availability: You may view this proposed incidental harassment authorization, the application package, supplemental information, draft environmental assessment, and the list

of references cited herein at <https://www.regulations.gov> under Docket No. FWS-R7-ES-2025-1100. Alternatively, you may request these documents from the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Comment Submission: You may submit comments on the proposed authorization by one of the following methods:

- **Electronic submission:** Go to the Federal eRulemaking Portal: <https://www.regulations.gov>. In the Search box, enter FWS-R7-ES-2025-1100, which is the docket number for this rulemaking action. Then, click on the "Search" button. On the resulting page, in the panel on the left side of the screen under the "Document Type" heading, check the Notice box to locate this document. You may submit a comment by clicking on "Comment." Comments must be submitted to <https://www.regulations.gov> before 11:59 p.m. (Eastern Time) on the date specified in **DATES**.

- **U.S. mail:** Public Comments Processing, Attn: Docket No. FWS-R7-ES-2025-1100, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, MS: PRB (JAO/3W), 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041-3803.

We request that you send comments only by the methods described above. We will post all comments at <https://www.regulations.gov>. You may request that we withhold personal identifying information from public review; however, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. See Request for Public Comments for more information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Stephanie Burgess, by email at rmmmregulatory@fws.gov, by telephone at 907-786-3800, or by U.S. mail at U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, MS 341, 1011 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, AK 99503. Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Section 101(a)(5)(D) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (MMPA; 16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), as amended by the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2004 (Pub. L. 108-136), authorizes the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) to

allow, upon request for military readiness activities, the incidental, but not intentional, taking by harassment of marine mammals during a period of not more than 1 year. The Secretary has delegated authority for implementation of the MMPA to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS or we). The FWS shall allow this incidental taking by harassment if we make findings that the total of such taking for the period of up to 1 year:

(1) will have a negligible impact on the species or stock; and

(2) will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of the species or stock for taking for subsistence use by Alaska Natives.

If the requisite findings are made, we issue an authorization that sets forth the following, where applicable:

(a) permissible methods of taking;

(b) means of effecting the least practicable adverse impact on the species or stock and its habitat and the availability of the species or stock for subsistence uses; and

(c) requirements for monitoring and reporting of such taking by harassment, including, in certain circumstances, requirements for the independent peer review of proposed monitoring plans or other research proposals.

The term "take" means to harass, hunt, capture, or kill, or attempt to harass, hunt, capture, or kill, any marine mammal. "Harassment" for military readiness activities means any act that injures or has the significant potential to injure a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild (the MMPA defines this as "Level A harassment"), or (ii) any act that disturbs or is likely to disturb a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild by causing disruption of natural behavioral patterns, including, but not limited to, migration, surfacing, nursing, breeding, feeding, or sheltering, to a point where such behavioral patterns are abandoned or significantly altered (the MMPA defines this as "Level B harassment").

The terms "negligible impact" and "unmitigable adverse impact" are defined in 50 CFR 18.27 (*i.e.*, regulations governing small takes of marine mammals incidental to specified activities) as follows: "Negligible impact" is an impact resulting from the specified activity that cannot be reasonably expected to, and is not reasonably likely to, adversely affect the species or stock through effects on annual rates of recruitment or survival. "Unmitigable adverse impact" means an impact resulting from the specified activity: (1) that is likely to reduce the availability of the species to a level insufficient for a harvest to meet