

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**40 CFR Part 63**

[EPA-HQ-OAR-2016-0243; FRL-5185.1-03-OAR]

RIN 2060-AV56

National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Plywood and Composite Wood Products; Extension of Comment Period**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).**ACTION:** Proposed rule; extension of public comment period.

SUMMARY: On May 18, 2023, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed a rule titled “National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Plywood and Composite Wood Products.” The EPA is extending the comment period on this proposed rule that currently closes on July 3, 2023, by 15 days. The comment period will now remain open until July 18, 2023, to allow additional time for stakeholders to review and comment on the proposal.

DATES: The public comment period for the proposed rule published in the *Federal Register* (FR) on May 18, 2023 (88 FR 31856), originally ending July 3, 2023, is being extended by 15 days. Written comments must be received on or before July 18, 2023.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2016-0243, by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <https://www.regulations.gov/> (our preferred method). Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

- *Email:* a-and-r-docket@epa.gov. Include Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2016-0243 in the subject line of the message.

- *Fax:* (202) 566-9744. Attention Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2016-0243.

- *Mail:* U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, EPA Docket Center, Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2016-0243, Mail Code 28221T, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20460.

- *Hand Delivery or Courier (by scheduled appointment only):* EPA Docket Center, WJC West Building, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20004. The Docket Center’s hours of operation are 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Monday–Friday (except Federal holidays).

Instructions. All submissions received must include the Docket ID No. for this

rulemaking. Comments received may be posted without change to <https://www.regulations.gov/>, including any personal information provided. For detailed instructions on sending comments and additional information on the rulemaking process, see the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions about this action, contact Ms. Katie Hanks, Sector Policies and Programs Division (E143-03), Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27711; telephone number: (919) 541-2159; and email address: hanks.katie@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Rationale. On May 18, 2023, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed a rule titled “National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Plywood and Composite Wood Products.” 88 FR 31856. The comment period on this proposed rule currently closes on July 3, 2023. The EPA has received numerous requests for additional time to review and comment on this proposed rule. The EPA has decided to extend the period by 15 days. The public comment period will now end on July 18, 2023.

Docket. The EPA has established a docket for this rulemaking under Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2016-0243. All documents in the docket are listed in <https://www.regulations.gov/>. Although listed, some information is not publicly available, e.g., Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Certain other material, such as copyrighted material, is not placed on the internet and will be publicly available only in hard copy. With the exception of such material, publicly available docket materials are available electronically in *Regulations.gov*.

Instructions. Direct your comments to Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2016-0243. The EPA’s policy is that all comments received will be included in the public docket without change and may be made available online at <https://www.regulations.gov/>, including any personal information provided, unless the comment includes information claimed to be CBI or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Do not submit electronically to <https://www.regulations.gov/> any information that you consider to be CBI or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. This type of information should be submitted as discussed below.

The EPA may publish any comment received to its public docket. Multimedia submissions (audio, video, etc.) must be accompanied by a written comment. The written comment is considered the official comment and should include discussion of all points you wish to make. The EPA will generally not consider comments or comment contents located outside of the primary submission (i.e., on the Web, cloud, or other file sharing system). For additional submission methods, the full EPA public comment policy, information about CBI or multimedia submissions, and general guidance on making effective comments, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/dockets/commenting-epa-dockets>.

The <https://www.regulations.gov> website allows you to submit your comment anonymously, which means the EPA will not know your identity or contact information unless you provide it in the body of your comment. If you send an email comment directly to the EPA without going through <https://www.regulations.gov/>, your email address will be automatically captured and included as part of the comment that is placed in the public docket and made available on the internet. If you submit an electronic comment, the EPA recommends that you include your name and other contact information in the body of your comment and with any digital storage media you submit. If the EPA cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties and cannot contact you for clarification, the EPA may not be able to consider your comment. Electronic files should not include special characters or any form of encryption and be free of any defects or viruses. For additional information about the EPA’s public docket, visit the EPA Docket Center homepage at <https://www.epa.gov/dockets>.

Submitting CBI. Do not submit information containing CBI to the EPA through <https://www.regulations.gov/>. Clearly mark the part or all of the information that you claim to be CBI. For CBI information on any digital storage media that you mail to the EPA, note the docket ID, mark the outside of the digital storage media as CBI, and identify electronically within the digital storage media the specific information that is claimed as CBI. In addition to one complete version of the comments that includes information claimed as CBI, you must submit a copy of the comments that does not contain the information claimed as CBI directly to the public docket through the procedures outlined in instructions above. If you submit any digital storage media that does not contain CBI, mark

the outside of the digital storage media clearly that it does not contain CBI and note the docket ID. Information not marked as CBI will be included in the public docket and the EPA's electronic public docket without prior notice. Information marked as CBI will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 2.

Our preferred method to receive CBI is for it to be transmitted electronically using email attachments, File Transfer Protocol (FTP), or other online file sharing services (e.g., Dropbox, OneDrive, Google Drive). Electronic submissions must be transmitted directly to the OAQPS CBI Office at the email address oaqpscbi@epa.gov, and as described above, should include clear CBI markings and note the docket ID. If assistance is needed with submitting large electronic files that exceed the file size limit for email attachments, and if you do not have your own file sharing service, please email oaqpscbi@epa.gov to request a file transfer link. If sending CBI information through the postal service, please send it to the following address: OAQPS Document Control Officer (C404-02), OAQPS, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27711, Attention Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2016-0243. The mailed CBI material should be double wrapped and clearly marked. Any CBI markings should not show through the outer envelope.

Penny Lassiter,

Director, Sector Policies and Programs Division.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 216

[RTID 0648-XC749]

Draft Conservation Plan for the Eastern Pacific Stock of Northern Fur Seal (Laaqudan)

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

ACTION: Notice of availability; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) announces the availability for public comment the draft

Conservation Plan for the Eastern Pacific Stock of Northern Fur Seal (Laaqudan) (Conservation Plan). The Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) requires the Secretary of Commerce to develop a northern fur seal conservation plan for the purpose of conserving and restoring the species or stock to its optimum sustainable population. Accordingly, NMFS published its first conservation plan for the Pribilof Islands population in 1993 and a revised version in 2007. This current revision is required to include the latest research and management changes for the Eastern Pacific stock of northern fur seals (formerly the Pribilof Islands population).

DATES: Comments and information must be received by August 11, 2023.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments on this document, identified by NOAA-NMFS-2023-0024, by any of the following methods:

- **Electronic Submission:** Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and enter NOAA-NMFS-2023-0024 in the Search box. Click the "Comment Now!" icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments.

- **Instructions:** Comments sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the end of the comment period, may not be considered by NMFS. All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted for public viewing on www.regulations.gov without change. All personal identifying information (e.g., name, address), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the sender will be publicly accessible. NMFS will accept anonymous comments (enter "N/A" in the required fields if you wish to remain anonymous).

Electronic copies of the draft Conservation Plan for the Eastern Pacific Stock of Northern Fur Seal (Laaqudan) are available at: <https://www.regulations.gov/docket/NOAA-NMFS-2023-0024>, can be sent via email, or the NMFS Alaska Region website: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/species/northern-fur-seal#conservation-management>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michael Williams, NMFS Alaska Region, 907-271-5117, michael.williams@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Eastern Pacific (formerly Pribilof) stock of northern fur seals was listed as

depleted under the MMPA on June 17, 1988, because the population had declined by over 50 percent from the highest population levels estimated in the 1940s and early 1950s (53 FR 17888, May 18, 1988). NMFS developed a Conservation Plan to conserve and restore the stock to its optimum sustainable population (OSP), which is defined as a population size within a range of population sizes from the largest supportable within the ecosystem (i.e., carrying capacity) to a level that results in maximum net productivity (50 CFR 216.3). The first Conservation Plan was published in 1993 and a revised version was published in 2007.

Overall, the stock has continued to decline at about 2 percent per year since the depleted listing, and differences exist in trends in abundance and ecology among St. Paul, St. George, and Bogoslof islands and rookery complexes. Preliminary estimates of age class survival rates since 2010 are similar for both St. Paul and St. George islands; however, since trends in abundance are significantly different (i.e., declining on St. Paul and increasing on St. George) our assumptions regarding site fidelity, emigration, and detection are biased and we are investigating corrections.

Mapping fur seal use of Bering Sea marine foraging areas, characterizing diving, and estimating diet are new additions to the draft Conservation Plan. Improved estimates of fur seal consumption of commercially important prey like pollock, age-specific growth, and bioenergetics have increased the accuracy of ecosystem models to characterize fur seal and prey population dynamics. These new model results have the opportunity to advance ecosystem-based fisheries management to include fur seals where appropriate. Based on these recent model results, it is estimated that the northern fur seal population is one of the top four natural predators of pollock biomass, and consumes both 0-2 year old and 3+ year old pollock. The extent of competition with the pollock fisheries is uncertain due to the spatial segregation of foraging fur seals among the islands, rookery complexes, and in-season changes in the distribution of various segments of the commercial pollock fleet.

Another notable revision to this draft Conservation Plan is the reflection of recent subsistence use regulation changes and the evolution of tribal co-management relationships. The Conservation Plan revision includes valuable input and contributions from the Aleut Community of St. Paul Island and the Traditional Council of St.