

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Forest Service****36 CFR Part 242****DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Fish and Wildlife Service****50 CFR Part 100**

[Docket No. FWS-R7-SM-2023-0214;
FXFR13350700640-245-FF07J00000]

RIN 1018-BH14

**Subsistence Management Regulations
for Public Lands in Alaska—2025–26
and 2026–27 Subsistence Taking of
Fish and Shellfish Regulations**

AGENCIES: Forest Service, Agriculture;
Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: This proposed rule revises regulations for fish and shellfish seasons, harvest limits, methods, and means related to taking of fish and shellfish for subsistence uses during the 2025–2026 and 2026–2027 regulatory years. The Federal Subsistence Board (hereafter referred to as “the Board”) is on a schedule of completing the process of revising subsistence taking of fish and shellfish regulations in odd-numbered years and subsistence taking of wildlife regulations in even-numbered years; public proposal and review processes take place during the preceding year. The Board also addresses customary and traditional use determinations during the applicable cycle. When final, the resulting rulemaking replaces the existing subsistence fish and shellfish taking regulations. This proposed rule may also amend the general regulations on subsistence taking of fish and wildlife.

DATES:

Public meetings: The Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils (hereafter referred to as “the Councils”) will receive comments and make proposals to change this proposed rule at the concurrent sessions during a joint All-Council public meeting March 5–8, 2024, in Anchorage. The Councils will hold another round of public meetings to discuss and receive comments on the proposals and make recommendations on the proposals to the Board on several dates between August 19 and November 1, 2024 (see Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council Meetings for 2024; 89 FR 10095; February 13, 2024). The Board will discuss and evaluate proposed regulatory changes during a public meeting in Anchorage, Alaska, in

January 2025. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific information on dates and locations of the public meetings.

Public comments: Comments and proposals to change this proposed rule must be received or postmarked by May 21, 2024.

ADDRESSES: *Public meetings:* The Board and the Councils’ public meetings are held at various locations in Alaska. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific information on dates and locations of the public meetings.

Public comments: You may submit comments by one of the following methods:

- *Electronically:* Go to the Federal eRulemaking Portal: <https://www.regulations.gov>. In the Search box, enter Docket number FWS-R7-SM-2023-0214. Then, click on the Search button. On the resulting page, in the Search panel on the left side of the screen, under the Document Type heading, check the Proposed Rule box to locate this document. You may submit a comment by clicking on “Comment.”

- *By hard copy:* Submit by U.S. mail or hand delivery: Public Comments Processing, Attn: FWS-R7-SM-2023-0214; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; 5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: PRB (JAO/3W); Falls Church, VA 22041-3803. If in-person meetings are held, you may also deliver a hard copy to the Designated Federal Officer attending any of the Councils’ public meetings. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for additional information on locations of the public meetings.

We will post all comments on <https://www.regulations.gov>. This generally means that we will post any personal information you provide us (see the Public Review Process section below for more information).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Chair, Federal Subsistence Board, c/o U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Attention: Acting Assistant Regional Director, Office of Subsistence Management; (907) 786-3888 or subsistence@fws.gov. For questions specific to National Forest System lands, contact Gregory Risdahl, Regional Subsistence Program Leader, USDA, Forest Service, Alaska Region; (907) 302-7354 or gregory.risdahl@usda.gov. In compliance with the Providing Accountability Through Transparency Act of 2023, please see Docket No. FWS-R7-SM-2023-0214 on <https://www.regulations.gov> for a document that summarizes this proposed rule.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Under title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) (16 U.S.C. 3111–3126), the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture (hereafter referred to as “the Secretaries”) jointly implement the Federal Subsistence Management Program (hereafter referred to as “the Program”). The Program provides a preference for take of fish and wildlife resources for subsistence uses on Federal public lands and waters in Alaska. Only Alaska residents of areas identified as rural are eligible to participate in the Program. The Secretaries published temporary regulations to carry out the Program in the **Federal Register** on June 29, 1990 (55 FR 27114), and final regulations on May 29, 1992 (57 FR 22940). Program officials have subsequently amended these regulations a number of times. Because the Program is a joint effort between the Departments of the Interior and Agriculture, these regulations are located in two titles of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR): The Agriculture regulations are at title 36, “Parks, Forests, and Public Property,” and the Interior regulations are at title 50, “Wildlife and Fisheries,” at 36 CFR 242.1 through 242.28 and 50 CFR 100.1 through 100.28, respectively. Consequently, to indicate that identical changes are proposed for regulations in both titles 36 and 50, in this document we will present references to specific sections of the CFR as shown in the following example: § ___.24.

The Program regulations contain subparts as follows: subpart A (General Provisions); subpart B (Program Structure); subpart C (Board Determinations); and subpart D (Subsistence Taking of Fish and Wildlife). Consistent with subpart B of these regulations, the Secretaries established a Federal Subsistence Board (hereafter referred to as “the Board”) to administer the Program. The Board comprises:

- A Chair appointed by the Secretary of the Interior with concurrence of the Secretary of Agriculture;
- The Alaska Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service;
- The Alaska Regional Director, National Park Service;
- The Alaska State Director, Bureau of Land Management;
- The Alaska Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs;
- The Alaska Regional Forester, U.S. Forest Service; and
- Two public members appointed by the Secretary of the Interior with concurrence of the Secretary of Agriculture.

Through the Board, these agencies and public members participate in the development of regulations for subparts C and D. Subpart C sets forth important Board determinations regarding program eligibility, *i.e.*, which areas of Alaska are considered rural and which species are harvested in those areas as part of a “customary and traditional use” for subsistence purposes. Subpart D sets forth specific harvest seasons and limits.

In administering the Program, the Secretaries divided Alaska into 10 subsistence resource regions, each of which is represented by a Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Council (hereafter referred to as “the Council(s)”). The Councils provide a forum for rural residents with personal knowledge of local conditions and resource requirements to have a meaningful role in the subsistence

management of fish and wildlife on Federal public lands in Alaska. The Council members represent varied geographical, cultural, and user interests within each region.

Public Review Process—Comments, Proposals, and Public Meetings

The Councils have a substantial role in reviewing this proposed rule and making recommendations for the final rule. The Board, through the Councils, will hold public meetings in person and via teleconference on this proposed rule during individual Council breakout sessions at the Joint Regional Advisory Council meeting to be held in Anchorage, Alaska, on March 5–8, 2024. A public notice of specific dates and times, call-in number(s), and how to participate and provide public testimony will be published in local and statewide newspapers, announced in

radio ads, and posted to the Program web page and social media at least 2 weeks prior to the March 5–8, 2024, public meeting.

After the comment period concludes, the written proposals to change the regulations at subpart D, take of fish and shellfish, and subpart C, customary and traditional use, will be compiled and distributed for public review. Written public comments will be accepted on the distributed proposals during a second 30-day public comment period, which will be announced in statewide newspaper and radio ads and posted to the Program web page and social media. The Board, through the Councils, will hold a second series of public meetings August 19 through November 1, 2024, to receive comments on specific proposals and to develop recommendations to the Board on the following dates:

TABLE 1—FALL 2024 MEETINGS OF THE FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCILS

Regional advisory council	Dates	Location
Southeast Alaska—Region 1	October 22–24	Ketchikan.
Southcentral Alaska—Region 2	October 10–11	Anchorage.
Kodiak/Aleutians—Region 3	September 4–6	Unalaska.
Bristol Bay—Region 4	October 29–30	Dillingham.
Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta—Region 5	August 27–29	Bethel.
Western Interior—Region 6	October 2–3	Galena.
Seward Peninsula—Region 7	October 24–25	Nome.
Northwest Arctic—Region 8	October 28–29	Kotzebue.
Eastern Interior—Region 9	October 8–10	Tanana.
North Slope—Region 10	August 19–20	Utqiagvik.

A public notice of specific dates, times, call-in number(s), and how to participate and provide public testimony will be published in local and statewide newspapers, announced in radio ads, and posted to the Program web page and social media at least 2 weeks prior to each meeting. The amount of work on each Council’s agenda determines the length of each Council’s meeting, but typically the meetings are scheduled to last 2 days. Occasionally a Council will lack information necessary during a scheduled meeting to make a recommendation to the Board or to provide comments on other matters affecting subsistence in the region. If this situation occurs, the Council may announce on the record a later teleconference to address the specific issue when the requested information or data is available; it is noted that any followup teleconference would be an exception and must be approved, in advance, by the Assistant Regional Director for the Office of Subsistence Management. These teleconferences are open to the public, along with opportunities for public comment; the

date and time will be announced during the scheduled meeting, and that same information will be announced through news releases and local radio, newspaper, Program web page, and social media ads.

The Board will discuss and evaluate proposed changes to the subsistence management regulations during a public meeting scheduled to be held in Anchorage, Alaska, in January 2025. The Council Chairs, or their designated representatives, will present their respective Councils’ recommendations at the Board meeting. Additional oral testimony may be provided on specific proposals before the Board at that time. At that public meeting, the Board will deliberate and take final action on proposals received that request changes to this proposed rule.

Proposals to the Board to modify the general fish and wildlife regulations, fish and shellfish harvest regulations, and customary and traditional use determinations must include the following information:

a. Name, address, and telephone number of the requestor;

b. Each section and/or paragraph designation in the current regulations for which changes are suggested, if applicable;

c. A description of the regulatory change(s) desired;

d. A statement explaining why each change is necessary;

e. Proposed wording changes; and

f. Any additional information that you believe will help the Board in evaluating the proposed change.

The Board will immediately reject proposals that fail to include the above information, or proposals that are beyond the scope of authorities in § ____.24 of subpart C (the regulations governing customary and traditional use), and §§ ____.25, ____.27, and ____.28 of subpart D (the general and specific regulations governing the subsistence take of fish and shellfish). If a proposal needs clarification, prior to being distributed for public review, the proponent may be contacted, and the proposal could be revised based on their input. Once a proposal is distributed for public review, no additional changes may be made as part of the original submission. During the January 2025

meeting, the Board may defer review and action on some proposals to allow time for cooperative planning efforts or to acquire additional needed information. The Board may elect to defer taking action on any given proposal if the workload of staff, Councils, or the Board becomes excessive. These deferrals may be based on recommendations by the affected Council(s) or staff members, or on the basis of the Board’s intention to do least harm to the subsistence user and the resource involved. A proponent of a proposal may withdraw the proposal, provided that it has not been considered, and a recommendation has not been made, by a Council. The Board may consider and act on alternatives that address the intent of a proposal while differing in approach.

You may submit written comments and materials concerning this proposed rule by one of the methods listed in **ADDRESSES**. If you submit a comment via <https://www.regulations.gov>, your entire comment, including any personally identifiable information, will be posted on the Program’s web page. If you submit a hardcopy comment that includes personally identifiable information, you may request at the top of your document that we withhold this information from public review. However, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. We will post all hardcopy comments on <https://www.regulations.gov>.

Comments and materials we receive, as well as supporting documentation we used in preparing this proposed rule, will be available for public inspection on <https://www.regulations.gov> at Docket No. FWS–R7–SM–2023–0214, or by appointment, provided no public health or safety restrictions are in effect, between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays, at: USFWS, Office of Subsistence Management, 1011 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, AK 99503.

Reasonable Accommodations

The Board is committed to providing access to these meetings for all

participants. Please direct all requests for sign language interpreting services, closed captioning, or other accommodation needs to Robbin La Vine, 907–786–3888, subsistence@fws.gov, or 800–877–8339 (TTY), 7 business days prior to the meeting you would like to attend.

Tribal Consultation and Comment

As expressed in Executive Order 13175, “Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments,” the Federal officials that have been delegated authority by the Secretaries are committed to honoring the unique government-to-government political relationship that exists between the Federal Government and Federally Recognized Indian Tribes (herein after referred to as “Tribes”) as listed in 82 FR 4915 (January 17, 2017). Consultation with Alaska Native corporations is based on Public Law 108–199, div. H, Sec. 161, Jan. 23, 2004, 118 Stat. 452, as amended by Public Law 108–447, div. H, title V, Sec. 518, Dec. 8, 2004, 118 Stat. 3267, which provides that: “The Director of the Office of Management and Budget and all Federal agencies shall hereafter consult with Alaska Native corporations on the same basis as Indian tribes under Executive Order No. 13175.”

The Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act does not provide specific rights to Tribes for the subsistence taking of wildlife, fish, and shellfish. However, because Tribal members are affected by subsistence fishing, hunting, and trapping regulations, the Secretaries, through the Board, will provide Tribes and Alaska Native corporations an opportunity to consult on this proposed rule.

The Board will engage in outreach efforts for this proposed rule, including a notification letter, to ensure that Tribes and Alaska Native corporations are advised of the mechanisms by which they can participate. The Board provides a variety of opportunities for consultation: proposing changes to the existing regulations; commenting on proposed changes to the existing

regulations; engaging in dialogue at the Council meetings; engaging in dialogue at the Board’s meetings; and providing input in person, by mail, email, or phone at any time during the rulemaking process. The Board will commit to efficiently and adequately providing an opportunity to Tribes and Alaska Native corporations for consultation regarding subsistence rulemaking.

The Board will consider Tribes’ and Alaska Native corporations’ information, input, and recommendations, and address their concerns as much as practicable.

Developing the 2025–26 and 2026–27 Fish and Shellfish Seasons and Harvest Limit Proposed Regulations

In titles 36 and 50 of the CFR, the subparts C and D regulations are subject to periodic review and revision. The Board currently completes the process of revising subsistence take of fish and shellfish regulations in odd-numbered years and wildlife regulations in even-numbered years; public proposal and review processes take place during the preceding year. The Board also addresses customary and traditional use determinations during the applicable cycle. Nonrural determinations are taken up during every other fish and shellfish cycle, beginning in 2018.

The Board reviews closures to the take of fish/shellfish and wildlife during each applicable cycle on a rotating schedule. The following table lists the current closures being reviewed for this cycle. When reviewing a closure, the Board may maintain, modify, or rescind the closure. If a closure is rescinded, the regulations will revert to the existing regulations in place prior to the closure, or if no regulations were in place, any changes or the establishment of seasons, methods and means, and harvest limits must go through the full public review process. The public is encouraged to comment on these closures, and anyone recommending that a closure be rescinded should submit a proposal to establish regulations for the area that was closed.

TABLE 2—FISH AND SHELLFISH CLOSURES TO BE REVIEWED BY THE FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE BOARD FOR THE 2025–2026 AND 2026–2027 REGULATORY YEARS

Fishery management area	Closure area
Norton Sound—Port Clarence Area	Unalakleet River upstream of the confluence of Chirokey River (Chinook Salmon).
Yukon/Northern Area	Delta River (all fish).
Yukon/Northern Area	Nome Creek (Arctic Grayling).
Southeastern Alaska Area	Makhnati Island (Herring).

The current subsistence program regulations form the starting point for consideration during each new rulemaking cycle. Consequently, in this rulemaking action pertaining to fish and shellfish, the Board will consider proposals to revise the regulations in any of the following sections of titles 36 and 50 of the CFR:

- Section _____.24: customary and traditional use determinations;
- Section _____.25: general provisions governing the subsistence take of wildlife, fish, and shellfish;
- Section _____.27: specific provisions governing the subsistence take of fish; and
- Section _____.28: specific provisions governing the subsistence take of shellfish.

As such, the text of the proposed 2025–2027 subparts C and D subsistence regulations in titles 36 and 50 is the combined text of previously issued rules that revised these sections of the regulations. The following **Federal Register** citations show when these CFR sections were last revised. Therefore, the regulations established by these four final rules constitute the text of this proposed rule:

The text of the proposed amendments to 36 CFR 242.24 and 242.27 and 50 CFR 100.24 and 100.27 is the final rule for the 2023–2025 regulatory period for fish (89 FR 14746; February 29, 2024).

The text of the proposed amendments to 36 CFR 242.25 and 50 CFR 100.25 is the final rule for the 2022–2024 regulatory period for wildlife (87 FR 44858; July 26, 2022).

The text of the proposed amendments to 36 CFR 242.28 and 50 CFR 100.28 is the final rule for the 2011–13 regulatory period for shellfish (76 FR 12564; March 8, 2011).

These regulations will remain in effect until subsequent Board action changes elements as a result of the public review process outlined above in this document and a final rule is published.

Compliance With Statutory and Regulatory Authorities

National Environmental Policy Act

A Draft Environmental Impact Statement that described four alternatives for developing a Federal Subsistence Management Program was distributed for public comment on October 7, 1991. The Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) was published on February 28, 1992. The Record of Decision (ROD) on Subsistence Management for Federal Public Lands in Alaska was signed April 6, 1992. The selected alternative in the

FEIS (Alternative IV) defined the administrative framework of an annual regulatory cycle for subsistence regulations.

A 1997 environmental assessment dealt with the expansion of Federal jurisdiction over fisheries and is available at the office listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. The Secretary of the Interior, with concurrence of the Secretary of Agriculture, determined that expansion of Federal jurisdiction does not constitute a major Federal action significantly affecting the human environment and; therefore, signed a Finding of No Significant Impact.

Section 810 of ANILCA

An ANILCA section 810 analysis was completed as part of the FEIS process on the Federal Subsistence Management Program. The intent of all Federal subsistence regulations is to accord subsistence uses of fish and wildlife on public lands a priority over the taking of fish and wildlife on such lands for other purposes, unless restriction is necessary to conserve healthy fish and wildlife populations. The final section 810 analysis determination appeared in the April 6, 1992, ROD and concluded that the Federal Subsistence Management Program, under Alternative IV with an annual process for setting subsistence regulations, may have some local impacts on subsistence uses, but will not likely restrict subsistence uses significantly.

During the subsequent environmental assessment process for extending fisheries jurisdiction, an evaluation of the effects of the subsistence program regulations was conducted in accordance with section 810. This evaluation also supported the Secretaries' determination that the regulations will not reach the "may significantly restrict" threshold that would require notice and hearings under ANILCA section 810(a).

Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA)

This proposed rule does not contain any new collections of information that require Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval under the PRA (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*). OMB has reviewed and approved the collections of information associated with the subsistence regulations at 36 CFR part 242 and 50 CFR part 100 and assigned OMB Control Number 1018–0075. We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. This control number has an expiration date of 01/31/2024; in accordance with

regulations at 5 CFR part 1320, the Service is authorized to continue sponsoring the collection while the submission is pending at OMB.

Regulatory Planning and Review (Executive Orders 12866, 13563, and 14094)

Executive Order 14094 reaffirms the principles of E.O. 12866 and E.O. 13563 and states that regulatory analysis should facilitate agency efforts to develop regulations that serve the public interest, advance statutory objectives, and are consistent with E.O. 12866, E.O. 13563, and the Presidential Memorandum of January 20, 2021 (Modernizing Regulatory Review). Regulatory analysis, as practicable and appropriate, shall recognize distributive impacts and equity, to the extent permitted by law. E.O. 13563 emphasizes further that regulations must be based on the best available science and that the rulemaking process must allow for public participation and an open exchange of ideas. We have developed this proposed rule in a manner consistent with these requirements.

E.O. 12866, as reaffirmed by E.O. 13563 and E.O. 14094, provides that the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) in OMB will review all significant rules. OIRA has determined that this proposed rule is not significant.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980 (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*) requires preparation of flexibility analyses for rules that will have a significant effect on a substantial number of small entities, which include small businesses, organizations, or governmental jurisdictions. In general, the resources to be harvested under this proposed rule are already being harvested and consumed by the local harvester and do not result in an additional dollar benefit to the economy. However, we estimate that two million pounds of meat are harvested by subsistence users annually and, if given an estimated dollar value of \$3.00 per pound, this amount would equate to about \$6 million in food value statewide. Based upon the amounts and values cited above, the Departments certify that this rulemaking will not have a significant economic effect on a substantial number of small entities within the meaning of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act

Under the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act (5 U.S.C. 801

et seq.), this proposed rule is not a major rule. It will not have an effect on the economy of \$100 million or more, will not cause a major increase in costs or prices for consumers, and will not have significant adverse effects on competition, employment, investment, productivity, innovation, or the ability of U.S.-based enterprises to compete with foreign-based enterprises.

Executive Order 12630

Title VIII of ANILCA requires the Secretaries to administer a subsistence priority on Federal public lands and waters. The scope of this program is limited by definition to certain public lands. Likewise, these proposed regulations have no potential takings of private property implications as defined by Executive Order 12630.

Unfunded Mandates Reform Act

The Secretaries have determined and certify pursuant to the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act, 2 U.S.C. 1502 *et seq.*, that this proposed rulemaking will not impose a cost of \$100 million or more in any given year on local or State governments or private entities. This proposed rule will be implemented by Federal agencies with no cost imposed on any State or local entities or Tribal governments.

Executive Order 12988

The Secretaries have determined that these proposed regulations meet the applicable standards provided in sections 3(a) and 3(b)(2) of Executive Order 12988, regarding civil justice reform.

Executive Order 13132

In accordance with Executive Order 13132, the proposed rule does not have sufficient federalism implications to warrant the preparation of a federalism assessment. Title VIII of ANILCA precludes the State from exercising subsistence management authority over fish and wildlife resources on Federal lands unless it meets certain requirements.

Executive Order 13175

Title VIII of ANILCA does not provide specific rights to Tribes for the subsistence taking of wildlife, fish, and shellfish. However, as described above under *Tribal Consultation and Comment*, the Secretaries, through the Board, will provide federally recognized Tribes and Alaska Native corporations a variety of opportunities for consultation: commenting on proposed changes to the existing regulations; engaging in dialogue at the Regional Council meetings; engaging in dialogue at the

Board's meetings; and providing input in person, by mail, email, or phone at any time during the rulemaking process.

Executive Order 13211

This Executive order requires agencies to prepare statements of energy effects when undertaking certain actions. However, this proposed rule is not a significant regulatory action under E.O. 13211, affecting energy supply, distribution, or use, and no statement of energy effects is required.

Drafting Information

- Justin Koller drafted this proposed rule under the guidance of Amee Howard of the Office of Subsistence Management, Alaska Regional Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Anchorage, Alaska. Additional assistance was provided by:
 - Chris McKee, Alaska State Office, Bureau of Land Management;
 - Dr. Kim Jochum, Alaska Regional Office, National Park Service;
 - Dr. Glenn Chen, Alaska Regional Office, Bureau of Indian Affairs;
 - Jill Klein, Alaska Regional Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and
 - Gregory Risdahl, Alaska Regional Office, USDA–Forest Service.

List of Subjects

36 CFR Part 242

Administrative practice and procedure, Alaska, Fish, National forests, Public lands, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Wildlife.

50 CFR Part 100

Administrative practice and procedure, Alaska, Fish, National forests, Public lands, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Wildlife.

Proposed Regulation Promulgation

For the reasons set out in the preamble, the Federal Subsistence Board proposes to amend 36 CFR part 242 and 50 CFR part 100 for the 2025–26 and 2026–27 regulatory years.

The text of the proposed amendments to 36 CFR 242.24 and 242.27 and 50 CFR 100.24 and 100.27 matches the amendatory instructions in 89 FR 14746 (February 29, 2024) (which is the final rule for the 2023–2025 regulatory period for fish).

The text of the proposed amendments to 36 CFR 242.25 and 50 CFR 100.25 matches the amendatory instructions in 87 FR 44858 (July 26, 2022) (which is the final rule for the 2022–2024 regulatory period for wildlife).

The text of the proposed amendments to 36 CFR 242.28 and 50 CFR 100.28 matches the amendatory instructions in 76 FR 12564 (March 8, 2011) (which is

the final rule for the 2011–13 regulatory period for fish and shellfish).

Amee Howard,

Acting Assistant Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Gregory Risdahl,

Subsistence Program Leader, USDA–Forest Service.

[FR Doc. 2024–05821 Filed 3–21–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4333–15–P; 3411–15–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[EPA–R02–OAR–2020–0455; FRL–11807–01–R2]

Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; New York; Regional Haze State Implementation Plan for the Second Implementation Period

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing to approve the regional haze state implementation plan (SIP) submitted by the State of New York through the Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC or New York) on May 12, 2020, as satisfying applicable requirements under the Clean Air Act (CAA) and the EPA's Regional Haze Rule for the program's second implementation period. New York's SIP submission addresses the requirement that states must periodically revise their long-term strategies for making reasonable progress towards the national goal of preventing any future, and remedying any existing, anthropogenic impairment of visibility in mandatory Class I Federal areas, including regional haze. The SIP submission also addresses other applicable requirements for the second implementation period of the regional haze program. The EPA is taking this action pursuant to sections 110 and 169A of the Clean Air Act.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before April 22, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA–R02–OAR–2020–0455 at <https://www.regulations.gov>. Although listed in the index, some information is not publicly available, *e.g.*, Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI) (formally referred to as Confidential Business Information (CBI)) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Certain other material, such as