

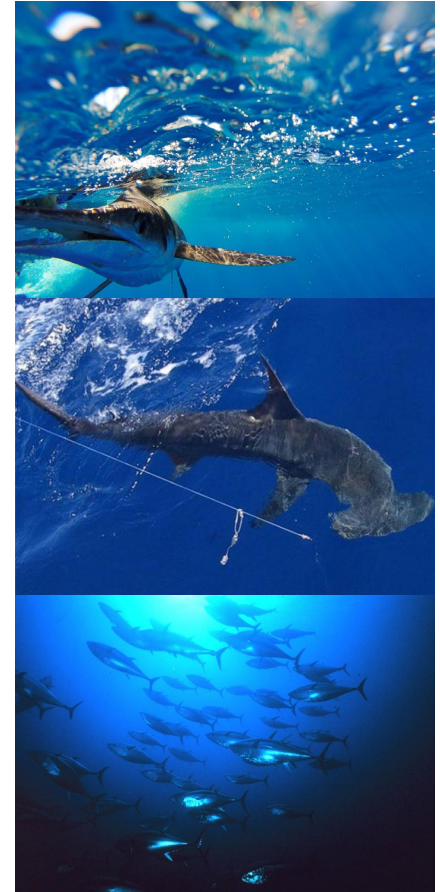


Executive Orders – Unleashing Prosperity Through Deregulation & Restoring America's Seafood Competitiveness

Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Management Division
Fall Advisory Panel Meeting
September 4, 2025

Outline

- Review Executive Orders (EOs):
 - [14192](#) - signed January 31, 2025
 - [14276](#) - signed April 17, 2025
- Review ideas provided to HMS staff since the EOs were signed
- Review list of rulemakings currently underway
- Listen and record additional suggestions and ideas



EO 14192 - Unleashing Prosperity Through Deregulation



- Purpose: “...to significantly reduce the private expenditures required to comply with Federal regulations...”
- Requires federal agencies to eliminate 10 existing regulations for every new one promulgated
 - This only applies to regulatory actions determined to be EO 12866 (Regulatory Planning and Review) “significant” by White House Office of Management and Budget
 - Note: the 10 deregulatory actions do not need to be “significant”
- Mandates that the total incremental cost of all new regulations be significantly less than zero (“net negative budget”)
- Similar to [EO 13771](#) (Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs) in effect during the last Trump administration

EO 14276 - Restoring America's Seafood Competitiveness - Purpose and Policy

“...address unfair trade practices, eliminate unsafe imports, level the unfair playing field that has benefited foreign fishing companies, promote ethical sourcing, reduce regulatory burdens, and ensure the integrity of the seafood supply chain.”

“...promote the productive harvest of our seafood resources; unburden our commercial fishermen from costly and inefficient regulation; combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing; and protect our seafood markets from the unfair trade practices of foreign nations.”



EO 14276 - Restoring America's Seafood Competitiveness - Request for recommendations

The EO specifically requests recommendations to do the following, consistent with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) and applicable laws:

- Reduce burdens on domestic fishing
- Increase production
- Stabilize markets
- Improve access
- Enhance economic profitability
- Prevent closures

Recommendations for Restoring American Seafood Competitiveness

- Consistent with EO 14276, NMFS is requesting comment on fishery-related regulatory barriers, fisheries management, science, and other priority needs identified in the EO designed to strengthen the Nation's seafood supply and competitiveness
- The comment period ends on 11:59 p.m. EDT on October 14, 2025
- Submit comments to nmfs.seafoodstrategy@noaa.gov; Include "E.O. 14276 Notice Response" in the subject line
- For more information see [90 FR 41818, 8/27/2025](#)

Summary of Requests/Recommendations Heard (to date)

Requests beyond 50 CFR part 635:

- Review, quantify, and assess the economic and other consequences of various HMS issues including the Shark Fin Sales Elimination Act and the bluefin tuna fishery
- Pursue increased U.S. quotas at the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)

Summary of Requests (cont'd)

Requests to Remove Regulations in 50 CFR part 635

- Eliminate the pelagic longline closed areas, particularly in the Gulf of America
- Eliminate the pelagic longline weak hook requirement in the Gulf of America
- Remove commercial retention limits for large coastal sharks for shark directed permit holders (or establish specific blacktip shark retention limits)

Summary of Requests (cont'd)

Requests to Add to, or Modify, Regulations in 50 CFR part 635:

- Permits
 - Allow commercial vessels to hold both an Atlantic Tunas General category and Atlantic Tunas Longline category permit
 - Allow pier-/shore-based individuals to apply for and use HMS permits
- Reporting
 - Establish and implement simple recreational data programs that can be easily operated using cell phone and AI technology
- Closed Areas
 - Modernize management approaches of closed areas

Summary of Requests (cont'd)

Additions or Modifications (cont'd) – Bluefin tuna-specific

- Change bluefin tuna tournament requirements for participants in the General category to prevent the market from flooding
- Modify approach to account for bluefin tuna overharvests by quota category and use a tag system to prevent future overharvests
- Allow pelagic longline fishermen to retain all dead (27"-73") bluefin tuna
- Set aside an individual bluefin tuna quota (IBQ) reserve for new entrants
- Allocate more bluefin tuna quota to the period of the year when the market is healthiest
- Increase the bluefin tuna minimum fish size (27")
- Modify the number of restricted-fishing days (RFDs)*, the overall RFD restrictions, and the possession requirements for bluefin tuna on RFDs

*For 2025, the codified three-day-per-week RFD schedule is in effect

RFDs: History of RFDs

- NOAA Fisheries set RFDs annually for 1995 through 2007 and 2021 to present
- For 2022 through 2023, NOAA Fisheries published final rules that set every Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday as RFDs from July 1 through November 30
- In 2024, NOAA Fisheries published a proposed rule that, among other things, proposed codifying every Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday as an RFD for 2024 and future years (87 FR 13667, February 23, 2024)
- Based on public comments received, NOAA Fisheries finalized codifying the Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday RFD schedule, and also added Sunday as a non-codified RFD for 2024 (87 FR 47095, May 31, 2024)
 - Limited time of 4th RFD provided opportunity to collect data on whether appropriate to have 4 RFDs in future years
- Following the May 2024 action, NOAA Fisheries received feedback ranging from approval to concern and surprise regarding the 4th RFD of Sunday
- For 2025, the codified three-day-per-week RFD schedule is in effect

RFDs: Emergency Petition Request

- On May 28, 2025, NOAA Fisheries received a petition requesting an MSA emergency action to increase the RFD schedule from three to four days and specifically to establish Sunday as the fourth RFD from July 1 through November 30, 2025
- On July 21, 2025, after reviewing the emergency criteria set in the agency's Guidelines for the Use of Emergency Rules under section 305(c), NOAA Fisheries denied the request for emergency action



Rulemakings currently underway

- Pending Final Rules or Actions
 - Amendment 15 (spatial management)
 - eReporting
- Some Pending Proposed Rules or Actions
 - Atlantic blacknose and recreational shark fishery considerations
 - Swordfish, albacore tuna, and bluefin tuna quota adjustments (to implement recent ICCAT recommendations)
 - Swordfish and shark limited access permit considerations
 - Fishing gear considerations (buoy gear, speargun, bait nets)
 - Pelagic and demersal indicator species list considerations
 - Amendment 16 (shark fishery updates)
 - Amendment 17 (essential fish habitat updates)

Request for Changes

We are looking for feedback on these and any other potential regulatory changes.

Specific requests should aim, consistent with the MSA and applicable laws, to:

- Reduce burdens on domestic fishing
- Increase production
- Stabilize markets
- Improve access
- Enhance economic profitability
- Prevent closures



NOAA
FISHERIES

Thank you!

