



March 19, 2026

MEMORANDUM FOR: Dr. Neil A. Jacobs
Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere
and NOAA Administrator
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Arthur L. Scott, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

FROM: Arthur L. Scott, Jr.
Assistant Inspector General for Audit and Evaluation

SUBJECT: Evaluation of NOAA's Class B Ship Design and Construction
Project No. 2026-537

We are initiating an evaluation of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Office of Marine and Aviation Operations Class B ship acquisition program. Our objective is to determine the extent to which NOAA has ensured that the contractor's design and construction of Class B ships has met contractual requirements.

We plan to begin this work immediately. We will contact your audit liaison to schedule an entrance conference, at which time we will discuss the specific nature of our evaluation with you, including our objective and scope, time frames, and any potential requests for data.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

