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Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1098a.

Dated: January 5, 2000.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number does not apply.)

Richard W. Riley,

Secretary of Education.

[FR Doc. 00-549 Filed 1-10-00; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[085-1085a; FRL-6517-8]

Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Kansas

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: EPA proposes to approve State Implementation Plan (SIP) revisions submitted by the state of Kansas. These revisions include revising and renumbering regulatory definitions, streamlining opacity requirements, expanding testing of gasoline delivery vehicles, and methods for calculating actual emissions.

In the final rules section of the **Federal Register**, EPA is approving the state's SIP revision as a direct final rule without prior proposal because the Agency views this as a noncontroversial revision amendment and anticipates no relevant adverse comments. A detailed rationale for the approval is set forth in the direct final rule. If no relevant adverse comments are received in response to this rule, no further activity is contemplated in relation to this rule. If EPA receives relevant adverse comments, the direct final rule will be withdrawn and all public comments received will be addressed in a subsequent final rule based on this proposed rule. EPA will not institute a second comment period on this action. Any parties interested in commenting on this action should do so at this time.

DATES: Comments must be received in writing by February 10, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to Christopher D. Hess, Environmental Protection Agency, Air Planning and Development Branch, 901 North 5th Street, Kansas City, Kansas 66101.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Hess at (913) 551-7213 or hess.christopher@epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: See the information provided in the direct final rule which is located in the rules section of the **Federal Register**.

Dated: November 29, 1999.

Dennis Grams, P.E.,

Regional Administrator, Region VII.

[FR Doc. 00-269 Filed 1-10-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

50 CFR Part 17

RIN 1018-AF56

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Notice of Reopening of Comment Period on the Proposed Rule To List the Alabama Sturgeon as Endangered

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Proposed rule; notice of reopening of comment period.

SUMMARY: We, the Fish and Wildlife Service, give notice that we are reopening the comment period on the proposed rule to list the Alabama sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus suttkusi*) as endangered. We are reopening the comment period to enter into the record

Dr. Stephen Fain's 1999 study, The Development of a DNA Procedure for the Forensic Identification of Caviar, and any comments we receive related specifically to the relationship of this study, as it pertains to the proposed listing of the Alabama sturgeon as endangered. We invite all interested parties to submit comments on this study as it relates to the proposed determination.

DATES: We will accept comments until February 10, 2000. We will consider any comments received by the closing date in the final decision on this proposal.

ADDRESSES: If you wish to comment, you may submit your comments by any one of several methods. You may mail or hand-deliver comments to the Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Mississippi Field Office, 6578 Dogwood View Parkway, Jackson, Mississippi 39213. You may also comment via the Internet to paulhartfield@fws.gov. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for comment procedures.

To obtain a copy of the aforementioned study, you can download or print one from <http://endangered.fws.gov/listing/index.htm> (under Announcements) or contact Kelly Bibb at 404/679-7132 (phone) or 404/679-7081 (facsimile) to receive a faxed or mailed copy.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul Hartfield (see **ADDRESSES** section), 601/321-1125; facsimile 601/965-4340.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Alabama sturgeon is a small freshwater sturgeon that was historically found only in the Mobile River Basin of Alabama and Mississippi. The Alabama sturgeon's historic range once included about 1,600 kilometers (km) (1,000 miles (mi)) of the Mobile River system in Alabama (Black Warrior, Tombigbee, Alabama, Coosa, Tallapoosa, Mobile, Tensaw, and Cahaba rivers) and Mississippi (Tombigbee River). Since 1985, all confirmed captures of this fish have been from a short, free-flowing reach of the Alabama River below Miller's Ferry and Claiborne Locks and Dams in Clarke, Monroe, and Wilcox counties, Alabama. The decline of the Alabama sturgeon is attributed to overfishing, loss and fragmentation of habitat as a result of historical navigation-related development, and water quality degradation. Current threats primarily result from its small population numbers and its inability to offset mortality rates with reproduction and recruitment.

On March 26, 1999, we published a rule proposing endangered status for the

Alabama sturgeon in the **Federal Register** (64 FR 14676). Section 4(b)(5)(E) of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) requires that we hold a public hearing if it is requested within 45 days of the publication of the proposed rule. Sheldon Morgan, Chairman, Alabama-Tombigbee Rivers Coalition, requested a public hearing within the allotted time period. On May 25, 1999, we published a notice in the **Federal Register** announcing a public hearing and extending the comment period until July 5, 1999 (64 FR 28142). We held a public hearing on June 24, 1999, at the Montgomery Civic Center in Montgomery, Alabama. We published another extension of the comment period on July 12, 1999 (64 FR 37492). While the proposed rule was out for comment, we received a wide range of comments on numerous issues which will be addressed in our final determination. The purpose of reopening the comment period through February 10, 2000, is to enter into the record Dr. Stephen Fain's 1999 study, The Development of a DNA Procedure for the Forensic Identification of Caviar, and any comments we receive that address the relationship of this study to the proposed listing of the Alabama sturgeon as endangered.

Public Comments Solicited

We intend that any final action resulting from this proposal will be as accurate and as effective as possible. Therefore, we request comments or suggestions from the public, other concerned governmental agencies, the scientific community, industry, or any other interested party concerning this study and its relation to the proposed rule. In making a final decision, we will take into consideration the comments we receive and their relationship to the proposed action. Such communications may lead to a final determination that differs from this proposal.

The previous comment period on this proposal closed on September 10, 1999. To allow all interested parties time to submit their comments for the record, we are reopening the comment period until February 10, 2000.

Please submit Internet comments as an ASCII file, avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Please also include "Attention: [Alabama sturgeon]" and your name and return address in your Internet message. If you do not receive a confirmation from the system that we have received your Internet message, contact us directly at the above address or by telephone at 601/965-4900. Finally, you

may hand-deliver comments to the above address. Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from the rulemaking record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. There also may be circumstances in which we would withhold from the rulemaking record a respondent's identity, as allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. However, we will not consider anonymous comments. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials or organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety. Comments and materials received will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the above address.

References Cited

Fain, S.R., J.P. Lemay, J. Shafer, R.M. Hoesch, and B.H. Hamlin. 1999. Unpublished report. National Fish and Wildlife Forensics Laboratory, Ashland, OR. 23 pp. with figures.

Author

The primary author of this notice is Paul Hartfield (see **ADDRESSES** section).

Authority

The authority for this action is the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Dated: January 4, 2000.

H. Dale Hall,

Acting Regional Director, Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 00-564 Filed 1-10-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 226

[I.D. 110599D]

RIN 0648-AL82

Designated Critical Habitat: Reproposed Critical Habitat for Johnson's Seagrass; Notice of Public Hearing

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

ACTION: Proposed rule; notice of public hearing.

SUMMARY: NMFS has scheduled an additional public hearing to be held on the proposed designation of critical habitat for threatened Johnson's seagrass.

DATES: The public hearing will be held from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on January 31, 2000.

ADDRESSES: The public hearing will be held in the Annex Building of NMFS' Southeast Fisheries Science Center, 75 Virginia Beach Drive, Miami, FL. A sign will be posted in the main lobby directing people to the building located to the left rear of the main building.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Layne Bolen, Panama City Laboratory, Protected Resources Division, NMFS, 850-234-6541 ext. 237, layne.bolen@noaa.gov, or Marta Nammack, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 301-713-1401, marta.nammack@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On December 2, 1999 (64 FR 67536), NMFS published a reproposed rule to designate critical habitat for Johnson's seagrass under the Endangered Species Act. Public comments were solicited, a public hearing was announced, and the comment period was set to expire on January 3, 2000. NMFS extended the public comment period to February 2, 2000 (65 FR 111, January 3, 2000), in order to provide at least 60 days for public comment following publication in the **Federal Register**. NMFS has now scheduled an additional public hearing (see **DATES** and **ADDRESSES**).

Dated: January 6, 2000.

Don Knowles,

Director, Office of Protected Resources.

[FR Doc. 00-629 Filed 1-10-00; 8:45 am]

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