

takes of adult and juvenile, threatened, Snake River fall chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) and juvenile, threatened, Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) associated with a study designed to determine the post-release attributes and survival of hatchery and natural fall chinook salmon in the Snake River. The study consists of eight assessment tasks: (1) Life cycle, (2) redd counts, (3) food and growth, (4) habitat use, (5) predation, (6) temperature response, (7) migratory behavior, and (8) race and residualism. Permit 1036 expires on December 31, 2001.

Notice was published on January 17, 1997 (62 FR 2657) that an application had been filed by ICFWRU (P497D) for modification 1 to scientific research permit 994. Modification 1 to permit 994 was issued to ICFWRU on April 2, 1997. Permit 994 authorizes ICFWRU annual takes of adult, threatened, Snake River spring/summer and fall chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) associated with a study designed to assess the passage success of migrating adult salmonids at the four dams and reservoirs in the lower Columbia River in the Pacific Northwest, to evaluate fish responses to specific flow and spill conditions, and to evaluate measures to improve fish passage. For modification 1, adult sockeye salmon will be included in the study, a percentage of which will be adult, endangered, Snake River sockeye salmon (*Oncorhynchus nerka*). Modification 1 is valid for the duration of the permit. Permit 994 expires on December 31, 2000.

Issuance of the permits and the modification to a permit, as required by the ESA, was based on a finding that such actions: (1) Were requested/proposed in good faith, (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of the ESA-listed species that are the subject of the permits, and (3) are consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA and the NMFS regulations governing ESA-listed species permits.

Dated: May 9, 1997.

Nancy Chu,

Chief, Endangered Species Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 050997C]

Endangered Species; Permits

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

ACTION: Issuance of modification 4 to permit 900 (P770#66), modification 3 to permit 946 (P770#68), and modification 2 to permit 914 (P770#67).

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that NMFS has issued modifications to three permits to the Coastal Zone and Estuarine Studies Division, Northwest Fisheries Science Center, NMFS at Seattle, WA (CZESD) that authorize takes of Endangered Species Act-listed species for the purpose of scientific research, subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

ADDRESSES: The applications and related documents are available for review in the following offices, by appointment:

Office of Protected Resources, F/PR3, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3226 (301-713-1401); and

Environmental and Technical Services Division, 525 NE Oregon Street, Suite 500, Portland, OR 97232-4169 (503-230-5400).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The modification to permits were issued under the authority of section 10 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543) and the NMFS regulations governing ESA-listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR parts 217-222).

Notice was published on February 28, 1997 (62 FR 9178) and March 7, 1997 (62 FR 10544) that an application had been filed by CZESD for modification 4 to scientific research permit 900 (P770#66). Modification 4 to permit 900 was issued to CZESD on April 18, 1997. Permit 900 authorizes CZESD annual direct and incidental takes of juvenile, threatened, naturally-produced and artificially-propagated, Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*); juvenile, threatened, Snake River fall chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*); and juvenile, endangered, Snake River sockeye salmon (*Oncorhynchus nerka*) associated with a study (Study 1) designed to determine survival estimates for the passage of juvenile salmonids through the dams and

reservoirs on the Snake and Columbia Rivers. For modification 4 to permit 900, CZESD is authorized to continue the take of ESA-listed species associated with Study 8, the Trestle Bay habitat restoration study, through December 31, 1997.

For modification 4, CZESD is authorized an additional annual take of ESA-listed juvenile salmon associated with a new study (Study 9) designed to determine the relative survival of juvenile salmon passing through the spillway of The Dalles Dam. Also for modification 4, CZESD is authorized an additional annual take of juvenile, threatened, artificially-propagated, Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon associated with a new study (Study 10) designed to: (1) Describe the vulnerability of juvenile salmonids to predation by northern squawfish and gulls below The Dalles Dam, (2) provide an estimate of juvenile salmonid migratory success below The Dalles Dam, and (3) compliment and enhance information obtained from Study 9. For Study 10, ESA-listed juvenile fish will be surgically implanted with radio transmitters, released at The Dalles Dam, and tracked electronically. Also for Study 10, ESA-listed juvenile fish will be sacrificed to measure physiological attributes related to stress and smoltification readiness. Oregon State University and the U.S. Geological Survey are authorized to act as agents of CZESD under permit 900 in the conduct of Study 10. The authorization for the takes of ESA-listed species associated with Studies 9 and 10 expires on December 31, 1999.

On April 23, 1997, NMFS issued modification 3 to CZESD's scientific research permit 946 (P770#68). Permit 946 authorizes CZESD annual direct and incidental takes of adult and juvenile, threatened, naturally-produced and artificially-propagated, Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*); juvenile, threatened, Snake River fall chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*); and juvenile, endangered, Snake River sockeye salmon (*Oncorhynchus nerka*) associated with two studies. Study 1 is designed to compare the survival to adulthood of spring/summer chinook salmon smolts transported by barge to below Bonneville Dam on the Columbia River with the survival to adulthood of smolts migrating volitionally under prevailing river conditions. Study 2 is designed to assess the migration timing and relative survival of transported and inriver juvenile chinook salmon migrating volitionally from Bonneville Dam to the mouth of the Columbia River. For modification 3 to permit 946,

the take of ESA-listed adult fish associated with Study 1 is authorized annually for the duration of the permit. The take of ESA-listed juvenile fish associated with Study 1 continues to be authorized for the three specific years approved by the Director of the Office of Protected Resources, NMFS in Silver Spring, MD for such take. Permit 946 expires on December 31, 1999.

Notice was published on February 28, 1997 (62 FR 9178) that an application had been filed by CZESD for modification 2 to scientific research permit 914 (P770#67). Modification 2 to permit 914 was issued to CZESD on April 25, 1997. Permit 914 authorizes CZESD annual takes of juvenile, threatened, Snake River spring/summer and fall chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) associated with the conduct of a dissolved gas supersaturation study in Priest Rapids Reservoir and the Hanford reach of the Columbia River, Ice Harbor Reservoir and tailrace on the Snake River, and downstream from Bonneville Dam. For modification 2 to permit 914, CZESD is authorized an increase in the take of juvenile, threatened, Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon associated with the dissolved gas supersaturation research. Also for modification 2, CZESD is authorized an additional annual take of juvenile, threatened, Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon associated with a new study designed to determine whether the signs of gas bubble disease change as a result of changing hydrostatic pressures experienced by juvenile salmonids during their passage through the turbine intakes and gateways at John Day Dam on the Columbia River. Modification 2 is valid for the duration of the permit. Permit 914 expires on December 31, 1998.

Issuance of the modifications to permits, as required by the ESA, was based on a finding that such actions: (1) Were requested/proposed in good faith, (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of the ESA-listed species that are the subject of the permits, and (3) are consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA and the NMFS regulations governing ESA-listed species permits.

Dated: May 9, 1997.

Nancy Chu,

Chief, Endangered Species Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Technology Administration

Competitive Technology Stimulation Experimental Program; Meeting

AGENCY: Technology Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Postponement of public meeting on the proposed experimental program to stimulate competitive technology (EPSCot).

SUMMARY: The open meeting that was announced at 62FR 24422, May 5, 1997 to occur on May 29, 1997 to solicit input on the proposed until further notice.

DATES: The meeting will be postponed until further notice.

ADDRESSES: The meeting was originally scheduled to be held at the National Research Center for Coal and Energy at the West Virginia University in Morgantown, West Virginia.

Dated: May 9, 1997.

Gary Bachula,

Deputy Under Secretary for Technology.

[FR Doc. 97-12759 Filed 5-14-97; 8:45 am]

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COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Amendment of Visa Requirements for Certain Cotton and Man-Made Fiber Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in El Salvador

May 9, 1997.

AGENCY: Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA).

ACTION: Issuing a directive to the Commissioner of Customs amending visa requirements.

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 15, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Naomi Freeman, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-4212.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended; section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854); Uruguay Round Agreements Act.

Effective on May 15, 1997, for goods produced or manufactured in El Salvador, a visa will no longer be required for textile products in Categories 351/651, regardless of the date of export.

A description of the textile and apparel categories in terms of HTS numbers is available in the CORRELATION: Textile and Apparel Categories with the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (see **Federal Register** notice 61 FR 66263, published on December 17, 1996). Also see 60 FR 2740, published on January 11, 1995.

The letter to the Commissioner of Customs and the actions taken pursuant to it are not designed to implement all of the provisions of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act and the Uruguay Round Agreement on Textiles and Clothing, but are designed to assist only in the implementation of certain of their provisions.

Troy H. Cribb,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

May 9, 1997.

Commissioner of Customs,
Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC 20229.

Dear Commissioner: This directive amends, but does not cancel, the directive issued to you on January 6, 1995, as amended, by the Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements. That directive directs you to prohibit entry of certain cotton and man-made fiber textile products, produced or manufactured in El Salvador which were not properly visaed by the Government of El Salvador.

Effective on May 15, 1997, you are directed to no longer require a visa for shipments of goods in Categories 351/651 which are produced or manufactured in El Salvador regardless of the date of export.

The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements has determined that this action falls within the foreign affairs exception of the rulemaking provisions of 5 U.S.C. 553(a)(1).

Sincerely,

Troy H. Cribb,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

[FR Doc. 97-12758 Filed 5-14-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of Defense

Notice of Availability of Record of Decision on Alaska Military Operations Areas Final Environmental Impact Statement

On March 5, 1997, the United States Air Force signed the Record of Decision (ROD) for the proposed improvements to Alaska Military Operations Areas (MOAs). The decisions rendered by the U.S. Air Force are as follows: (1) Create