

0175) under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Public reporting burden for agency-specific collection-of-information elements, exclusive of requirements specified under applicable OMB circulars, is estimated to average 4 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this reporting burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to NMFS (see ADDRESSES).

**Authority:** 15 U.S.C. 713c-3(d).

Dated: October 19, 1998.

**Andrew A. Rosenberg,**

*Deputy Assistant Administrator for Fisheries.*

[FR Doc. 98-28861 Filed 10-27-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[Docket No. 980817219-8219-01]

RIN 0648-AL58

#### Revised NOAA Procedures Implementing the National Environmental Policy Act

**AGENCY:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of Availability; proposed revised environmental review procedures for NOAA.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the availability of proposed revised environmental review procedures for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The proposed revisions will update the agency's procedures published in 1984, based on changing Agency direction, laws, and public concerns. The revisions reflect new initiatives and mandates for NOAA, particularly involving the Magnuson-Stevens Act, Endangered Species Act, and Marine

Mammal Protection Act. The revisions provide information on preparing NEPA documents and streamlining of NEPA and other analyses or documents within NOAA.

**DATES:** Comments must be received no later than December 14, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be sent to: Susan Fruchter, Acting NEPA Coordinator, Office of Policy and Strategic Planning, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Room 5805, Herbert C. Hoover Building, Department of Commerce, Washington, DC, 20230.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Bill Archambault or Ramona Schreiber, Office of Policy and Strategic Planning, 202-482-5181. A copy of the proposed revised NOAA Administrative Order (NAO) 216-6 is available from the above contact or via the Internet at: <http://www.rdc.noaa.gov/~foia/adrian.html> under "Policies and Administrative Manuals that Affect the Public"; "Notices, Proposed Rules and Final Rules".

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** NOAA's existing environmental review procedures for implementing NEPA appear in NAO 216-6. These procedures are consistent with the Council on Environmental Quality's regulations for implementing NEPA. These procedures were last revised in 1991. A copy of that version is available at <http://www.rdc.noaa.gov/~nao/216-6.html>.

The proposed revisions are administrative and procedural improvements intended to enhance NOAA's ability to comply with a variety of legislative mandates and Executive Orders without unnecessarily delaying and duplicating steps in the decisionmaking process while ensuring public involvement in decisionmaking. These improvements will result in a better understanding of agency roles and responsibilities relative to NEPA.

Notable changes in this version of NAO-216-6 include: reorganization of the document such that users can review the general requirements for preparing NEPA documents, as well as specific guidance on NEPA requirements for particular programs and activities within NOAA; incorporation of new policies and procedures to streamline and improve NOAA's NEPA compliance; specific guidance for NOAA's NEPA responsibilities under the Magnuson-Stevens Act, Endangered Species Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act, and Oil Pollution Act; and incorporation of NOAA's requirements under E.O. 12898 issued on February 11, 1994, for Environmental Justice in Minority

Populations and Low-Income Populations; and guidance on NOAA facilities and construction projects.

This document is available by request through the contact identified above (see ADDRESSES) as well as via the Internet at: <http://www.rdc.noaa.gov/~foia/adrian.html> under "Policies and Administrative Manuals that Affect the Public"; "Notices, Proposed Rules and Final Rules".

#### Classification

It was determined that this procedural rule is not significant for purposes of Executive Order 12866.

The Assistant General Counsel for Legislation and Regulation certified to the Chief Counsel for Advocacy, Small Business Administration, that this rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities because it is a procedural rule, and it will have no economic impact on entities. Therefore, a Regulatory Flexibility Analysis is not required and was not prepared.

Dated: October 21, 1998.

**Susan Fruchter,**

*Director, Office of Policy and Strategic Planning, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.*

[FR Doc. 98-28801 Filed 10-27-98; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 101998J]

#### Endangered Species; Permits

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

**ACTION:** Receipt of an application for an incidental take permit (1150).

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the Idaho Department of Fish and Game at Boise, ID (IDFG) has applied in due form for a permit that would authorize an incidental take of anadromous fish species listed under the Endangered Species Act.

**DATES:** Written comments or requests for a public hearing on this application must be received on or before November 27, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** The application and related documents are available for review in the following offices, by appointment: Protected Resources Division (PRD), F/NWO3, 525 NE Oregon Street, Suite 500, Portland, OR 97232-4169 (503-230-5400); and

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

Written comments or requests for a public hearing should be submitted to the Chief, PRD in Portland, OR.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Robert Koch (503-230-5424).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** IDFG requests a permit 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 217-227).

IDFG requests a 5-year permit for an annual incidental take of adult, endangered, Snake River sockeye salmon (*Oncorhynchus nerka*); adult and juvenile, threatened, naturally produced, Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon (*O. tshawytscha*); adult, threatened, Snake River fall chinook salmon; and adult, threatened, Snake River steelhead (*O. mykiss*) associated with the State of Idaho's sport-fishing programs. The new permit is requested to replace permit 844 which expires on December 31, 1998. IDFG proposes to implement four categories of sport-fishing regulations: (1) General Fishing Regulations (non-listed resident fish species), (2) Anadromous Salmon (non-listed) Fishing Regulations, (3) Steelhead (non-listed) Fishing Regulations, and (4) a kokanee fishery at the Redfish Lake area. IDFG states that the sport-fishing programs conducted in previous years in Idaho have had minimal impact on ESA-listed fish species in the State and pose no threat to the viability or continued existence of such populations. IDFG included a conservation plan in the permit application that proposes measures to monitor, minimize, and mitigate impacts to ESA-listed fish. Annual ESA-listed fish incidental mortalities associated with the sport-fishing programs are also requested.

To date, protective regulations for threatened Snake River steelhead under section 4(d) of the ESA have not been promulgated by NMFS. This notice of receipt of an application requesting a take of this species is issued as a precaution in the event that NMFS issues protective regulations that prohibit takes of Snake River steelhead. The initiation of a 30-day public comment period on the application, including its proposed take of Snake River steelhead, does not presuppose the contents of the eventual protective regulations. Those individuals requesting a hearing on this permit application should set out the specific

reasons why a hearing would be appropriate (see **ADDRESSES**). The holding of such a hearing is at the discretion of the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA. All statements and opinions contained in the above application summary are those of the applicant and do not necessarily reflect the views of NMFS.

Dated: October 19, 1998.

**Kevin Collins,**

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

[FR Doc. 98-28859 Filed 10-27-98; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 101698K]

#### Endangered Species; Permits

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

**ACTION:** Receipt of an application for a scientific research permit (1184) and a modification to a scientific research permit (895); Issuance of scientific research permits (1138, 1166, 1177).

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given of the following actions regarding permits for takes of endangered and threatened species for the purposes of scientific research and/or enhancement: NMFS has received a permit application from Garcia and Associates in San Anselmo, CA (GAA)(1184); NMFS has received an application to modify an existing permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla District at Walla Walla, WA (Corps-WWD)(895); NMFS has issued permits to: Dr. Jennifer Nielsen (1138), A.A. Rich and Associates (AARC)(1166), and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Portland District in Portland, OR (Corps-PD)(1177).

**DATES:** Written comments or requests for a public hearing on any of the applications must be received on or before November 27, 1998.

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

For permits 1138, 1166, and 1184: Protected Species Division, NMFS, 777 Sonoma Avenue, Room 325, Santa Rosa, CA 95404-6528 (707-575-6066);

For permits 895 and 1177: Protected Resources Division, F/NWO3, 525 NE Oregon Street, Suite 500, Portland, OR 97232-4169 (503-230-5400).

All documents may also be reviewed by appointment in the Office of Protected Resources, F/PR3, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3226 (301-713-1401).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For permits 1138, 1166, and 1184: Tom Hablett, Protected Resources Division, (707-575-6066).

For permit 895: Robert Koch, Portland, OR (503-230-5424).

For permit 1177: Tom Lichatowich, Portland, OR (503-230-5438).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Authority

Permits are requested 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 217-227).

Those individuals requesting a hearing on these requests for permits should set out the specific reasons why a hearing would be appropriate (see **ADDRESSES**). The holding of such a hearing is at the discretion of the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA. All statements and opinions contained in the below application summaries are those of the applicant and do not necessarily reflect the views of NMFS.

Issuance of permits, as required by the ESA, is based on a finding that such permits: (1) Are applied for in good faith; (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of the listed species which are the subject of the permits; and (3) are consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA. Permits are also issued in accordance with and are subject to parts 217-222 of Title 50 CFR, the NMFS regulations governing listed species permits.

#### Species Covered in This Notice

The following ESA-listed species are covered in this notice: Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), Coho salmon (*O. kisutch*), Sockeye salmon (*O. nerka*), and Steelhead trout (*O. mykiss*).

#### New Application Received

GAA (1184) requests a 5-year permit for takes of adult and juvenile, threatened, central California coast (CCC) coho salmon, and adult and juvenile, endangered, southern California coast (SCC) steelhead associated with fish population studies throughout the Evolutionarily Significant Units (ESUs) within California. Salmon and steelhead studies conducted by GAA consist of four assessment tasks for which ESA-