

The committee will develop recommendations on information to be included in the Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) Reports and social and economic impacts analyses in New England Council fishery management plans.

Although other issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal Council action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Paul J. Howard (see ADDRESSES) at least 5 days prior to the meeting dates.

Dated: December 16, 1998.

Bruce C. Morehead,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 98-33724 Filed 12-18-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 121598C]

Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting (work session).

SUMMARY: The Pacific Fishery Management Council's Salmon Technical Team (STT) will hold a work session which is open to the public.

DATES: The work session will begin at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 19, 1999 and continue from approximately 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day through Friday, January 22, 1999.

ADDRESSES: The work session will be held at the Council office in Portland, OR.

Council address: Pacific Fishery Management Council, 2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224, Portland, OR 97201.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. John Coon, Salmon Management Coordinator; telephone: (503) 326-6352.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the STT work session is to draft the "Review of 1998 Ocean Salmon Fisheries." The final report will be distributed to the public and reviewed by the Council at its March 1999 meeting in Portland, OR.

Although other issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice.

Special Accommodations

The work session is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Mr. John Rhoton at (503) 326-6352 at least 5 days prior to the work session date.

Dated: December 16, 1998.

Bruce C. Morehead,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 98-33723 Filed 12-18-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 121098A]

Endangered Species; Permits

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

ACTION: Receipt of an amendment to an application for a scientific research permit (1122); Issuance of a modifications to a scientific research permit (984)

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 an amended permit application from the Bureau of Land Management, Roseburg District Office at Roseburg, OR (BLM) (1122); and NMFS has issued a modification to a scientific research permits to Dr. Mary L. Moser, of the Center for Marine Science Research (984).

DATES: Written comments or requests for a public hearing on the applications must be received on or before January 20, 1999.

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

For permit 1122: Protected Resources Division, F/NWO3, 525 NE Oregon Street, Suite 500, Portland, OR 97232-4169 (503-230-5400).

For permit 984: Office of Protected Resources, Endangered Species Division, F/PR3, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301-713-1401).

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 permit 1122: Tom Lichatowich, Portland, OR (503-230-5438).

For permit 984: Terri Jordan, Silver Spring, MD (301-713-1401)

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 the requests for a permit 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 and permit modifications, as required by the ESA, is based on a finding that such permits/modifications: (1) Are applied for in good faith; (2) would 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 and modifications are 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 species are covered in this notice: Cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarki clarki*), Coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*), and Shortnose sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*).

To date, protective regulations for threatened Oregon Coast coho salmon

(OCCS) under section 4(d) of the ESA have not been promulgated by NMFS. This notice of receipt of an application requesting takes of this species is issued as a precaution in the event that NMFS issues protective regulations that prohibit takes of threatened OCCS. The initiation of a 30-day public comment period on this application, including the proposed take of threatened OCCS, does not presuppose the contents of the eventual protective regulations.

Application Received

BLM (1122) has submitted an amendment to an application for a 5-year permit that would authorize takes of juvenile, threatened, OCCS associated with scientific research. The notice of receipt for the original application, requesting authorization for annual direct takes of juvenile, endangered, Umpqua River cutthroat trout (URCT) associated with the research was published in the **Federal Register** on March 6, 1998 (63 FR 11220). The research is designed to determine migration patterns, life history strategies, and distribution/abundance of ESA-listed fish. The information will benefit wild populations by identifying important habitat areas for protection and restoration efforts. BLM proposes to use screw traps during the juvenile fish outmigration period of March through June to estimate abundance in selected sub-basins. ESA-listed juvenile fish are proposed to be captured, marked, released upstream of the trap, and recaptured to determine trap efficiencies. ESA-listed juvenile fish indirect mortalities associated with the scientific research activities are also requested.

Modification Issued

On November 17, 1998, NMFS issued modification 2 to permit 984 to Dr. Mary Moser, authorizing the use of hatchery bred shortnose sturgeon to document predation on juvenile shortnose sturgeon by flathead and blue catfish, which are non-indigenous predators and are abundant in many rivers of the southeastern United States. The draft recovery plan for shortnose sturgeon identifies the importance of determining the effects of non-indigenous species on wild sturgeon populations. This information is particularly important due to the rapid proliferation of these introduced ictalurids in many river systems that support shortnose sturgeon. It is anticipated that all cultured shortnose sturgeon used in these experiments will be either eaten by catfish or euthanized at the end of the study. There will be no release of cultured shortnose sturgeon into the

wild under any circumstances. A portion of the dead fish will be donated to the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences and to the University of North Carolina-Wilmington teaching collection. Modification 2 is valid for the duration of the permit, which expires on December 31, 2000.

Dated: December 14, 1998.

Kevin Collins,

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

[FR Doc. 98-33727 Filed 12-18-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 121498B]

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 (1188).

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 incidental takes of endangered and threatened anadromous fish species.

DATES: Written comments or requests for a public hearing on the application must be received on or before January 20, 1999.

ADDRESSES: The application and related documents are available for review, by appointment, at:

Protected Resources Division (PRD), F/NWO3, 525 NE Oregon Street, Suite 500, Portland, OR 97232-4169 (503-230-5400).

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 that would authorize annual incidental takes of endangered Snake River sockeye salmon (*Oncorhynchus nerka*); threatened, naturally produced and artificially propagated, Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon

(*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*); and threatened Snake River steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) associated with IDFG's resident fish-stocking program. IDFG's fish-stocking program is designed to increase the supply of fish in the Salmon River and its tributary streams and lakes for sport-angling. The new permit is proposed to replace incidental take permit 908 which is due to expire on December 31, 1998. IDFG proposes to stock: (1) Catchable (mean total length up to 250 mm) hatchery rainbow trout in waters of the upper Salmon River and the Stanley Basin lakes, including Redfish Lake; (2) catchable or subcatchable cutthroat trout in the Stanley Basin lakes, including Redfish Lake; (3) subcatchable (5-20 cm) rainbow trout into the Salmon and Clearwater Rivers and the Stanley Basin lakes; and (4) westslope cutthroat trout into native areas of the Salmon River and tributaries for population restoration purposes. Rainbow and cutthroat trout stocking in Idaho may result in incidental takes of ESA-listed fish through predation, competition, transmission of diseases, and interbreeding. IDFG included a conservation plan with the application that specifies procedures to be implemented to monitor, minimize, and mitigate ESA-listed fish takes.

On May 30, 1997, NMFS published a notice in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 29330) proposing to amend permit 908. On June 10, 1998, NMFS published a notice in the **Federal Register** (63 FR 31739) that an application was received from IDFG for modification 2 to permit 908. To date, NMFS has not completed these proposed actions. When permit 908 expires on December 31, 1998, the two proposed actions cited above will no longer be considered valid for processing. However, the proposed actions are included in IDFG's application for a new permit.

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 takes 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 takes of Snake River steelhead, does not presuppose the contents of the eventual protective regulations. Those individuals requesting a hearing on the above application should set out the specific reasons why a hearing would be appropriate (see **ADDRESSES**). The holding of such a hearing is at the