

Fishery mitigation activities include provision of streamflows for chinook, coho (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*), and sockeye (*Oncorhynchus nerka*) salmon and steelhead trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*), and expansion of a pilot hatchery for sockeye salmon; construction of fish passage facilities (both upstream and downstream) for chinook and coho salmon, and steelhead and cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarki*) at Landsburg Dam; and funding salmon habitat restoration in the lower Cedar River.

Other covered watershed activities include actions to protect and restore watershed habitats, both aquatic and upland; cultural resource management and educational programs within the municipal watershed, including a public tour and field trip program and construction of educational and cultural facilities, such as the planned educational resource center at Cedar Falls; scientific research, both by City staff and outside scientists; and other activities or facilities as identified in the Plan.

The Plan includes habitat-based conservation and mitigation strategies for all species addressed in the Plan, and species-specific conservation and mitigation strategies for the 14 species of greatest concern, which include all currently listed species. The species addressed in the Plan include resident and anadromous salmonid fishes, and a variety of amphibians, birds, mammals, and invertebrates.

The Federal action of issuing an Incidental Take Permit has the potential to affect the human environment. The Services' decision of whether to issue the proposed Permit, is an action subject to review under the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR 1506.6). In addition to the National Environmental Policy Act requirements, the City's proposed actions are subject to review under the Washington State Environmental Policy Act. The Services' Environmental Assessment and the City's Environmental Impact Statement are combined into one document. Following public review of the proposed Plan and Environmental Assessment/Environmental Impact Statement, the Services and the City must review any comments received and respond to those comments in writing or in changes to the documents, where appropriate.

The Environmental Assessment/Environmental Impact Statement will analyze the proposed action as well as a full range of reasonable alternatives, and the associated impacts of each. The proposed action contains three components, including: (1) Watershed

Management; (2) Anadromous Fish Mitigation; and (3) Instream Flows. Alternatives have been developed through public and internal scoping for each of these three components, and are compared and analyzed in the Environmental Assessment/Environmental Impact Statement.

Watershed management alternatives include: (1) No Action (continue current harvest practices, with 58 percent of the lands in a no-commercial harvest reserve); (2) Proposed Action (including conservation strategies for habitats and wildlife, with 64 percent of the lands in a no-commercial harvest reserve); (3) Long-term Sustainable Thinning Alternative (including conservation strategies for habitats and wildlife, with 64 percent of the lands in a no-commercial harvest reserve); (4) Thinning Alternative with phased out commercial harvest over the 50-year life of the Permit (including conservation strategies for habitats and wildlife, with 68 percent of the lands initially in a no-commercial harvest reserve and increasing over the life of the Permit); and (5) No Commercial Timber Harvest Alternative (including conservation strategies for habitats and wildlife, with 100 percent of the lands in a no-commercial harvest reserve). Alternatives 3, 4, and 5 include essentially the same conservation strategies for streams, riparian areas, upland habitat, and special habitat areas, as Alternative 2, the Proposed Action.

Anadromous fish mitigation alternatives include: (1) No Action (continued operation of a pilot sockeye salmon hatchery with no guarantee of mitigation for chinook salmon, coho salmon, or steelhead trout); (2) Proposed Action (conservation strategies for chinook salmon, coho salmon, sockeye salmon, and steelhead trout, including upstream and downstream passage facilities, and habitat restoration and protection measures, with expansion of the sockeye hatchery to produce 34 million fry annually); (3) Down-sized Sockeye Hatchery Alternative with savings going towards downstream habitat restoration (with expansion of the sockeye hatchery to produce 17 million fry annually); (4) Deferred Hatchery Construction Alternative contingent on further studies; and (5) All Downstream Habitat Restoration and Protection Alternative (all funding would be used for habitat restoration and protection, and none for sockeye hatchery expansion).

Instream flow alternatives include: (1) No Action (continue current flow management practices); and (2) Proposed Action, with primary features

including guaranteed flows and supplemental flows for salmon and steelhead trout spawning and fry outmigration for sockeye salmon in the lower Cedar River; adaptive management of flows for protection of salmon and steelhead redds (egg clusters); funding for improvements at Ballard Locks for juvenile outmigration, establishment of minimum flows necessary for anadromous and resident fish in bypass reach below Masonry Dam; established downramping rates, maintain existing annual municipal water yield; public service announcements promoting water conservation for fish; Lower Cedar River monitoring study of tributary and subsurface inflows; and establishment of a multi-agency commission to advise the City with respect to managing flows for fish.

This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(a) of the Act and National Environmental Policy Act regulations, and the Services will evaluate the application, associated documents, and comments submitted thereon to determine whether the application meets the requirements of the Act and National Environmental Policy Act. If it is determined that the requirements are met, a permit will be issued for the incidental take of listed species. The final permit decision will be made no sooner than 60 days from the date of this notice.

Dated: December 28, 1998.

Margaret Lorenz,

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

[FR Doc. 99-129 Filed 1-4-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[I.D. 123098B]

Notice of Public Meetings Regarding the Preparation of a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for Potential Modification of a Habitat Conservation Plan on Lands Administered by Plum Creek Timber Company in the State of Washington

AGENCIES: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce; Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), Interior.

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: NMFS and FWS (the Services) will be conducting public meetings, in conjunction with the public comment period, regarding a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement addressing effects of a proposed land exchange with the U.S. Forest Service in the Interstate-90 corridor of Washington. If the proposed land exchange takes place, the Endangered Species Act (ESA) incidental take permit issued to Plum Creek Timber Company would be modified accordingly. Permit PRT-808398 was issued on June 27, 1996, and allows Plum Creek to take federally listed species, under the provisions of section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA, as amended.

DATES: Public meetings will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on January 20 and 21, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Public meetings will be held at the following locations: on January 20, 1999, at The Inn at Goose Creek, 1720 Canyon Road, Ellensburg, Washington; on January 21, 1999, at the Holiday Inn, 1801 12th Avenue, NW, Issaquah, Washington.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William Vogel, Wildlife Biologist, Fish and Wildlife Service, 510 Desmond Drive, Suite 101, Lacey, Washington 98503, (360) 753-9440; or Dennis Carlson, Fishery Biologist, National Marine Fisheries Service, 510 Desmond Drive, Suite 101, Lacey, Washington 98503, (360) 753-9440.

Interested parties may contact the Services at the address listed above to receive additional information, including a map for the public meeting location.

Dated: December 29, 1998.

Thomas J. Dwyer,

Acting Regional Director, Region 1, Fish and Wildlife Service, Portland, Oregon.

Dated: December 30, 1998.

Kevin Collins,

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

[FR Doc. 99-137 Filed 1-4-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[I.D. 122298C]

Marine Mammals, File No. 772#69

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Receipt of application for amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Southwest Fisheries Science Center, National Marine Fisheries Service, 8604 La Jolla shores Drive, La Jolla, CA 92038, has requested an amendment to scientific research Permit No. 1024.

DATES: Written or telefaxed comments must be received on or before February 4, 1999.

ADDRESSES: The amendment request and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s):

Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289), and

Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213 (562/980-4001).

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on this request should be submitted to the Chief, Permits and Documentation Division, F/PR1, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this particular amendment request would be appropriate.

Comments may also be submitted by facsimile at (301) 713-0376, provided the facsimile is confirmed by hard copy submitted by mail and postmarked no later than the closing date of the comment period. Please note that comments will not be accepted by e-mail or other electronic media.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sara Shapiro or Ruth Johnson, 301/713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject amendment to Permit No. 1024, issued on December 30, 1996 (62 FR 1875) is requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216), the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered fish and wildlife (50 CFR 222.23), and the Fur Seal Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1151 *et seq.*).

Permit No. 1024 authorizes the permit holder to: conduct level B harassment activities [*i.e.* censuses] on, capture,

handle, and release Antarctic pinnipeds in the South Shetland Islands, Antarctica. The holder requests authorization to increase the number of Antarctic fur seal (*Arctocephalus gazella*) pups and juveniles to be captured and handled for oxygen consumption and developmental physiology studies. The Holder proposes to conduct these activities at Cape Shirreff on Livingston Island, Antarctica.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), an initial determination has been made that the activity proposed is categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, NMFS is forwarding copies of this application to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Dated: December 23, 1998.

Ann D. Terbush,

Chief, Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 99-136 Filed 1-4-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**Notice of Technical Assistance Workshops and Conference Calls for Potential Applicants for AmeriCorps Indian Tribes and America Reads Challenge Program Funds**

AGENCY: Corporation for National and Community Service.

ACTION: Notice of pre-application technical assistance workshops and conference calls.

SUMMARY: The Corporation for National and Community Service (Corporation) has scheduled two workshops and two conference calls to provide technical assistance to Indian Tribes and organizations representing Alaska Natives interested in applying for AmeriCorps Indian Tribes and America Reads Challenge program funds.

DATES: The workshops will be held January 20-21, 1999 and February 10-11, 1999. The conference calls will be held February 16, 1999 and February 18, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To register for a workshop or a conference call and to obtain the information needed to participate, contact Pattie