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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D.030501A]

Endangered and Threatened Species; Take of Anadromous Fish

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

ACTION: Notice of availability and request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Point-No-Point Treaty Tribes submitted a jointly developed Resource Management Plan (RMP), Summer Chum Salmon Conservation Initiative - An Implementation Plan to Recover Summer Chum Salmon in the Hood Canal and Strait of Juan de Fuca Region, pursuant to the protective regulations promulgated for the Hood Canal Summer-Run chum salmon Evolutionary Significant Unit (ESU) under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The RMP specifies the future management of commercial, recreational and tribal salmon fisheries potentially affecting listed Hood Canal and Strait of Juan de Fuca summer-run chum salmon. This document serves to notify the public of the availability for comment of the proposed evaluation of the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary) as to how the RMP addresses the criteria in the ESA.

DATES: Written comments on the Secretary's evaluation must be received at the appropriate address or fax number (see ADDRESSES) no later than 5 p.m. Pacific Standard Time on March 30, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and requests for copies of the proposed evaluation should be addressed to Keith Schultz, Sustainable Fisheries Division, National Marine Fisheries Service, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115-0070. Comments may also be sent via fax to 206/526-6736. The document is also available on the Internet at <http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/>, Sustainable Fisheries Division site. Comments will not be accepted if submitted via e-mail or the Internet.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Keith Schultz at phone number: 206/526-4447, or e-mail:

keith.schultz@noaa.gov regarding the RMP.

The Summer Chum Salmon Conservation Initiative - An Implementation Plan to Recover Summer Chum Salmon in the Hood Canal and Strait of Juan de Fuca Region is available on the Internet at the State of Washington, Department of Fish and Wildlife web site <http://www.wa.gov/wdfw/fish/chum/chum.htm>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is relevant to the Hood Canal summer-run chum salmon (*Oncorhynchus keta*) Evolutionarily Significant Unit (ESU).

Background

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Point-No-Point Treaty Tribes have provided a jointly developed RMP for Hood Canal and Strait of Juan de Fuca summer-run chum salmon. The RMP encompasses fisheries within the range of the Hood Canal summer-run chum salmon ESU. Harvest objectives specified in the RMP account for fisheries-related mortality throughout the migratory range of Hood Canal and Strait of Juan de Fuca summer-run chum salmon—from Northern British Columbia, Canada to South Puget Sound. The RMP also includes implementation, monitoring and evaluation procedures designed to ensure fisheries are consistent with these objectives.

As required by § 223.203 (b)(6) of the ESA 4(d) rule, the Secretary must determine pursuant to 50 CFR 223.209 and pursuant to the government to government processes therein whether the RMP for Hood Canal and Strait of Juan de Fuca summer-run chum salmon would appreciably reduce the likelihood of survival and recovery of the Hood Canal summer-run chum salmon and other affected threatened ESUs. The Secretary must take comments on how the RMP addresses the criteria in § 223.203(b)(4) in making that determination.

Authority

Under section 4 of the ESA, the Secretary is required to adopt such regulations as he deems necessary and advisable for the conservation of the species listed as threatened. The ESA salmon and steelhead 4(d) rule (65 FR 42422, July 10, 2000) specifies categories of activities that contribute to the conservation of listed salmonids and sets out the criteria for such activities. The rule further provides that the prohibitions of paragraph (a) of the rule do not apply to actions undertaken in compliance with a RMP plan developed jointly by the State of Washington and

the Tribes (joint plan) and determined by the Secretary to be in accordance with the salmon and steelhead 4(d) rule (65 FR 42422, July 10, 2000).

Dated: March 7, 2001.

Phil Williams,

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

[FR Doc. 01-6211 Filed 3-12-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No. 000317075-1035-02]

RIN 0651-XX22

Public Advisory Committees

AGENCY: United States Patent and Trademark Office, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice and request for nominations.

SUMMARY: On November 29, 1999, the President signed into law the Patent and Trademark Office Efficiency Act (the "Act"), Pub. L. 106-113, Appendix I, Title IV, Subtitle G, 113 Stat. 1501A-572, which, among other things, established two Public Advisory Committees to review the policies, goals, performance, budget and user fees of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with respect to patents, in the case of the Patent Public Advisory Committee, and with respect to trademarks, in the case of the Trademark Public Advisory Committee, and to advise the Director in these matters. The USPTO is requesting nominations for three (3) members to each Public Advisory Committee for terms beginning on July 13, 2001.

DATES: Nominations must be postmarked or electronically transmitted on or before April 12, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Persons wishing to submit nominations should send the nominee's resume to Chief of Staff, Office of the Director of the USPTO, Washington, DC 20231; by electronic mail to PPACnomination@uspto.gov for the Patent Public Advisory Committee or TPACnomination@uspto.gov for the Trademark Public Advisory Committee; by facsimile transmission marked to the Chief of Staff's attention at (703) 305-8664; or by mail marked to the Chief of Staff's attention and addressed to the Office of the Director of the USPTO, Washington, DC 20231.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Chief of Staff by facsimile transmission

marked to his attention at (703) 305-8664, or by mail marked to his attention and addressed to the Office of the Director of the USPTO, Washington, DC 20231.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the Act, the then-Acting Secretary of Commerce appointed members to the two Patent and Trademark Public Advisory Committees on July 13, 2000. The Advisory Committees' duties include:

- Review and advise the Director of the USPTO on matters relating to policies, goals, performance, budget, and user fees of the USPTO relating to patents and trademarks, respectively; and
- Within 60 days after the end of each fiscal year: (1) Prepare an annual report on the matters listed above; (2) transmit the report to the Secretary of Commerce, the President, and the Committees on the Judiciary of the Senate and the House of Representatives; and (3) publish the report in the Official Gazette of the USPTO. Members of the Patent and Trademark Public Advisory Committees are appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Secretary of Commerce for three (3)-year terms.

Advisory Committees

The Public Advisory Committees are each composed of nine (9) voting members who are appointed by the Secretary of Commerce (the "Secretary") and who have "substantial backgrounds and achievement in finance, management, labor relations, science, technology, and office automation." 35 U.S.C. 5(b)(3). The Public Advisory Committee members must be United States citizens and represent the interests of diverse users of the USPTO both large and small entity applicants in proportion to the number of such applications filed. In the case of the Patent Public Advisory Committee, at least twenty-five (25) percent of the members must represent "small business concerns, independent inventors, and nonprofit organizations," and at least one member must represent the independent inventors' community. 35 U.S.C. 5(b)(2). Each of the Public Advisory Committees also includes three (3) non-voting members representing each labor organization recognized by the USPTO.

Procedures and Guidelines of the Patent and Trademark Public Advisory Committees

Each newly appointed member of the Patent and Trademark Public Advisory Committees will serve for a term of three years. Members appointed in the

current fiscal year shall serve from July 13, 2001, to July 12, 2004.

As required by the Act, members of the Patent and Trademark Public Advisory Committees will receive compensation for each day, including travel time, while the member is attending meetings or engaged in the business of that Advisory Committee. The rate of compensation is the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay in effect for level III of the Executive Schedule under section 5314 of title 5, United States Code. While away from home or regular place of business, each member will be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by Section 5703 of Title 5, United States Code. The USPTO will provide the necessary administrative support, including technical assistance, for the Committees.

Applicability of Certain Ethics Laws

Members of each Public Advisory Committee shall be special Government employees within the meaning of Section 202 of Title 18, United States Code. The following additional information assumes that members are not engaged in Public Advisory Committee business more than sixty days during each calendar year:

- Each member will be required to file a confidential financial disclosure form within thirty (30) days of appointment. 5 C.F.R. 2634.202(c), 2634.204, 2634.903, and 2634.904(b).
- Each member will be subject to many of the public integrity laws, including criminal bars against representing a party, 18 U.S.C. 203(c), or acting where the United States has an interest, 18 U.S.C. 205(c), in a particular matter that came before the member's committee and that involved at least one specific party. *See also* 18 U.S.C. 207 for post-membership bars. A member also must not act on a matter in which the member (or any of certain closely related entities) has a financial interest. 18 U.S.C. 208.
- Representation of foreign interests may also raise issues. 35 U.S.C. 5(a)(1) and 18 U.S.C. 219.

Meetings of the Patent and Trademark Public Advisory Committees

Meetings of each Advisory Committee will take place at the call of the chair to consider an agenda set by the chair. Meetings may be conducted in person, electronically through the Internet, or by other appropriate means. The meetings of each Advisory Committee will be open to the public except each Advisory Committee may, by majority vote, meet in executive session when considering personnel or other confidential matters.

Nominees must also have the ability to participate in Committee business through the Internet.

Procedure for Submitting Nominations

Submit resumes for nominations for the Patent Public Advisory Committee and the Trademark Public Advisory Committee to the USPTO's Chief of Staff as provided above.

Dated: March 7, 2001.

Nicholas P. Godici,

Acting Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Acting Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Technology Administration

National Medal of Technology Nomination Evaluation Committee; Notice of Determination for Closure of Meeting

The National Medal of Technology Nomination Evaluation Committee has scheduled a meeting for March 29, 2001.

The Committee was established to assist the Department in executing its responsibilities under 15 U.S.C. 3711. Under this provision, the Secretary is responsible for recommending to the President prospective recipients of the National Medal of Technology. The committee's recommendations are made after reviewing all nominations received in response to a public solicitation. The Committee is chartered to have twelve members.

Time and Place: The meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. and end at 3:00 p.m. on March 29, 2001. The meeting will be held in Room 1412 at the U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230. For further information contact: Mildred S. Porter, Director National Medal of Technology, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Herbert C. Hoover Building, Room 4226, Washington, D.C. 20230, Phone: (202) 482-1424.

If a member of the public would like to submit written comments concerning the committee's affairs at any time before and after the meeting, written comments should be addressed to the Director of the National Medal of Technology as indicated above.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting will be closed to discuss the relative merits of persons and companies nominated for the Medal.