

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), an environmental assessment was prepared analyzing the effects of the permitted activities. After a Finding of No Significant Impact, the determination was made that it was not necessary to prepare an environmental impact statement.

Issuance of this permit, as required by the ESA, was based on a finding that such permit (1) was applied for in good faith, (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of the endangered species which is the subject of this permit, and (3) is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

Dated: March 14, 2005.

Steve L. Leathery,

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

[FR Doc. 05-5749 Filed 3-22-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 031105E]

Endangered Species; File No. 1409

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

ACTION: Receipt of application for modification.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Karen G. Holloway-Adkins, Executive Director of East Coast Biologists, Inc., Indialantic, FL 32903, has requested a modification to scientific research Permit No. 1409.

DATES: Written, telefaxed, or e-mail comments must be received on or before April 22, 2005.

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

Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301) 713-2289; fax (301) 427-2521; and Southeast Region, NMFS, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701; phone (727) 824-5312; fax (727) 824-5309.

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on this request should be submitted to the Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education 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 modification request would be appropriate.

Comments may also be submitted by facsimile at (301) 427-2521, provided the facsimile is confirmed by hard copy submitted by mail and postmarked no later than the closing date of the comment period.

Comments may also be submitted by e-mail. The mailbox address for providing email comments is NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov. Include in the subject line of the e-mail comment the following document identifier: File No. 1409.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patrick Opay or Ruth Johnson, (301) 713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject modification to Permit No. 1409, issued on July 28, 2003 (68 FR 44297) is requested under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR 222-226).

Permit No. 1409 authorizes the permit holder to conduct research on green (*Chelonia mydas*) and loggerhead sea turtles (*Caretta caretta*) for scientific research. The research is attempting to characterize the turtle aggregations using the nearshore reefs in central Brevard County as developmental habitat and to better understand their foraging habitats and movements. The permit holder requests authorization to increase the research area by an additional 3.4 miles (5.5 kilometers) to the south in order to study animals using the lower less dense reefs in this area. No increase in take or additional research activities are requested.

Dated: March 17, 2005.

Stephen L. Leathery,

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

[FR Doc. 05-5750 Filed 3-22-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 031705A]

Endangered and Threatened Species; Take of Anadromous Fish

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

ACTION: Permit modifications and request for new research permits.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that NMFS has received three scientific research permit applications and two modification requests relating to Pacific salmon. The proposed research is intended to increase knowledge of species listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and to help guide management and conservation efforts.

DATES: Comments or requests for a public hearing on the application must be received at the appropriate address or fax number (see **ADDRESSES**) no later than 5 p.m. Pacific daylight-saving time on April 22, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on the application should be sent to Protected Resources Division, NMFS, F/NWO3, 1201 NE Lloyd Blvd., Suite 1100, Portland, OR 97232-2737. Comments may also be sent via fax to 503-230-5441 or by e-mail to resapps.nwr@NOAA.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Garth Griffin, Portland, OR (ph.: 503-231-2005, Fax: 503-230-5441, e-mail: Garth.Griffin@noaa.gov). Permit application instructions are available at <http://www.nwr.noaa.gov>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Species Covered in This Notice

The following listed species and evolutionarily significant units (ESUs) are covered in this notice:

Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*): endangered naturally-produced and artificially propagated upper Columbia River (UCR); threatened naturally-produced and artificially propagated Snake River (SR) spring/summer (spr/sum); threatened SR fall; threatened lower Columbia River (LCR); threatened upper Willamette River (UWR); threatened naturally-produced and artificially propagated Puget Sound (PS).

Chum salmon (*O. keta*): threatened Columbia River (CR).

Steelhead (*O. mykiss*): threatened SR; threatened middle Columbia River (MCR); endangered UCR; threatened LCR; threatened UWR.

Coho salmon (*O. kisutch*): proposed threatened Oregon Coast (OC); proposed threatened LCR.

Authority

Scientific research permits are issued in accordance with section 10(a)(1)(A) of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and regulations governing listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR 222–226). NMFS issues permits based on findings that such permits: (1) are applied for in good faith; (2) if granted and exercised, would not operate to the disadvantage of the listed species that are the subject of the permit; and (3) are consistent with the purposes and policy of section 2 of the ESA. The authority to take listed species is subject to conditions set forth in the permits.

Anyone requesting a hearing on an application listed in this notice should set out the specific reasons why a hearing on that application would be appropriate (see **ADDRESSES**). The holding of such a hearing is at the discretion of the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NMFS.

Applications Received

Permit 1410 – Modification 2

The Northwest Fisheries Science Center (NWFSC) is asking to modify its 5-year permit to expand on a study in the Columbia River plume and surrounding ocean environment. The NWFSC is requesting to increase its annual take of adult and juvenile LCR chinook salmon, SR fall chinook salmon, SR spring/summer chinook salmon, UCR chinook salmon, UWR chinook salmon, CR chum salmon, SR steelhead, and OC coho salmon. OC coho salmon are currently proposed as a threatened species. The research is designed to investigate the distribution, abundance, condition, and health of juvenile salmonids in relation to oceanographic conditions. The purpose of the study is to help researchers and managers better understand the factors controlling estuarine and marine survival. The study will provide information to help forecast survival potential as a function of plume and ocean conditions. Further, the study will be coordinated with a predation study which is a component of the plume study but was covered under a different authorization in previous years.

The NWFSC is requesting authorization to capture (using surface trawling), handle, and release adult and juvenile fish and to intentionally kill some juveniles for endocrine assessment, stock identification, pathogen prevalence and intensity,

otolith and stomach content analysis, and histopathological attributes. The NWFSC does not intend to kill any adult fish being captured but some may die as an unintentional result of the research activities.

Permit 1479 – Modification 1

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) is asking to modify its 5-year permit to expand on a study in the Wind River, Washington. The USGS is asking to increase its annual take of LCR chinook salmon and add takes of CR chum salmon and LCR coho salmon. LCR coho salmon are currently proposed as a threatened species. The research is designed to investigate the efficacy of nutrient enhancement in increasing juvenile fish growth and condition and thereby determine how effectively it can be used to restore juvenile salmonid production in nutrient-deficient watersheds. The research will help state, tribal, and Federal managers in their efforts to restore lower Columbia River salmon and steelhead populations and their habitats.

The USGS proposes to capture (using backpack electrofishers), handle, tag with passive integrated transponders or visual implants, and release listed salmonids. The USGS does not intend to capture adult fish but some may be in the area being fished and will be avoided as much as possible. While most of the fish would be unharmed, some juveniles may unintentionally be killed during the course of the research.

Permit 1523

The National Council of Air and Stream Improvements (NCASI) is requesting a 5-year permit to conduct research in the McKenzie and Willamette rivers in Oregon. The NCASI is asking to take juvenile UWR chinook salmon and steelhead while studying water quality and biological conditions in rivers receiving paper- and pulp mill discharges. The research will provide information on existing conditions in the watersheds and on changes in those conditions over time, and ultimately on the aquatic communities' responses to environmental stressors.

The information will be used in a larger effort to monitor watershed health, water quality, and salmon recovery in the Upper Willamette watershed.

The NCASI proposes to capture (using boat electrofishers), handle, and release listed salmonids. The NCASI does not intend to capture adult fish but some may be in the area being fished and will be avoided as much as possible. While most of the fish would be unharmed,

some juveniles may unintentionally be killed during the course of the research.

Permit 1524

The NWFSC is requesting a 5-year research permit for intentional mortality and unintentional mortality of juvenile Puget Sound chinook salmon. The research would consist of two studies. Study 1 would take place in the Skagit River estuary, Washington, and Study 2 would take place in Puget Sound, Washington. The purpose of study 1 is to examine density dependence and survival during estuarine residence in juvenile chinook salmon. The purpose of Study 2 is to examine nearshore habitat use, movements, and survival of juvenile chinook and coho salmon in Puget Sound. The goal of this research is to understand changes in population characteristics (primarily abundance, productivity, and life history diversity) of wild chinook salmon in response to projects designed to reconnect and restore estuarine habitat. These studies are among the top priorities of the NMFS' Salmon Research Plan, including the need to estimate and evaluate estuarine and marine survival at several spatial scales.

In Study 1, fish would be captured at several sites in the Skagit River tidal delta by beach seining. Naturally produced juvenile chinook salmon would be marked and placed in enclosures for a period of 2 weeks. A small number of the fish may die as an unintended result of the capture, handle, and mark procedure. The NWFSC would also kill a portion of the fish for diet and otolith analysis. In Study 2, fish would be captured at several sites in the Skagit Bay by beach seining. Naturally-produced juvenile chinook salmon would be marked with a combination of an external tag and an internal acoustic tag. The NWFSC does not intend to kill any of the fish being captured in study 2, but a small number may die as an unintended result of the activities.

Permit 1525

The Northwest Fisheries Science Center (NWFSC) is requesting a 5-year research permit to study salmonids in the Lower Willamette River, Oregon, and in the Columbia River from Bonneville Dam to the mouth. The NWFSC is requesting to take juvenile SR spring/summer chinook salmon, SR fall chinook salmon, SR steelhead, UCR chinook salmon, UCR steelhead, MCR steelhead, LCR chinook salmon, LCR steelhead, UWR chinook salmon, UWR steelhead, and CR chum salmon.

The research is currently authorized under Permit 1140, Study 3. If

authorized, the research will be authorized by this new permit and removed from Permit 1140. The purposes of the study are to (1) determine contaminant concentrations in fish, (2) understand bioaccumulation in juvenile salmon and determine site-specific factors, (3) analyze for the presence of physiological biomarkers, and (4) investigate the presence of indicators of exposure to environmental estrogens. The NWFSC would collect samples with seines or high speed rope trawls and is asking for authorization to handle juvenile fish and to intentionally kill some of them for pathogen prevalence and intensity, biochemical composition, histopathological attributes, and stomach content analyses.

This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(c) of the ESA. NMFS will evaluate the application, associated documents, and comments submitted to determine whether the application meets the requirements of section 10(a) of the ESA and Federal regulations. The final permit decisions will not be made until after the end of the 30-day comment period. NMFS will publish notice of its final action in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: March 17, 2005.

Marta Nammack,

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

[FR Doc. 05-5752 Filed 3-22-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

President's Information Technology Advisory Committee (PITAC)

ACTION: Notice of meeting; President's Information Technology Advisory Committee (PITAC).

SUMMARY: This meeting is focused on the presentation and deliberation of PITAC's draft report on computational science. Public input will be solicited during a public comment period. An update will also be provided on the dissemination of PITAC's new report *Cyber Security: A Crisis of Prioritization*. A small fraction of the meeting time may be allocated for other PITAC updates at the discretion of the co-chairs and the designated Federal officer.

DATE: Thursday, April 14, 2005, 10 a.m.–1 p.m. eastern time.

ADDRESS: Hilton Washington Embassy Row Hotel, 2015 Massachusetts Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20036.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This meeting will also be held via a teleconference and the Internet through the WebEx application. Information about registration for in-person or remote participation will be posted at PITAC's Web site (<http://www.nitrd.gov/pitac>) by March 31. Meeting information may also be obtained by calling (703) 292-4873. The agenda for the meeting will be posted at PITAC's Web site when it becomes available.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alan Inouye at the National Coordination Office for Information Technology Research and Development at (703) 292-4873 or by e-mail at inouye@nitrd.gov.

Dated: March 17, 2005.

Jeannette Owings-Ballard,
*OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer,
Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 05-5747 Filed 3-22-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-06-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Notice of the Defense Task Force on Sexual Harassment and Violence at the Military Service Academies—Open Meeting.

AGENCY: Department of Defense.

ACTION: Notice; Defense Task Force on Sexual Harassment and Violence at the Military Service Academies—open meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), Public Law 96-463, notice is hereby given that the Defense Task Force on Sexual Harassment and Violence at the Military Service Academies will hold an open meeting at The Courtyard Marriott, 2700 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on March 30, 2005 from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Purpose: The Task Force will meet on March 30, 2005, from 8:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. This session will be open to the public, subject to the availability of space. In keeping with the spirit of Federal Advisory Committee Act, it is the desire of the Task Force to provide the public with an opportunity to make comment regarding the current work of the Task Force. The first two hours of the meeting will be designated for any public comment. During the final hour, the Task Force as a whole will discuss various issues regarding victims' rights and services at the U.S. Military and Naval Academies. Any interested citizens are encouraged to attend.

DATES: March 30, 2005, 8:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.

Location: The Courtyard Marriott, 2700 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, Virginia 22314.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Any member of the public wishing further information concerning this meeting or wishing to submit comments must contact:

Mr. William Harkey, Public Affairs Officer, Task Force on Sexual Harassment and Violence at the Military Service Academies, 2850 Eisenhower Ave, Suite 100, Alexandria, Virginia 22314. Telephone: (703) 325-6640, DSN# 221-6640, Fax: (703) 325-6710/6711, william.harkey.CTR@wso.whs.mil.

Interested persons may submit a written statement for consideration by the Task Force and make an oral presentation of such. Persons desiring to make an oral presentation or submit a written statement to the Committee must notify the point of contact listed above no later than 5 p.m., March 25, 2005. Oral presentations by members of the public will be permitted only on March 30, 2005, from 8:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. before the full Task Force. Presentations will be limited to ten (10) minutes each. Number of oral presentations to be made will depend on the number of requests received from members of the public and the time allotted. Each person desiring to make an oral presentation must provide the point of contact listed above with one (1) written copy of the presentation by 5 p.m., March 25, 2005 and bring 15 written copies of any material that is intended for distribution at the meeting. Persons submitting a written statement must submit 15 written copies of the statement to the Task Force staff by 5 p.m. on March 25, 2005.

General Information: Additional information concerning the Defense Task Force on Sexual Harassment and Violence at The Military Service Academies, its structure, function, and composition, may be found on the DTFSH and VTMA Web site (<http://www.dtic.mil/dtfs>).

Dated: March 17, 2005.

Jeannette Owings-Ballard,
*OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer,
Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 05-5745 Filed 3-22-05; 8:45 am]

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