

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

RIN 0648-XA350

Endangered and Threatened Species; Take of Anadromous Fish

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

ACTION: Notice; availability of fishery plans and request for comment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) has submitted a Fishery Management and Evaluation Plan (FMEP) pursuant to the protective regulations promulgated for salmon and steelhead listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The FMEP specifies the future management of freshwater inland recreational fisheries potentially affecting listed salmon and steelhead in the State of Idaho. This document serves to notify the public of the availability of the FMEPs for review and comment before final approval or disapproval is made by NMFS.

DATES: Comments on the FMEPs must be received at the appropriate address or fax number (see **ADDRESSES**) no later than 5 p.m. Pacific time on May 16, 2011.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on the application should be addressed to the NMFS Salmon Management Division, 1201 NE Lloyd Boulevard, Suite 1100, Portland, OR 97232, or faxed to 503-872-2737. Comments may be submitted by e-mail. The mailbox address for providing e-mail comments is IdahoFisheriesPlans.nwr@noaa.gov. Include in the subject line of the e-mail comment the following identifier: *Comments on Idaho's FMEPs*.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brett Farman, Portland, OR, at phone number: (503) 231-6222, or e-mail: brett.farman@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Species Covered in This Notice**

This notice is relevant to the Snake River Spring/summer Chinook Salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), Snake River Fall-run Chinook Salmon (*O. tshawytscha*), and Snake River Sockeye Salmon (*O. nerka*) evolutionarily significant units (ESU), and the Snake River Steelhead (*O. mykiss*) distinct population segment (DPS).

IDFG has submitted to NMFS two FMEPs describing design and implementation of State-managed

fisheries targeting spring and summer Chinook salmon and general fisheries for non-listed resident species. The objective of the fishery management described in these two FMEPs is to harvest spring Chinook salmon and resident species in a manner that does not exceed the harvest impact limits developed by State, Tribal, and Federal co-managers consistent with conservation needs of the listed species. Implementation of the FMEPs would assure that spawning escapements, hatchery brood stock requirements, and supplemental adult releases would be achieved in accordance with cooperative agreements. A variety of monitoring and evaluation tasks are specified in the FMEPs to assess the abundance of listed species, determine fishery effort and catch, and monitor angler compliance. A review of compliance within the provisions of the FMEP will be conducted by IDFG annually, and a comprehensive review of each FMEP would be required every five years. Each year's upcoming recreational fishery management intentions will be required to get NMFS concurrence beforehand to ensure compliance with the proposed FMEP.

As specified in the July 10, 2000, Endangered Species Act (ESA) 4(d) rule for salmon and steelhead (65 FR 42422) and updated June 28, 2005 (70 FR 37160), NMFS may approve an FMEP if it meets criteria set forth in 50 CFR 223.203(b)(4)(i)(A) through (I). Prior to final approval of an FMEP, NMFS must publish notification announcing its availability for public review and comment.

Authority

Under section 4 of the ESA, the Secretary of Commerce is required to adopt such regulations as he deems necessary and advisable for the conservation of species listed as threatened. The ESA salmon and steelhead 4(d) rule (65 FR 42422, July 10, 2000, as updated in 70 FR 37160, July 28, 2005) 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 activities associated with fishery harvest provided that an FMEP has been approved by NMFS to be in accordance with the salmon and steelhead 4(d) rule (65 FR 42422, July 10, 2000, as updated in 70 FR 37160, July 28, 2005).

Dated: April 7, 2011.

Angela Somma,

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

[FR Doc. 2011-9017 Filed 4-13-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

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

RIN 0648-XA351

Endangered and Threatened Species; Take of Anadromous Fish

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

ACTION: Application for a new scientific research permit.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that NMFS has received a scientific research permit application request relating to salmonids listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The proposed research is intended to increase knowledge of the species and to help guide management and conservation efforts. The application and related documents may be viewed online at: https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov/preview/preview_open_for_comment.cfm. These documents are also available upon written request or by appointment by contacting NMFS by phone (707) 825-5185 or fax (707) 825-4840.

DATES: Written comments on the permit application must be received at the appropriate address or fax number (see **ADDRESSES**) no later than 5 p.m. Pacific standard time on May 16, 2011.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on this application should be submitted to the Protected Resources Division, NMFS, 1655 Heindon Road, CA 95521. Comments may also be submitted via fax to (707) 825-4840 or by e-mail to FRNpermits.ar@noaa.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Diane Ashton, Arcata, CA (ph.: 707-825-5185, e-mail: diane.ashton@noaa.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Species Covered in This Notice**

This notice is relevant to federally threatened California Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast (SONCC) coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*).

Authority

Scientific research permits are issued in accordance with section 10(a)(1)(A)

of the ESA of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531–1543) and regulations governing listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR Parts 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 which are the subject of the permits; and (3) are consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in 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 the application listed in this notice should set out the specific reasons why a hearing on that application would be appropriate (*see ADDRESSES*). Such hearings are held at the discretion of the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NMFS.

Application Received

Permit 16344

Dr. Jerri Bartholomew, Oregon State University at Corvallis, is requesting a 5-year permit to annually take 580 juvenile SONCC coho salmon of hatchery origin associated with two research projects to study the effects of the myxozoan parasite *Ceratomyxa shasta* on salmon and steelhead in the Klamath River in Northern California. In the two projects described below, Dr. Bartholomew and her co-investigators will utilize fish obtained from the Iron Gate Hatchery in California, transport fish to the John L. Fryer Disease Laboratory in Oregon, and will euthanize all individuals at the end of the experiments.

Project 1 is a study to determine the annual incidence of disease in May and June in the Klamath River (Humboldt County), California, following a 3-day exposure of individuals at the Beaver Creek and Seiad Valley sentinel sites. The study will compare trends in *C. shasta* infection prevalence, fish mortality, and time to death of juvenile fish of hatchery origin among years. Annually, Dr. Bartholomew proposes to collect, transport, and euthanize 220 juvenile SONCC coho salmon of hatchery origin for this project. Data from this study will provide information to estimate annual exposure of both wild and hatchery SONCC coho salmon to, and subsequent disease effects from, *C. shasta* among years; and to inform potential management actions to reduce infection rates.

Project 2 is a laboratory study to test whether sequential exposure of fish to a less virulent (IIR) strain of *C. shasta*, followed by exposure to a more virulent (IIC) strain, lessens disease effects

(mortality, parasite production) within the juvenile SONCC coho salmon host. Annually, Dr. Bartholomew proposes to collect, transport, and euthanize 360 juvenile SONCC coho salmon of hatchery origin for this project. Data collected from these experiments will be used to inform potential disease management strategies for *C. shasta* in the Klamath River.

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 applications meet the requirements of section 10(a) of the ESA and Federal regulations.

The final permit decision 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: April 7, 2011.

Angela Somma,

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

[FR Doc. 2011–9014 Filed 4–13–11; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648–XA363

Marine Mammals; File No. 14352

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

ACTION: Notice; issuance of permit amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Dr. Gregory Bossart, Georgia Aquarium, 225 Baker Street, NW., Atlanta, GA 30313 has been issued a major amendment to Permit No. 14352.

ADDRESSES: The permit amendment and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following offices:

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) 713–0376; and Southeast Region, NMFS, 263 13th Avenue South, Saint Petersburg, Florida 33701; phone (727) 824–5312; fax (727) 824–5309.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Carrie Hubbard or Kristy Beard, (301) 713–2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On August 6, 2010, notice was published in the

Federal Register (75 FR 47537) that a request for an amendment to Permit No. 14352 to conduct research on bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) had been submitted by the above-named applicant. The requested permit amendment has been issued under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), and the regulations governing the taking and importing of marine mammals (50 CFR part 216).

The permit has been amended to authorize research in a new study area: Charleston, South Carolina. Fifty bottlenose dolphins may be captured, sampled, and released in Charleston annually. Captured dolphins will receive a health assessment clinical workup. All captured animals will receive a roto tag. Up to ten animals per year will also receive a VHF tag. Samples will be analyzed to examine a variety of health topics such as: infectious diseases, immune status, contaminant exposure, antibiotic resistance, and genetics. An additional 400 dolphins per year may be harassed during pre- and post-capture surveys. The amended permit is valid until October 31, 2014.

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

Dated: April 6, 2011.

P. Michael Payne,

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

[FR Doc. 2011–9019 Filed 4–13–11; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648–XA365

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of a public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council will convene Public Hearings on: Amendment 18 to the Fishery Management Plan for Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources in the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico; Joint