

LIST OF PETITION ACTION BY TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE FOR PERIOD 11/21/00–12/18/00—Continued

Firm name	Address	Date petition accepted	Product
Zimmer Industries, Inc	200 Central Avenue, Hawthorne, NJ 07506.	12/08/00	Perforated steel and cutting rule, i.e. blades used by business form and labels industries.
DDG, Inc. d.b.a. Windsurfing Hawaii	1114 June Street, Hood River, OR 97031	12/08/00	Sailboard accessories and parts.
Madden Precision, Inc	3500 Charleston Road, Norman, OK 73069.	12/14/00	Valve parts.
Goldens Foundry and Machine Co	600 12th Street, Columbus, GA 31902	12/18/00	Component for agricultural tractors and medical furniture—clutch pedals and bases for operating room tables.

The petitions were submitted pursuant to section 251 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2341). Consequently, the United States Department of Commerce has initiated separate investigations to determine whether increased imports into the United States of articles like or directly competitive with those produced by each firm contributed importantly to total or partial separation of the firm's workers, or threat thereof, and to a decrease in sales or production of each petitioning firm.

Any party having a substantial interest in the proceedings may request a public hearing on the matter. A request for a hearing must be received by Trade Adjustment Assistance, Room 7315, Economic Development Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20230, no later than the close of business of the tenth calendar day following the publication of this notice.

The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance official program number and title of the program under which these petitions are submitted is 11.313, Trade Adjustment Assistance.

Dated: December 19, 2000.

Anthony J. Meyer,

Coordinator, Trade Adjustment and Technical Assistance.

[FR Doc. 00–33330 Filed 12–28–00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D.122200A]

Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Habitat Conservation Plans proposed for Public Utility District No. 1 of Douglas County, Washington, and the Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County, Washington

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

ACTION: Notice of document availability; request for comments.

SUMMARY: This notice advises the public that the Public Utility District (PUD) No. 1 of Douglas County, Washington, and the PUD No. 1 of Chelan County, Washington, (applicants) have submitted individual applications to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) for incidental take permits pursuant to the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The permit applications are related to the effects on listed anadromous fish of the PUDs' ongoing and future hydroelectric project operations on the mainstem Columbia River. Each PUD has included with its application a proposed (draft) Anadromous Fish Agreement and Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) designed to minimize and mitigate any such incidental take of endangered or threatened species, as required by the ESA. The proposed HCPs are also intended to serve as proposed agreements to satisfy the PUDs' obligations under the Federal Power Act and related Federal and state laws governing project effects on anadromous fish and their habitat. To consider the effects of these proposed HCPs, the NMFS has prepared a DEIS that is now available for review and comment by interested parties.

DATES: Written comments on the DEIS must be received on or before March 29, 2001.

ADDRESSES: For copies of the DEIS, or to provide written comments, contact: National Marine Fisheries Service, Northwest Region, Hydro Program, 525 NE Oregon Street, Suite 420, Portland, OR 97232-2737 (503-736-4734). Comments may also be sent via fax to (503) 231-2318. Comment will not be accepted if submitted via email or the internet.

The DEIS and the proposed HCPs are available for review via the world wide web at www.nwr.noaa.gov/1hydro/hydroweb/ferc.htm (under the "Related Documents" heading).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Bob Dach, Fishery Biologist, Hydro Program, Portland, OR (503-736-4734).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under section 9 of the ESA and its implementing regulations, "taking" of an endangered species is prohibited. However, in limited circumstance NMFS may issue a permit to take endangered species if such taking is incidental to, and not the purpose of, an otherwise lawful activity. Regulations governing permits for endangered species can be found in 50 CFR part 222.

Anticipating that NMFS' decision to issue an incidental take permit, as contemplated by the proposed HCPs, would be a major federal action under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the PUDs requested that NMFS conduct a coordinated and consolidated environmental review process to facilitate the resolution of remaining issues under the proposed agreements while complying with applicable Federal and state legal requirements.

NMFS considers each of these permit requests to be a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. Therefore, in accordance with the requirements of NEPA, NMFS has prepared a DEIS. This notice, provided pursuant to NEPA

regulations (40 CFR 1506.6), advises the public that the DEIS and proposed HCPs are now available for review and comment. After considering any comments received pursuant to this notice, NMFS will prepare a final EIS and make a final determination regarding the sufficiency of the applications in accordance with the requirements of 50 CFR 222.307. If deemed sufficient, NMFS thereafter will publish a notice that the applications are available for public comment, as required by 50 CFR part 222, prior to reaching a decision on whether to issue or deny issuance of the permits.

The following species and evolutionarily significant units are included in these Plans: Endangered Upper Columbia River (UCR) spring-run chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) and steelhead (*O. mykiss*), unlisted UCR summer/fall chinook salmon (*O. tshawytscha*), Okanogan River and Lake Wenatchee sockeye salmon (*O. nerka*), and UCR coho salmon (*O. kisutch*). The Plan also proposes specific procedures, protection and enhancement measures to mitigate for the effects that the Wells, Rocky Reach and Rock Island hydroelectric projects will have on these species, for a period of 50 years. The Wells Dam is owned and operated by the PUD No. 1 of Douglas County and the Rocky Reach and Rock Island dams are owned and operated by the PUD No. 1 of Chelan County. All three of these hydroelectric projects are located on the Mid-Columbia River in central Washington state.

The applicants have provided proposed HCPs with the intent of obtaining incidental take permits pursuant to ESA section 10(a)(1)(B). The proposed HCPs were developed over several years of negotiations with Federal and state resource agencies, Native American Tribes, and with American Rivers (a non-governmental environmental organization). While these negotiations produced proposed agreements on many important issues, it should be noted that not all parties are in support of the HCPs as currently proposed. NMFS has determined that we are unable to execute the agreements until a public review, the requisite environmental reviews, and Federal/Tribal consultations have been completed.

The proposed HCPs include a standard of "no net impact" which consists of a 95-percent juvenile dam passage survival standard and a 91-percent total project survival standard for each of the Plan species. The total project survival standard includes both the juvenile and adult life stages of the

Plan species. The unavoidable project mortality (i.e., the remaining 9-percent of the Plan species still impacted by project operations) will be mitigated through a habitat conservation fund and a supplementation program. The habitat fund will address 2-percent of the unavoidable loss and the supplementation program will address the remaining 7-percent. As a result of this commitment, the applicants are requesting incidental take permits with a term of 50 years, settlement under the Federal Power Act when each project is relicensed, and a "no surprises" guarantee from the Federal government.

Following the DEIS public review and comment period, a preferred alternative will be selected and evaluated for its affect on ESA-listed species. At that time, NMFS will determine the sufficiency of the section 10(a)(1)(B) permit applications and will publish a notice of availability in the **Federal Register** for review of the completed applications and the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). NMFS will make its decision regarding issuance of the permit following completion of the FEIS and permit application review period.

The DEIS considers the environmental consequences of three alternatives: (1) no action, (2) ESA coverage pursuant to section 7(a)(2), and (3) ESA coverage pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B). Alternative 1, the no action alternative, would result in continuation of the status quo. Alternative 2 would require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to implement all measures necessary to aid in the recovery of listed species, up to full mitigation of the project effects, although only limited measures would be applied to currently unlisted species. Alternative 3 would utilize the "no net impact" standard, as described previously, and implementation processes set forth in the proposed HCPs to both protect currently listed species and to further protect and enhance the remaining Plan species in an attempt to prevent future listings. The results of implementing each of these alternatives on the human environment have been assessed in the DEIS.

NMFS will use the comments received to modify the DEIS as appropriate and to aid in the selection of the preferred alternative. The applicants will then have an opportunity to modify their HCPs, if necessary, to address information provided during the comment period. Upon completion of a biological opinion on the preferred alternative, NMFS will render its decision.

Dated: December 22, 2000.

Wanda L. Cain,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 122100C]

Endangered Species; Permits

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

ACTION: Receipt of application to modify permits (1231).

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 applications for permit modifications from: Dr. Lew Ehrhart, University of Central Florida (1231).

DATES: Comments or requests for a public hearing on any of the new applications or modification requests must be received at the appropriate address or fax number no later than 5 p.m. eastern standard time on January 29, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on any of the new applications or modification requests should be sent to the appropriate office as indicated below. Comments may also be sent via fax to the number indicated for the application or modification request. Comments will not be accepted if submitted via e-mail or the Internet. The applications and related documents are available for review.

For permit 1231: Office of Protected Resources, Endangered Species Division, F/PR3, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (ph: 301-713-1401, fax: 301-713-0376).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For permit 1213: Terri Jordan, Silver Spring, MD (phone: 301-713-1401 x148; fax: 301-713-0376); e-mail: Terri.Jordan@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority

Issuance of permits and permit modifications, as required by the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543) (ESA), is based on a