

with respect to water quality is not known. This research study will deploy 1,000 hatchery-reared juvenile shortnose sturgeon in cages at 10 test sites within the Roanoke/Albemarle River system for 28 days. The fish will then be euthanized and their tissue analyzed for contaminants. The results of this study will provide needed information to determine if water quality is a limiting factor of the ecological success of shortnose sturgeon in this river system.

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 24, 2003.

Stephen L. Leathery,

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

[FR Doc. 03-7962 Filed 4-1-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 032703H]

Endangered Species; File No. 1190

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 NMFS Southwest Region, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90802-4213, has requested a modification to scientific research Permit No. 1190.

DATES: Written or telefaxed comments must be received on or before May 2, 2003.

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) 713-0376;

Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213; phone (562) 980-4001; fax (562) 980-4018; and

Protected Species Coordinator, Pacific Area Office, NMFS, 1601 Kapiolani

Bldv., Rm. 1110, Honolulu, HI 96814-4700; phone (808) 973-2935; fax (808) 973-2941;

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) 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:

Carrie Hubard or Ruth Johnson, (301) 713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject modification to Permit No. 1190, issued on March 8, 1999, (64 FR 14432) and subsequently modified on September 21, 2000, (65 FR 58514) and February 20, 2001, (66 FR 14134), 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. 1190 authorizes the permit holder to document and evaluate the incidental take of sea turtles by the Hawaiian pelagic longline fishery. Trained observers placed on fishery vessels are authorized to examine, measure, weigh, biopsy sample, and tag up to 40 green (*Chelonia mydas*), 100 leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*), 600 loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*), 40 hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), and 100 olive ridley (*Lepidochelys olivacea*) sea turtles annually. Of the sampled turtles, 50 hard-shelled turtles may have a transmitter attached. The incidental capture of the sea turtles by the fishery is covered by an incidental take statement in a biological opinion on the fishery, not by the scientific research permit. Permit No. 1190 expires on March 31, 2004. The permit holder requests authorization to expand observer programs in order to monitor all pelagic longline fisheries governed by Fisheries Management Plan for Pelagic Fisheries of the Western Pacific. The modification would allow observers to sample sea turtles in the manner described above from fisheries beyond that in Hawaiian waters, such as those

in American Samoa, the Territory of Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands. The permit holder also requests authority to import sea turtle samples as necessary. There is no change in the number of sea turtles that will be sampled annually or the type of sampling, only the geographic region.

Dated: March 27, 2003.

Stephen L. Leathery,

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

[FR Doc. 03-7963 Filed 4-1-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 031203B]

Endangered and Threatened Species; Take of Anadromous Fish

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

ACTION: Receipt of application for scientific research permits (1414 and 1416) and request for comment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that NMFS has received an application for scientific research from East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) in Lodi, CA (1414) and Fishery Foundation of California (Fishery Foundation) in Fair Oaks, CA (1416). These permits would affect the Central Valley steelhead Evolutionarily Significant Unit (ESU) as identified in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section. This document serves to notify the public of the availability of the permit applications for review and comment before a final approval or disapproval is made by NMFS.

DATES: Written comments on the permit applications must be received no later than 5 p.m. Pacific Standard Time on May 2, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on the permit application should be sent to the appropriate office. Comments may also be sent via fax to the number indicated for the request. Comments will not be accepted if submitted via e-mail or the Internet. The applications and related documents are available for review, by appointment, for permits 1414 and 1416: Protected Resources Division, NMFS, 650 Capitol Mall, Suite 8-300, Sacramento, CA 95814 (ph: 916-930-3600, fax: 916-930-3629). Documents

may also be reviewed by appointment in the Office of Protected Resources, F/PR3, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910 3226 (301 713 1401).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Rosalie del Rosario at phone number 916-930-3600, or e-mail:

Rosalie.delRosario@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 finding that such permits/modifications: (1) are applied for in good faith; (2) 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. Authority to take listed species is subject to conditions set forth in the permits. Permits and modifications are issued in accordance with and are subject to the ESA and NMFS regulations governing listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR parts 222-226).

Those individuals 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, NOAA. All statements and opinions contained in the permit action summaries are those of the applicant and do not necessarily reflect the views of NMFS.

Species Covered in This Notice

This notice is relevant to the federally-listed threatened ESU Central Valley steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*).

New Applications Received

EBMUD requests a five-year permit to conduct monitoring and research of anadromous (Central Valley steelhead) and resident fishes in the Lower Mokelumne River. The goals of the project include measuring the success of the Lower Mokelumne River Restoration Program and determining if the modifications of the Lower Mokelumne River Project are appropriate for conserving fish and wildlife resources in the Lower Mokelumne River.

Fishery Foundation requests a one-year permit to monitor Central Valley steelhead in the Lower Calaveras River to determine how many adults reach spawning grounds above and how many

juveniles migrate downstream of Bellota Weir.

Dated: March 28, 2003.

Phil Williams,

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

[FR Doc. 03-7964 Filed 4-1-03; 8:45 am]

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COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Cancellation of Request for Public Comments Due to the Withdrawal of Commercial Availability Petition under the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA)

March 28, 2003.

AGENCY: The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA).

ACTION: Cancellation of the request for public comments on the commercial availability petition from Crystal Apparel Limited of Hong Kong and Sinotex Mauritius Limited in Mauritius regarding certain light- and medium-weight dyed warp pile cotton velvet, for use in apparel articles.

SUMMARY: On March 28, 2003, the Chairman of CITA was notified by Sandler, Travis and Rosenberg, counsel for Crystal Apparel Limited of Hong Kong and Sinotex Mauritius Limited in Mauritius, of the withdrawal of the commercial availability request concerning certain light- and medium-weight dyed warp pile cotton velvet, for use in apparel articles, due to technical errors in the request. Consequently, the notice published in the **Federal Register** on March 28, 2003 (68 FR 15154) is cancelled.

James C. Leonard III,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

[FR Doc. 03-8146 Filed 3-31-03; 2:06 pm]

BILLING CODE 3510-DR-S

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer invites comments on the submission for OMB review as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before May 2, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Lauren Wittenberg, Acting Desk Officer, Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW., Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503 or should be electronically mailed to the internet address *Lauren.Wittenberg@omb.eop.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g. new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) title; (3) summary of the collection; (4) description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) reporting and/or recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment.

Dated: March 27, 2003.

John D. Tressler,

Leader, Regulatory Information Management, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

Office of Postsecondary Education

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Title: Application for State Grants for Improving Teacher Quality.

Frequency: Annually.

Affected Public: State, local, or tribal gov't, SEAs or LEAs (primary).

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 11.

Burden Hours: 2200.

Abstract: This application package is essential for States to apply for new awards under the Teacher Quality