

1. Invite affected Federal, state, and local agencies, Alaska Natives, and other interested persons to participate in the EIS process.

2. Determine the potential significant environmental issues to be analyzed in the EIS.

3. Identify and eliminate issues determined to be insignificant or addressed in other documents.

4. Allocate assignments among the lead agency and cooperating agencies regarding preparation of the EIS, including impact analysis and identification of mitigation measures.

5. Identify related environmental documents being prepared.

6. Identify other environmental review and consultation requirements.

The official scoping period is from the date of this notice until December 15, 2006.

Please visit NMFS Alaska Region web page at <http://www.fakr.noaa.gov> for more information on this EIS. NMFS estimates the draft EIS will be available in April 2007.

#### Authority

The preparation of the EIS for the subsistence harvest of Western Arctic bowhead whales by Alaska Natives will be conducted under the authority and in accordance with the requirements of NEPA, Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR parts 1500–1508), other applicable Federal laws and regulations, and policies and procedures of NMFS for compliance with those regulations.

Dated: October 12, 2006.

**Samuel D. Rauch III,**

*Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 101106H]

#### Endangered and Threatened Species; Take of Anadromous Fish

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

**ACTION:** Receipt of application for research permit and request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that NMFS has received an application for a permit for scientific research from

Tenera Environmental in Lafayette, CA. (Permit 1583). This notice is relevant to federally endangered Sacramento River winter-run Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), threatened Central Valley spring-run Chinook salmon (*O. tshawytscha*), threatened Central Valley steelhead (*O. mykiss*), and threatened Southern Distinct Population Segment of North American green sturgeon (*Acipenser medirostris*). This document serves to notify the public of the availability of the permit applications for review and comment.

**DATES:** Written comments on the permit applications must be received at the appropriate address or fax number (see **ADDRESSES**) no later than 5 p.m. Pacific Standard Time on November 17, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments on the permit application should be sent to the appropriate office as indicated below. Comments may also be sent via e-mail to [FRNpermit.sac@noaa.gov](mailto:FRNpermit.sac@noaa.gov) or fax to the number indicated for the request. The application and related documents are available for review by appointment: Protected Resources Division, NMFS, 650 Capitol Mall, Suite 8–300, Sacramento, CA 95814 (ph: 916–930–3615, fax: 916–930–3629).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Russell Bellmer, Ph.D. at phone number 916–930–3615, or e-mail: [FRNpermit.sac@noaa.gov](mailto:FRNpermit.sac@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 federally endangered Sacramento River winter-run Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), threatened Central Valley spring-run Chinook salmon (*O. tshawytscha*), threatened Central Valley steelhead (*O. mykiss*), and threatened Southern Distinct Population Segment of North American green sturgeon (*Acipenser medirostris*).

#### Applications Received

Tenera Environmental requests a one-year permit 1583 for an estimated take of 32 juvenile winter-run Chinook Salmon, 85 juvenile spring-run Chinook Salmon, and 6 juvenile Central Valley steelhead to fulfill the requirements of U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and provide current impingement data as requested by National Marine Fisheries Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and California Department Fish and Game. Tenera Environmental requests authorization for an estimated total take of 123 juveniles (with 100 percent incidental mortality) resulting from rinsing all impinged material from the traveling screens into the screenwash sluiceways and directed by water flow and gravity into a collection container. Sampling will occur once every four hours for one 24-hour collection period per week for 12 consecutive months (312 samples) at the Contra Costa Power Plant (lat. 38° 01'12" N., long. 121° 45'36" W.) and Pittsburg Power Plant (lat. 38° 02'28" N., long. 121° 53'38" W.) located in the Suisun Bay of San Francisco Bay Delta. If any listed species are collected alive they will be immediately returned into Suisun Bay.

Individuals are measured and identified to species or race. Tenera Environmental will take a total of six juveniles of the threatened Southern Distinct Population Segment of North American green sturgeon (with 100 percent incidental mortality) resulting from capture and release of the fish.

Dated: October 12, 2006.

**Maria Boroja,**

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

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