

Thomas D. Potter

Date

Attachments

### Modernization Transition Committee

#### *Completion of Initial Consultation on Proposed Consolidation for Galveston and Los Angeles*

The Modernization Transition Committee (MTC) has reviewed the consolidation certifications for the Houston/Galveston and Los Angeles/Oxnard consolidations and has determined that these actions will not result in degradation of services. In fact, contrary to the degradation of service, the Committee has concluded that these consolidations have improved the levels of service in these areas.

In addition, the committee makes the following recommendations to further improve, and maintain such levels of service:

(1) Continue to improve precipitation data assimilation and analysis capabilities.

(2) The Los Angeles/Oxnard WFO local weather description summary should include reference to weather related threats to public safety such as fire and mudslides.

(3) The Los Angeles/Oxnard WFO should implement a program of nonstructural mitigation to minimize the effects of earthquakes and other collapsed structure incidents on the provision of weather forecasting services.

Dated: June 14, 1995.

**Peter R. Leavitt,**

*Chair, Modernization Transition Committee.*

[FR Doc. 95-15511 Filed 6-23-95; 8:45 am]

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[I.D. 062095B]

### Endangered Species; Permits

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

**ACTION:** Issuance of permit 964 (P770#69), modification 5 to permit 825 (P513), modification 4 to permit 817 (P45K), and modification 2 to permit 823 (P503C).

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that NMFS has issued a permit and modifications to permits authorizing takes of listed species for the purpose of scientific research, subject to certain conditions set forth therein, to the Coastal Zone and Estuarine Studies Division (CZESD) of the Northwest Fisheries Science Center, NMFS, the

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (CRITFC), the Northwest Biological Science Center of the National Biological Service (NBS), and the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG).

**ADDRESSES:** The applications and related documents are available for review in the following offices, by appointment:

Office of Protected Resources, F/PR8, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3226 (301-713-1401); and

Environmental and Technical Services Division, F/NWO3, NMFS, 525 NE Oregon Street, Portland, OR 97232-4169 (503-230-5400).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Permit 964, modification 5 to permit 825, modification 4 to permit 817, and modification 2 to permit 823 were issued under the authority of section 10 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543) and the NMFS regulations governing listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR parts 217-222).

Notice was published on February 9, 1995 (60 FR 7752) that an application had been filed by CZESD (P770#69) for a permit to take listed species. CZESD requested authorization for a direct take of juvenile, listed, Snake River fall chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) and an incidental take of juvenile, listed, Snake River sockeye salmon (*Oncorhynchus nerka*) and juvenile, listed, naturally-produced and artificially-propagated, Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) associated with a juvenile fall chinook salmon transportation study. The purpose of the study is to compare the adult recoveries of run-of-the-river subyearling chinook salmon transported around the hydropower dams on the Columbia River using state-of-the-art facilities and technologies versus those migrating inriver under as favorable passage conditions as possible. Permit 964 was issued to CZESD on June 14, 1995. The duration of the research will be from approximately June 15 to September 15 for 3 of the next 5 years. The take of listed species associated with the research is authorized for 1995. Permit 964 expires on December 31, 1999.

Notice was published on April 26, 1995 (60 FR 20480) that an application had been filed by CRITFC (P513) for modification 5 to permit 825. Permit 825 authorizes a take of adult and juvenile, listed, naturally-produced and artificially-propagated, Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) associated

with five scientific research projects. For modification 5, CRITFC requested an additional take of juvenile, listed, Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon and a take of juvenile, listed, Snake River sockeye salmon (*Oncorhynchus nerka*) associated with a new scientific research project designed to provide fishery managers and hydropower system operators with real-time information on the distribution and incidence of gas bubble trauma symptoms experienced by migrating juvenile salmon during spills at Lower Monumental and Ice Harbor Dams on the Snake River and McNary and Bonneville Dams on the Columbia River. Modification 5 to permit 825 was issued on June 9, 1995 and is valid for the duration of the permit. Permit 825 expires on December 31, 1997.

Notice was published on March 20, 1995 (60 FR 14735) that an application had been filed by NBS (P45K) for modification 4 to permit 817. Permit 817 authorizes a take of juvenile, listed, Snake River fall and spring/summer chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) associated with a study designed to assess the migration timing of juvenile anadromous salmon using passive integrated transponder (PIT) tags and Panjet marks. For modification 4, NBS requested an increase in the annual take authorized in the permit and approval to use an additional sampling gear type. The increase in the annual take was requested to obtain a sufficient sample size to estimate the migration timing of fish produced in the upper Snake and Clearwater Rivers to Lower Monumental Dam on the lower Snake River. In addition, NBS requested approval to use modified fyke nets instead of beach seines to capture fish for tagging and to assess nearshore movements of the marked fish in the Snake and Clearwater Rivers. Modification 4 to permit 817 was issued on June 5, 1995 and is valid for the duration of the permit. Permit 817 expires on December 31, 1996.

Notice was published on March 9, 1995 (60 FR 12913) that an application had been filed by IDFG (P503C) for modification 2 to permit 823. Permit 823 authorizes a take of adult and juvenile, listed, naturally-produced and artificially-propagated, Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), adult and juvenile, listed, Snake River fall chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), and adult and juvenile, endangered, Snake River sockeye salmon (*Oncorhynchus nerka*) associated with a wide range of scientific research activities. For modification 2, IDFG requested an increase in the lethal take

of juvenile, endangered, Snake River sockeye salmon in Redfish Lake to optimize the evaluation of Redfish Lake fertilization/supplementation efforts in 1995 and beyond. In addition, IDFG requested to implement three other actions which would not require an increase in the take of listed species authorized in the permit. These three actions are: (1) A fish flush strategy designed to provide flushing flows through a seasonally dewatered stretch of the Lemhi River between the Barracks Lane Bridge and the Clark Steelhead Bridge during times of critical adult and juvenile salmon migrations; (2) the installation of a second juvenile fish trap upstream from the existing juvenile fish trap, the Sawtooth Hatchery weir, on the upper Salmon River to optimize trapping efficiency with the aim of developing more accurate estimates of anadromous fish survival rates and migration timing; and (3) the installation of a rotary screw trap in Rapid River upstream from the Rapid River Fish Hatchery to collect natural production information on wild steelhead salmon. Modification 2 to permit 823 was issued on June 13, 1995 and is valid for the duration of the permit. Permit 823 expires on November 30, 1997.

Issuance of these permit actions, as required by the ESA, was based on a finding that such actions: (1) Were applied for in good faith, (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of the listed species that are the subject of the permits, and (3) are consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA and the NMFS regulations governing listed species permits.

Dated: June 20, 1995.

**Robert C. Ziobro,**

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

[FR Doc. 95-15528 Filed 6-23-95; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army

#### **Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for the Creation of Artificial Reefs Within the U.S. Continental Shelf Using Surplus Armored Vehicles (REEF-EX)**

**AGENCY:** Army Material Command, DOD.

**ACTION:** Notice of Availability.

**SUMMARY:** This notice of availability is for the Environmental Assessment (EA)

and the Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) which were prepared for the program known as Reef-Ex. The EA analyzes the environmental impacts of transportation, cleaning, and offshore placement of obsolete surplus armored military vehicles into artificial reef placement sites pre-approved by the appropriate state and Federal regulatory authorities. The FNSI briefly presents the reasons why the proposed action will not significantly affect the human environment and why an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was not prepared.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Persons wishing to review or receive further information on the EA and FNSI should contact LTC Dale, (703) 274-7115, Headquarters, U.S. Army Materiel Command, ATTN: AMCSA-AR, 5001, Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria, VA 22333-0001. For due consideration, comments must be received no later than 30 days from publication of this notice in the Federal Register.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The purpose of Reef-Ex is to provide practical and challenging U.S. Reserve Component training while enhancing national fishery resources. Benefits to the military include training for the Reserve Component personnel responsible for preparing and implementing transportation plans, scheduling and conducting and cleaning operations, and executing the final placement of vehicles at designed reef sites. National fishery resources will benefit from the increase of valuable habitat. Reef-Ex will concentrate primarily on the offshore deployment of obsolete armored vehicles. The obsolete armored vehicles will come largely from two classes: tanks and combat vehicles. The primary tank considered for the Reef-Ex program will be the M60 main battle tank. The Viet Nam-era M60 tank became obsolete by the end of the cold war. In addition, earlier model tanks such as the M48 and M551 "Sheridan" tanks may also be used in the Reef-Ex program. The combat vehicles will consist of members from the M113 Family of Vehicles (FOV), which have been used for a variety of missions including transport of infantry and engineering units, medial evacuation, fire support, and command and control functions on the battlefield. Under this program, it is proposed that up to 1,000 surplus/obsolete armored vehicles and similar types of equipment will be deployed in offshore artificial reef sites annually. If a reef site lies within state waters, a state permit and a Federal (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers) permit are required. If a reef is established in

Federal waters (beyond the 3 miles from the ocean shoreline), only a Corps of Engineers (COE) permit is required. The holder of the COE permit; i.e. a state agency, is responsible for complying with all terms and conditions of the artificial reef permit and obtaining the necessary regulatory approvals. No armored vehicles will be transported for artificial reef placement without the necessary regulatory approvals. Cleanup standards and inspection procedures for the M48 and M60 tanks were developed as a result of extensive coordination with Federal and state agencies. Similar cleanup standards and inspections procedures will be developed for combat vehicles and other types of tanks. In addition to the proposed action, the EA considered several alternatives. They were: (1) No action, (2) sell for scrap/salvage, (3) sales to other countries, and (4) mothballing. The direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts associated with implementation of the Reef-Ex program by the U.S. Reserve Component personnel will not have significant adverse effects on the quality of the human environment. No threatened or endangered species, historical sites, or known archaeological resources are expected to be adversely affected by any of the activities associated with the Reef-Ex program. Coordination and cooperation with regulatory and technical environmental agencies has and will ensure that this action will be environmentally beneficial by creating valuable habitat for undersea life and providing for enhanced offshore fishing and diving on the artificial reef and surrounding areas. Based upon the analysis of the economic, social, and environmental considerations addressed in the EA, it was determined that the Reef-Ex program will not cause any significant impacts to the environment. Therefore, no EIS is required and a FNSI was prepared.

**Gregory D. Showalter,**

*Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No.: 84.310A]

### **Parental Assistance Program**

**ACTION:** Clarification regarding eligible applicants.

**SUMMARY:** On May 25, 1995, the U.S. Secretary of Education published a notice in the **Federal Register** inviting applications for new awards for fiscal