

adopt 1996 regulatory options for public review.

March 25, 1996: Report with proposed management options and public hearing schedule is mailed to the public. (The report includes options, rationale, and summary of biological and economic impacts.)

April 1-2, 1996: Public hearings are held to receive comments on the proposed ocean salmon fishery regulatory options adopted by the Council. All public hearings begin at 7 p.m. on the dates and at the locations specified below.

April 1, 1996: Westport High School Commons, 2850 S. Montesano Street, Westport, WA.

April 1, 1996: Pony Village Motor Inn, Ballroom, Virginia Avenue, North Bend, OR.

April 2, 1996: Red Lion Inn, Chinook Room, 400 Industry, Astoria, OR.

April 2, 1996: Red Lion Inn, Evergreen Room, 1929 Fourth Street, Eureka, CA.

April 8-12, 1996: Council and its advisory entities meet at the Holiday Inn San Francisco International Airport North, South San Francisco, CA, to adopt final 1996 regulatory measures.

April 18, 1996: Newsletter describing adopted ocean salmon fishing management measures is mailed to the public.

April 12-23, 1996: Salmon Technical Team completes "Preseason Report III Analysis of Council Adopted Regulatory Measures for 1996 Ocean Salmon Fisheries."

May 1, 1996: Federal regulations implemented and preseason report III available for distribution to the public.

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Eric Greene at (503) 326-6352 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: February 23, 1996.

Richard H. Schaefer,

Director of Office of Fisheries Conservation and Management, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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[I.D. 022096A]

Endangered Species; Permits

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

ACTION: Notice of receipt of a request to extend permit 962 (P509B), and

issuance of modification 2 to permit 878.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Carlos Diez and Robert van Dam from the University of Central Florida (P509B) have applied in due form to extend Permit 962. Notice is also given that modification 2 has been issued to permit 878, held by Florida Department of Environmental Protection (P553). Both permits authorize the take of listed sea turtles for the purpose of scientific research, subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

DATES: Written comments or requests for a public hearing on the request to extend Permit 962 must be received on or before April 1, 1996.

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

Office of Protected Resources, F/PR8, NMFS, 1315 East-West Hwy., Room 13307, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3226 (301-713-1401);

or
Director, Southeast Region, NMFS, NOAA, 9721 Executive Center Drive, St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432 (813-893-3141).

Written comments, or requests for a public hearing on the request to extend Permit 962 should be submitted to the Chief, Endangered Species Division, Office of Protected Resources.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The holders of Permit 962 request an extension from 1 year to 5 years, under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543) and NMFS regulations governing listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR parts 217-227). No other change to the current authorization is requested. The current permit authorizes the hand capture of 200 listed hawksbill sea turtles (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) and 20 listed green sea turtles (*Chelonia mydas*), to be examined, photographed, measured, and tagged. The research location is Mona and Monito Islands, PR (18°05' N., 67°54' W.). Some of the turtles may be lavaged, have blood or scute samples taken, or have time-depth recorders attached. A four-year extension would authorize this take annually until May 31, 2000. The goal of the research is to provide information on the ecology and population dynamics of the hawksbill that will make it possible to improve the effectiveness of management efforts, addressing the following recovery plan priorities: (1) The identification of important marine habitats, (2) the determination of adult and juvenile

distribution and abundance, (3) the determination of sex ratios in the juvenile population, (4) the evaluation of the extent of ingestion of persistent marine debris, (5) the determination of growth rates and age at sexual maturity, and (6) the quantification of threats to adults and juveniles on foraging grounds. In justification for the extension of this permit, recovery plans and other publications indicate that studies such as abundance, distribution, growth rates, and sex ratios should be conducted for at least 10 years.

Permit 878 authorizes research on loggerhead, green, Kemp's ridley, hawksbill, and leatherback sea turtles in Florida waters. Some turtles are authorized for blood samples, laparoscopic examinations, lavage, and tumor collection. The purpose of the research is to investigate life histories, habitat requirements, migratory behaviors, and threats to the species. On February 20, 1996, Modification 2 was issued to Permit 878, increasing the number of listed sea turtles authorized to receive telemeters from 15 to 30. Issuance of this modification, as required by the ESA, was based on a finding that such modification: (1) Was applied for in good faith, (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of the listed species that are the subject of this modification, and (3) is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

Those individuals requesting a hearing on the request to extend Permit 962 should set out the specific reasons why a hearing on this particular request would be appropriate (see **ADDRESSES**). The holding of such hearing is at the discretion of the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA. All statements and opinions contained in these permit summaries are those of the applicant and do not necessarily reflect the views of NMFS.

Dated: February 22, 1996

Russell J. Bellmer,

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

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[I.D. 022296B]

Endangered Species; Permits

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

ACTION: Receipt of applications for modifications to three scientific