

indirect mortalities associated with the scientific research activities are also requested.

NWFSC (1137) requests a one-year scientific research permit for takes of juvenile, endangered, Snake River sockeye salmon (*Oncorhynchus nerka*); juvenile, threatened, naturally produced and artificially propagated, Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*); juvenile, threatened, Snake River fall chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*); juvenile, endangered, naturally produced and artificially propagated, upper Columbia River steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*); juvenile, threatened, Snake River steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*); and juvenile lower Columbia River steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) (currently proposed as threatened) associated with four scientific research studies at hydropower dams on the Snake and Columbia Rivers in the Pacific Northwest. The purpose of the four studies are: (Study 1) to evaluate a prototype fish separator at Ice Harbor Dam; (Study 2) to establish biological design criteria for fish passage facilities at McNary Dam; (Study 3) to evaluate vertical barrier screens, outlet flow control devices, and methods of debris control at McNary and Little Goose Dams; and (Study 4) to evaluate extended-length bar screens at the first powerhouse of Bonneville Dam. ESA-listed juvenile fish would be captured, handled with some tagged with passive integrated transponders, and released. The applicant requests lethal take of ESA-listed juvenile fish, as well as indirect mortalities of ESA-listed juvenile fish associated with the research activities.

NWCPUD requests modification 2 to scientific research permit 948. Permit 948 authorizes NWCPUD annual takes of juvenile, ESA-listed, Snake River salmon associated with a study designed to assess run-of-the-river juvenile anadromous fish condition after passage through the screened turbine intake channel at The Dalles Dam, located on the Columbia River. For modification 2, NWCPUD requests an annual take of juvenile, endangered, naturally produced and artificially propagated, upper Columbia River steelhead and juvenile, threatened, Snake River steelhead associated with the research. ESA-listed juvenile steelhead are proposed to be captured, handled, and released. ESA-listed juvenile steelhead indirect mortalities associated with the research are also requested. Modification 2 is requested to be valid for the duration of the permit which expires on September 30, 1999.

ICFWRU requests modification 3 to scientific research permit 994. Permit 994 authorizes ICFWRU annual takes of adult, ESA-listed, Snake River salmon associated with a study designed to assess the passage success of migrating adult salmonids at the four dams and reservoirs in the lower Columbia River, evaluate adult fish responses to specific flow and spill conditions, and evaluate measures to improve adult fish passage. For modification 3, ICFWRU requests an increase in the take of adult, threatened, Snake River spring/summer and fall chinook salmon associated with the research. Also for modification 3, a new study is proposed. The new study is designed to determine if adult salmon successfully return to natal streams or hatcheries and if homing is affected by mode of seaward migration (in-river versus transport). ESA-listed adult salmon are proposed to be captured at Lower Granite Dam on the Snake River, fitted with radio transmitters and identifier tags, and released. Once returned to the river, ESA-listed adult fish will be tracked electronically to hatcheries and spawning grounds. Modification 3 is requested to be valid for the duration of the permit which expires on December 31, 2000.

To date, protective regulations for threatened Snake River steelhead under section 4(d) of the ESA have not been promulgated by NMFS. This notice of receipt of applications requesting takes of this species is issued as a precaution in the event that NMFS issues protective regulations that prohibit takes of Snake River steelhead. The initiation of a 30-day public comment period on the applications, including their proposed takes of Snake River steelhead, does not presuppose the contents of the eventual protective regulations. To date, a listing determination for lower Columbia River steelhead under the ESA has not been promulgated by NMFS. This notice of receipt of an application requesting a take of this species is issued as a precaution in the event that NMFS issues a listing determination. The initiation of a 30-day public comment period on the application, including its proposed take of lower Columbia River steelhead, does not presuppose a listing determination.

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

Dated: March 2, 1998.

Marta F. Nammack,

*Acting 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. 022498C]

Endangered Species; Permits

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

ACTION: Receipt of an application for modification 5 to scientific research permit 822.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Fish Passage Center at Portland, OR (FPC) has applied in due form for a modification to a permit that would authorize takes of endangered and threatened anadromous steelhead for the purpose of scientific research.

DATES: Written comments or requests for a public hearing on this application must be received on or before April 6, 1998.

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

Office of Protected Resources, F/PR3, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3226 (301-713-1401); and

Protected Resources Division (PRD), F/NWO3, 525 NE Oregon Street, Suite 500, Portland, OR 97232-4169 (503-230-5400).

Written comments or requests for a public hearing should be submitted to the Chief, PRD in Portland, OR.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert Koch, PRD (503-230-5424).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: FPC requests a modification to a permit 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 ESA-listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR parts 217-227).

FPC requests modification 5 to permit 822. Permit 822 authorizes FPC annual direct takes of juvenile, endangered, Snake River sockeye salmon (*Oncorhynchus nerka*); juvenile, threatened, naturally produced and artificially propagated, Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon

(*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*); and juvenile, threatened, Snake River fall chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) associated with the Smolt Monitoring Program (SMP), conducted at hydropower dams on the Snake and Columbia Rivers in the Pacific Northwest and at a number of upriver locations in the state of ID. Permit 822 also authorizes FPC annual incidental takes of ESA-listed adult Snake River salmon associated with fallbacks through the juvenile bypass systems at Bonneville and John Day Dams on the Columbia River. The purpose of the SMP is to generate information on the migrational characteristics of anadromous fish stocks in the Columbia River Basin. The information is used to implement flow and spill measures designed to improve fish passage conditions at the dams and reservoirs on the Snake and Columbia Rivers.

For modification 5 to the permit, FPC requests: (1) annual direct takes of juvenile, endangered, naturally produced and artificially propagated, upper Columbia River steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) and juvenile, threatened, Snake River steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) associated with the SMP; (2) an annual direct take of juvenile lower Columbia River steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*), a species currently proposed as threatened, at Bonneville Dam; and (3) annual incidental takes of ESA-listed adult steelhead associated with fallbacks through the juvenile fish bypass systems at Bonneville and John Day Dams. ESA-listed steelhead indirect and incidental mortalities associated with the SMP are requested. Modification 5 to permit 822 is requested to be valid for the duration of the permit. Permit 822 expires on December 31, 1998.

To date, protective regulations for threatened Snake River steelhead under section 4(d) of the ESA have not been promulgated by NMFS. This notice of receipt of an application requesting a take of this species is issued as a precaution in the event that NMFS issues protective regulations that prohibit takes of Snake River steelhead. The initiation of a 30-day public comment period on the application, including its proposed take of Snake River steelhead, does not presuppose the contents of the eventual protective regulations. To date, a listing determination for lower Columbia River steelhead under the ESA has not been promulgated by NMFS. This notice of receipt of applications requesting takes of this species is issued as a precaution in the event that NMFS issues a listing determination. The initiation of a 30-day public comment period on the

applications, including their proposed takes of lower Columbia River steelhead, does not presuppose a listing determination.

Aspects of this proposed permit modification, and a request received from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to modify permit 895 to include takes of ESA-listed steelhead, will be the subject of scheduled hearings, as previously noticed (63-FR-9204, February 24, 1998). Those individuals requesting a hearing on the request for modification 5 to permit 822 should set out the specific reasons why a hearing 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 above application summary are those of the applicant and do not necessarily reflect the views of NMFS.

Dated: March 2, 1998.

Marta F. Nammack,

*Acting 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. 022698C]

Endangered Species; Permits

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

ACTION: Receipt of applications for modifications to scientific research permits 956, 1035, and 1036.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Geological Survey at Cook, WA (USGS) has applied in due form for modifications to permits that would authorize takes of Endangered Species Act-listed steelhead for the purpose of scientific research.

DATES: Written comments or requests for a public hearing on any of the applications must be received on or before April 6, 1998.

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

Protected Resources Division (PRD), F/NWO3, 525 NE Oregon Street, Suite 500, Portland, OR 97232-4169 (503-230-5400).

Office of Protected Resources, F/PR3, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver

Spring, MD 20910-3226 (301-713-1401); and

Written comments or requests for a public hearing should be submitted to the Chief, PRD in Portland, OR.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert Koch (503-230-5424).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: USGS requests modifications to permits 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 ESA-listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR parts 217-227).

USGS requests modification 3 to permit 956. Permit 956 authorizes USGS annual takes of juvenile, threatened, naturally produced and artificially propagated, Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) and juvenile, threatened, Snake River fall chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) associated with a study designed to obtain data on the distribution, abundance, movement, and habitat preferences of the anadromous fish that migrate through Lower Granite Reservoir; to evaluate the operation of a surface bypass collector in the forebay of Lower Granite Dam; and to verify species of hydroacoustic surveys. For modification 3, USGS requests an annual take of juvenile, threatened, Snake River steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) associated with the research. ESA-listed juvenile steelhead are proposed to be acquired from the Idaho Department of Fish and Game and/or the Smolt Monitoring Program (SMP) (operating under the authority of separate permits), collected by purse seine, or collected from the juvenile bypass facility at Lower Granite Dam; transported as necessary to Lower Granite Dam; surgically implanted with radio transmitters; released at Lower Granite Dam; and tracked electronically. USGS requests indirect mortalities of ESA-listed juvenile steelhead, and requests that Modification 3 be valid for the duration of the permit which expires on September 30, 1999.

USGS requests modification 1 to permit 1035. Permit 1035 authorizes USGS an annual take of juvenile, threatened, artificially propagated, Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon associated with a study designed to determine the vertical and horizontal distribution of juvenile salmonids exposed to high levels of total dissolved gas during their seaward migration in the Snake and Columbia Rivers. The vertical and horizontal distribution of juvenile salmonids exposed to high levels of total dissolved gas must be further defined to assess the