

Interested parties may contact the Central Records Unit, Room B-099 of the Main Commerce Building, for copies of an updated list of countervailing duty orders currently in effect.

This countervailing duty order is published in accordance with section 706(a) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.211.

Dated: September 10, 1998.

Richard W. Moreland,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

[FR Doc. 98-24774 Filed 9-14-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

Judges Panel of the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award; Meeting

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of closed meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app. 2, notice is hereby given that there will be a closed meeting of the Judges Panel of the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award on Thursday, September 24, 1998. The Judges Panel is composed of nine members prominent in the field of quality management and appointed by the Secretary of Commerce. The purpose of this meeting is to review the consensus process, determine possible conflict of interest for site visited companies, select applicants for site visits, begin stage III of the judging process, and review of feedback to first stage applicants. The applications under review contain trade secrets and proprietary commercial information submitted to the Government in confidence.

DATE: The meeting will convene September 24, 1998 at 8:00 a.m. and adjourn at 4:00 p.m. on September 24, 1998. The entire meeting will be closed.

ADDRESS: The meeting will be held at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Administration Building Conference Room, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Harry Hertz, Director, National Quality Program, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899, telephone number (301) 975-2361.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Assistant Secretary for Administration, with the concurrence of the General

Counsel, formally determined on May 22, 1998, that the meeting of the Judges Panel will be closed pursuant to Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app. 2, as amended by Section 5(c) of the Government in the Sunshine Act, P.L. 94-409. The meeting, which involves examination of records and discussion of Award applicant data, may be closed to the public in accordance with Section 552b(c)(4) of Title 5, United States Code, since the meeting is likely to disclose trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential.

Dated: September 10, 1998.

Robert E. Hebner,

Acting Deputy Director.

[FR Doc. 98-24740 Filed 9-14-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-13-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 090498C]

Endangered Species; Permits

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

ACTION: Receipt of application for a scientific research permit (1178); Issuance of a scientific research permit (1155).

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the following actions regarding permits for takes of endangered and threatened species for the purposes of scientific research and/or enhancement: NMFS has received a permit application from Michael P. Sissenwine, Ph.D., Science and Research Director, Northeast Fisheries Science Center, NMFS (NEFSC) (1178); and NMFS has issued a scientific research permit to Dr. Tim King, of US Geological Survey - BRD - Leetown Science Center (LSC) (1155).

DATES: Written comments or requests for a public hearing on the application must be received on or before October 15, 1998.

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

Director, Northeast Region, NMFS, NOAA, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA, 01930-2298 (978-281-9250); and

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For permit 1155: Terri Jordan, Endangered Species Division, Silver Spring, MD (301-713-1401).

For permit 1178: Michelle Rogers, Endangered Species Division, Silver Spring, MD (301-713-1401).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority

Permits are requested and 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 ESA-listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR parts 217-227).

Those individuals requesting a hearing on the request for a permit 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 below application summaries are those of the applicant and do not necessarily reflect the views of NMFS.

New Application Received

NEFSC (1178) has requested a 5-year scientific research permit for listed sea turtles incidentally taken in fisheries in the Northwest Atlantic. The work will be conducted by scientific observers aboard such vessels. The following species and take numbers have been requested: 300 loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*), 85 leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*), 10 Kemp's ridley (*Lepidochelys kempi*), 10 hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), and 10 green (*Chelonia mydas*) turtles. The applicant has requested authorization to measure, photograph, flipper tag, scan for PIT tags, resuscitate (if necessary) and release turtles taken in foreign and domestic commercial fishing vessels operating in state waters and the Exclusive Economic Zone. Further, the applicant has requested authority to bring to shore, when feasible, dead sea turtles for necropsy. Necropsy will only be performed by personnel currently permitted to conduct such research. This research supports the National Marine Fisheries Service's mission of assessing the impacts of commercial fisheries on marine resources of interest to the United States.

Permit Issued

Notice was published on June 3, 1998 (63 FR 30199), that an application had been filed by LSC for a 5-year permit to possess the DNA of listed shortnose surgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*).

Permit 1155 was issued on July 21, 1998, and expires on July 31, 2003.

Dated: September 9, 1998.

Kevin Collins,

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

[FR Doc. 98-24724 Filed 9-14-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 090498B]

Endangered Species; Permits

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

ACTION: Issuance of scientific research permits (1141, 1148, 1152) and modifications to scientific research permits (900, 946, 948, 994).

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that NMFS has issued permits to: Public Utility District No 2 of Grant County at Ephrata, WA (PUDGC) (1141), the Resource Enhancement and Utilization Technologies Division of the Northwest Fisheries Science Center, NMFS at Seattle, WA (NWFSC) (1148), and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife at La Grande, OR (ODFW) (1152); and has issued modifications to permits to: Northwest Fisheries Science Center, NMFS at Seattle, WA (NWFSC) (900 and 946), the Northern Wasco County People's Utility District at The Dalles, OR (NWCPUD) (948), and the Idaho Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit at Moscow, ID (ICFWRU) (994).

ADDRESSES: The permits, applications and related documents are available for review in the following offices, by appointment: Protected Resources Division, F/NWO3, 525 NE Oregon Street, Suite 500, Portland, OR 97232-4169 (503-230-5400); and

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For permit 1141: Tom Lichatowich (503-230-5438).

For permits 900, 946, 948, 994, 1148, and 1152: Robert Koch (503-230-5424).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority

Permits are 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 ESA-listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR parts 217-227).

Issuance of the permits and permit modifications, as required by the ESA, was based on a finding that such actions: (1) Were requested/proposed in good faith, (2) would not operate to the disadvantage of the ESA-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 ESA-listed species permits.

Species Covered in this Notice

The following species are covered in this notice: Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), Sockeye salmon (*O. nerka*), Steelhead (*O. mykiss*).

Permits Issued

Notice was published on April 16, 1998 (63 FR 73), that an application had been filed by PUDGC for a 5-year research permit. Permit 1141 was issued on August 21, 1998, and authorizes takes of endangered, juvenile, upper Columbia River (UCR) steelhead in three research activities. In the first, one-third of the smolts netted at Wanapum Dam would be anesthetized, counted, examined for marks, and lengths taken on a representative 5% sample before the fish would be allowed to recover in a holding tank until release. In the second activity, 50-100 smolts are examined twice per week for gas bubble trauma. The third study involves a lethal take of ESA-listed steelhead smolts captured during weekly fyke-netting efforts at Wanapum Dam from mid-July through August as part of a hydro acoustics study. Permit 1141 expires on December 31, 2002.

Notice was published on May 15, 1998 (63 FR 27055), that an application had been filed by NWFSC for a scientific research/enhancement permit. Permit 1148 was issued to NWFSC on September 2, 1998. Permit 1148 authorizes NWFSC annual direct takes of adult and juvenile, endangered, Snake River sockeye salmon associated with its role in a captive broodstock program. The captive broodstock program is a cooperative effort among the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG), NMFS, the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, the University of Idaho, the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA). Funding is provided by BPA. IDFG is authorized annual takes of ESA-listed sockeye salmon under scientific research/enhancement Permit 1120. Permit 1148 expires on December 31, 2002.

Notice was published on May 29, 1998 (63 FR 29382), that an application had been filed by ODFW for a scientific research permit. Permit 1152 was issued to ODFW on August 26, 1998. Permit 1152 authorizes ODFW annual direct takes of adult and juvenile, threatened, naturally produced, Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon associated with scientific research conducted in the Grande Ronde and Imnaha River Basins in the state of OR. ODFW will conduct five research tasks: (1) Spring chinook salmon spawning ground surveys, (2) spring chinook salmon early life history, (3) habitat and fish inventory surveys, (4) passage and irrigation screening, and (5) monitoring of residual hatchery steelhead. Permit 1152 expires on December 31, 2002.

Permits Modifications Issued

Notice was published on May 29, 1998 (63 FR 29382) that an application had been filed by NWFSC for modification 6 to scientific research permit 900. Modification 6 to permit 900 was issued to NWFSC on September 4, 1998. Permit 900 authorizes NWFSC annual direct takes of juvenile, endangered, Snake River sockeye salmon; juvenile, threatened, naturally produced and artificially propagated, Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon; juvenile, threatened, Snake River fall chinook salmon; and juvenile, endangered, naturally produced and artificially propagated, upper Columbia River steelhead associated with three studies designed to determine the relative survival of migrating juvenile salmonids at hydropower dams and reservoirs on the Snake and Columbia Rivers in the Pacific Northwest. For modification 6, NWFSC is authorized an increase in the annual takes of ESA-listed juvenile fish associated with The Dalles Dam survival study. Actual field conditions to date in 1998 indicate that NWFSC underestimated the amount of ESA-listed fish takes needed to validate the study. Modification 6 is valid for the duration of the permit, which expires on December 31, 1999.

Notice was published on May 29, 1998 (63 FR 29382) that an application had been filed by NWFSC for modification 5 to scientific research permit 946. Modification 5 to permit 946 was issued to NWFSC on September 4, 1998. Permit 946 authorizes NWFSC annual direct takes of juvenile, endangered, Snake River sockeye salmon; juvenile, threatened, naturally produced and artificially propagated, Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon; juvenile, threatened, Snake River fall chinook salmon; and juvenile, endangered, naturally produced and