

with research designed to compare biological and physiological indices of wild and hatchery juvenile fish exposed to stress from bypass, collection, and transportation activities at the dams on the Snake and Columbia Rivers. The purpose of the research is to determine effects of manmade structures and management activities on outmigrating salmonids and to provide information that can be used to improve their survival. Lethal and non-lethal takes of ESA-listed juvenile fish are authorized by permit 1136. For the modifications, OCFWRU requests annual takes of juvenile MCR steelhead, juvenile LCR steelhead, and juvenile LCR chinook salmon. ESA-listed juvenile fish are proposed to be captured using lift nets or dipnets at McNary Dam and/or John Day Dam on the Columbia River or acquired from SMP or NMFS personnel at Bonneville Dam on the Columbia River, handled, and released while obtaining target fish for the research (primarily hatchery-produced chinook salmon and steelhead). OCFWRU also requests increases in takes of all ESA-listed juvenile fish species currently authorized to be taken by the permit, including both lethal and non-lethal takes. Finally, OCFWRU requests a 2-year extension of the permit. The modifications are requested to be valid for the duration of the permit, which is now proposed to expire on December 31, 2002.

Permits, Amendments, and Modifications Issued

Notice was published on March 2, 1998 (63 FR 10198) that USFWS had applied for a scientific research permit. Permit 1119 was issued on May 15, 1998, and authorized the annual take of adult and juvenile, naturally produced and artificially propagated UCR steelhead associated with studies designed to gather data on emerging juvenile salmon and steelhead and to conduct snorkel surveys in various watersheds as part of inventory and artificial structure monitoring projects. NMFS issued an amendment to permit 1119 on February 22, 2000, that authorizes USFWS annual direct takes of adult and juvenile, naturally produced and artificially propagated UCR spring chinook salmon associated with the studies. An associated indirect mortality of juvenile, naturally produced and artificially propagated UCR spring chinook salmon is also authorized. The amendment to permit 1119 is valid for the duration of the permit, which expires on December 31, 2002.

Notice was published on February 2, 1999 (64 FR 5030) that

USGS had applied for a modification to scientific research permit 1130. Modification 1 to permit 1130 was issued on February 22, 2000, and authorizes USGS to tag a higher number of fish at John Day Dam and reduce the number tagged at Bonneville Dam due to an increased priority for evaluating fish passage efficiency at John Day Dam. USGS is also authorized annual takes of juvenile, naturally produced and artificially propagated UCR spring chinook salmon. Indirect mortalities of juvenile naturally produced and artificially propagated UCR spring chinook salmon associated with the research are also authorized. Modification 1 to permit 1130 is valid for the duration of the permit, which expires on December 31, 2002.

Notice was published on April 26, 1999 (64 FR 20266) that ECD had applied for a modification to scientific research permit 1140. Modification 1 to permit 1140 was issued on February 22, 2000, and authorizes ECD annual take of juvenile naturally produced and artificially propagated UCR spring chinook salmon. Modification 1 to permit 1140 is valid for the duration of the permit, which expires on December 31, 2002.

Notice was published on April 26, 1999 (64 FR 20266) that Mr. Charles Cortelyou, of DNR had applied for a scientific research permit that would authorize takes of juvenile UCR spring chinook salmon and juvenile UCR steelhead associated with salmonid presence/absence surveys in proposed timber sale areas in the State of Washington. The stream surveys will determine the correct stream classification and place the stream in the correct Riparian Management Zones (RMZ). The correct RMZ designation will protect listed fish by requiring proper riparian buffers be left along streams. Permit 1215 was issued on February 22, 2000, and expires on December 31, 2003.

Dated: February 25, 2000.

Wanda L. Cain,

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. 011300A]

Marine Mammals; Scientific Research Permit No. 962-1530

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

ACTION: Issuance of permit.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Dr. Stephen D. Busack, Director Research and Collections, North Carolina State Museum of Natural Sciences, 102 North Salisbury St., Raleigh NC 27603 has been issued a permit to import a marine mammal specimen for scientific purposes.

ADDRESSES: The permit and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment. (see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On November 10, 1999 notice was published in the **Federal Register** (64 FR 61278) that a request for a scientific research permit to import one blue whale skeleton as a scientific specimen had been submitted by the above-named individual. The requested permit has been issued under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) and the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216), and the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA, 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and the regulations governing the taking, importing and exporting of endangered fish and wildlife (50 CFR 222.23).

Issuance of this permit as required by the ESA is based on a finding that such permit: (1) Was applied for in good faith; (2) Will not operate to the disadvantage of the endangered species which are the subject of this permit; and (3) is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in Section 2 of the ESA.

Addresses: Documents are available in the following offices: Permits Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289);

Northeast Region, NMFS, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930-2289 (508/281-9250);

Southeast Region, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive North, St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432 (813/570-5301);

Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213 (310/980-4001);

Northwest Region, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way, NE, BIN C15700, Bldg., 1, Seattle, WA 98115-0070 (206/526-6150); and

Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668 (907/586-7221).

Dated: February 25, 2000.

Ann D. Terbush,

Chief, Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Applications of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange for Designation as a Contract Market for Futures and Options on the FORTUNE e-50 Index™

AGENCY: Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

ACTION: Notice of availability of terms and conditions of proposed commodity futures and options contracts.

SUMMARY: The Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME or Exchange) has applied for designation as a contract market for futures and options on the FORTUNE e-50 Index™. The Acting Director of the Division of Economic Analysis (Division) of the Commission, acting pursuant to the authority delegated by Commission Regulation 140.96, has determined that publication of the proposals for comment is in the public interest, will assist the Commission in considering the views of interested persons, and is consistent with the purpose of the Commodity Exchange Act.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before April 3, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons should submit their views and comments to Jean A. Webb, Secretary, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street, NW, Washington, DC 20581. In addition, comments may be sent by facsimile transmission to facsimile number (202) 418-5521 or by electronic mail to *secretary@cftc.gov*. Reference should be made to the Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME) for futures and options on the FORTUNE e-50 Index™.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Please contact Thomas Leahy of the Division of Economic Analysis,

Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street, NW., Washington, DC (202) 418-5278. Facsimile number: (202) 418-5527. Electronic mail: *t Leahy@cftc.gov*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Copies of the terms and conditions will be available for inspection at the Office of the Secretariat, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street, NW., Washington, DC 20581. Copies of the terms and conditions can be obtained through the Office of the Secretariat by mail at the above address or by phone at (202) 418-5100.

Other materials submitted by the CME in support of the applications for contract market designation may be available upon request pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Commission's regulations thereunder (17 CFR Part 145 (1997)), except to the extent they are entitled to confidential treatment as set forth in 17 CFR 145.5 and 145.9. Requests for copies of such materials should be made to the FOI, Privacy and Sunshine Act Compliance Staff of the Office of Secretariat at the Commission's headquarters in accordance with 17 CFR 145.7 and 145.8.

Any person interested in submitted written data, views, or arguments on the proposed terms and conditions, or with respect to other materials submitted by the CME should send such comments to Jean A. Webb, Secretary, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street, NW, Washington, DC 20581 by the specified date.

Issued in Washington, DC, on February 25, 2000.

Richard A. Shilts,

Acting Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Notice of Intent (NOI) To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Future Development and Operations at Fort Meade, MD

AGENCY: Department of the Army, DOD.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Army Fort George G. Meade, Maryland, announces its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that will address the future development and operations of

Fort Meade's Real Property Master Plan (RPMP) for the Years 2000-2004. The planned projects which will occur during this time include the following: construction of new facilities that will consolidate tenants from dilapidated World War II structures and off post leased facilities into more cost efficient and effective facilities, demolition and construction of barracks and mess halls and providing on post development opportunities for tenants on installations that are currently faced with Base Realignment and Closure. It is the purpose of this EIS to further assess the impacts, most specifically to air and traffic, that were identified in the Environmental Assessment entitled "Future Development and Operations Environmental Assessment" dated April 1999.

ADDRESSES: Questions or written comments may be forwarded to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division, Planning and Environmental Services Branch (Attn: Ft. Meade EIS), 10 South Howard Street, P.O. Box 1715, Baltimore, Maryland 21203-1715, Telephone (410) 962-4939.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Jim Gebhardt, Environmental Engineer, Directorate of Public Works Environmental Management Office, at (301) 677-9365.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Fort Meade RPMP has the potential to significantly impact certain natural, economic, social and cultural resources of the Fort Meade community. The objective is to prepare a comprehensive EIS which will serve as a planning tool, a public information source and a reference for mitigation tracking.

Alternatives may consist of alternate locations for specific projects, partial implementation of the specific project or modifications to the specific project. The alternatives will be developed during the preparation of the Draft EIS (DEIS) as a result of public input and the environmental analysis of the proposals within the plan. The objective Fort Meade's DEIS is to identify and evaluate any environmental implications that may result from developing the Master Plan. The DEIS will describe the impacts of existing environmental, cultural and natural resources, social, economic and environmental justice conditions associated with the proposed projects at Fort Meade.

The Army will initiate a scoping process to discuss significant issues related to the DEIS through public meetings and local publications. These efforts are designed to encourage public