

part 216), the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222–226).

Issuance of this permit amendment, as required by the ESA, was 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 is the subject of this permit, and (3) is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

The permit amendment authorizes the permit holder to import one male Steller sea lion from the Vancouver Aquarium, Vancouver, Canada, for breeding with female Steller sea lions currently held by Mystic Aquarium in support of their study of changes in vitamin A and E status in relation to various life history stages in captive Steller sea lions.

Dated: October 24, 2002.

Eugene T. Nitta,

Acting Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, NOAA Fisheries.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 102102B]

Endangered Species; File Nos. 1266, 1380, 1388

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

ACTION: Issuance of modification, Issuance of permits.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the following applicant has been issued a permit modification to take sea turtles for purposes of scientific research/enhancement:

REMSA, Inc., 12829 Jefferson Ave., Suite 108, Newport News, VA 23608 (John Glass, Principal Investigator).

Notice is hereby given that the following applicants have been issued a permit to take sea turtles for purposes of scientific research/enhancement:

Coastwise Consulting, 173 Virginia Ave., Athens, GA 30601 (Christopher Slay, Principal Investigator) (File No. 1380); and

Dr. David Nelson, U.S. Army Research and Development Center, Waterways Experiment Station, 4104 Freetown Rd., Vicksburg, MS 39183 (File No. 1388).

ADDRESSES: The modification, permits, and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s):

All documents: Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301)713–2289; fax (301)713–0376;

Northeast Region, NMFS, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930–2298; phone (978)281–9200; fax (978)281–9371; and

Southeast Region, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive North, St. Petersburg, FL 33702–2432; phone (727)570–5301; fax (727)570–5320.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Carrie Hubbard or Ruth Johnson, 301/713–2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On March 27, 2002, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (67 FR 14698) that a modification of Permit No. 1266, issued May 8, 2001 (66 FR 27940), had been requested by REMSA, Inc. The requested modification has been granted under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222–226).

Permit 1266 authorizes capturing via trawl, handling, flipper tagging and releasing sea turtles while removing them from the path of hopper dredges. Originally the Permit authorized the take of 30 loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*), 7 green (*Chelonia mydas*), 5 Kemp's ridley (*Lepidochelys kempii*), 4 hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), and 4 leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*) sea turtles. This modification increases the annual take to 350 loggerhead, 150 green, 150 Kemp's ridley, 10 hawksbill and 10 leatherback sea turtles. The applicant will also begin passive integrated transponder (PIT) tagging the sea turtles in addition to the previously authorized activities. Research is conducted in the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico.

On April 24, 2002, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (67 FR 20094) that a request for a scientific research permit to take sea turtles had been submitted by Coastwise Consulting. The requested permit has been issued under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222–226).

Permit No. 1380 authorizes the capture of live sea turtles using shrimp trawlers in association with hopper dredge activities along the southeastern U.S. coast and the Gulf of Mexico. Trawling may be conducted prior to dredging to assess the abundance of sea turtles in an area and/or during dredging operations to relocate turtles away from the channel being dredged. Captured turtles will be identified, measured, photographed, tagged with both flipper and PIT tags, and genetically sampled before being released. The annual number of takes authorized are: 800 loggerhead, 235 Kemp's ridley, 155 green, 51 hawksbill, and 24 leatherback turtles.

On July 23, 2002, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (67 FR 48135) that a request for a scientific research permit to take sea turtles had been submitted by Dr. Nelson. The requested permit has been issued under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222–226).

Permit No. 1388 authorizes sea turtle research in the northwestern Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico. The first project involves relocation trawling in association with hopper dredge activity. A total of 200 loggerhead, 100 green, 30 Kemp's ridley, 2 hawksbill, and 2 leatherback sea turtles are authorized to be captured, handled, measured, flipper and PIT tagged, and released. The second project uses a subset of the turtles caught via relocation trawling to investigate large-scale movements and diving behavior. Twenty loggerhead, 5 Kemp's ridley, and 5 green turtles will be satellite tagged in addition to the above activities before being released. The third project is an abundance and habitat survey of green sea turtles along the shoreline of Cape Canaveral. A total of 75 green sea turtles may be captured, handled, flipper and PIT tagged, and fitted with a radio/sonic transmitter or a time-depth recorder/radio transmitter, before being released.

Issuance of these permits and modification, as required by the ESA, was based on a finding that such modification/permits: (1) were applied for in good faith, (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of the endangered species which are the subject of these permits, and (3) are consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in Section 2 of the ESA.

Dated: October 25, 2002.

Eugene T. Nitta,

Acting Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 102102C]

Endangered and Threatened Species; Take of Anadromous Fish

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

ACTION: Issuance of 32 scientific research permit actions.

SUMMARY: Between July 31 and September 27, 2002, NOAA Fisheries' Northwest Region issued 32 permits, permit modifications, and permit amendments allowing endangered and threatened species of Pacific salmon and steelhead to be taken for scientific research purposes under section 10(a)1(A) the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973, as amended. The research actions and the species they

affect are listed in the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section below.

ADDRESSES: The permits, permit applications, and related documents are available for review by appointment at NOAA Fisheries' Protected Resources Division, F/NWO3, 525 NE Oregon Street, Suite 500, Portland, OR 97232-2737 (phone: 503-230-5400, fax: 503-230-5435).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steve Stone, Portland, OR (phone: 503-231-2317, fax: 503-230-5435, e-mail: *steve.stone@noaa.gov*).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority

The ESA requires that permits, permit modifications, and permit amendments be issued based on a finding that such actions: (1) are applied for in good faith; (2) would not operate to the disadvantage of the listed species that are the subject of the actions; and (3) are consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA. Authority to take listed species is subject to conditions set forth in the permits. Permits, modifications, and amendments are issued in accordance with, and are subject to, the ESA and NOAA Fisheries regulations governing listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR parts 222-226).

Species Covered in This Notice

The ESA-listed species/evolutionarily significant units (ESUs) covered by this notice are identified below and listed in the subsequent table by the numbers that precede each of them in the following text:

- (1) Puget Sound chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*)
- (2) Lower Columbia River chinook salmon
- (3) Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon
- (4) Snake River fall chinook salmon
- (5) Upper Columbia River spring-run chinook salmon
- (6) Upper Willamette River chinook salmon
- (7) Hood Canal summer-run chum salmon (*O. keta*)
- (8) Columbia River chum salmon
- (9) Lower Columbia River steelhead (*O. mykiss*)
- (10) Middle Columbia River steelhead
- (11) Snake River steelhead
- (12) Upper Willamette River steelhead
- (13) Upper Columbia River steelhead
- (14) Southern Oregon/Northern California Coasts coho salmon (*O. kisutch*)
- (15) Oregon Coast coho salmon
- (16) Snake River sockeye salmon (*O. nerka*)
- (17) Ozette Lake sockeye salmon

TABLE 1.—THIRTY-TWO SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH PERMIT ACTIONS AFFECTING THREATENED AND ENDANGERED PACIFIC SALMON AND STEELHEAD

Permit Number	Af- fected Spe- cies/ ESU	Permittee	Federal Register Notice of Application Receipt
1135	2, 9	U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)	April 4, 2002 (67 FR 17970)
1140	1, 15	Northwest Fisheries Science Center (NWFSC)	June 11, 2002 (67 FR 39960)
1141	5	Public Utility District No. 2 of Grant County	April 4, 2002 (67 FR 17970)
1156	14, 15	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	June 11, 2002 (67 FR 39960)
1177	14	Portland District Corps of Engineers	April 4, 2002 (67 FR 17970)
1256	6, 15	Bureau of Land Management	May 16, 2002 (67 FR 34909)
1291	16	USGS	June 25, 2002 (67 FR 42757)
1309	1	King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks (KCDNRP).	June 11, 2002 (67 FR 39960)
1315	1	U.S. Corps of Engineers Seattle District	April 4, 2002 (67 FR 17970)
1317	10	USGS	April 4, 2002 (67 FR 17970) June 25, 2002 (67 FR 42757)
1318	2, 6, 9, 12, 15	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW)	May 16, 2002 (67 FR 34909)
1322	3, 6, 5, 8	NWFSC	April 4, 2002 (67 FR 17970) June 25, 2002 (67 FR 42757)
1335	1, 7, 8, 9, 10	U.S. Forest Service	May 16, 2002 (67 FR 34909)
1336	2, 6, 9, 12, 15	Port Blakely Tree Farms	May 16, 2002 (67 FR 34909)
1345	1, 3, 5, 6, 10, 11, 13	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	May 16, 2002 (67 FR 34909)
1358	14	ODFW	February 22, 2002 (67 FR 8233)
1359	14	ODFW	February 22, 2002 (67 FR 8233)
1362	11	Idaho Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit	April 4, 2002 (67 FR 17970)