

to review proposed projects and make recommendations under Title II of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000.

DATES: The meeting will be held June 16 and 17, 2003, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the office of the Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council, 2363 SW Glacier Place, Redmond, Oregon 97756. Send written comments to Leslie Weldon, Designated Federal Official for the Deschutes and Ochoco Resource Advisory Committee, c/o Forest Service, USDA, Deschutes National Forest, 1645 Highway 20 East, Bend, OR 97701 or electronically to Iweldon@fs.fed.us

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Leslie Weldon, Designated Official, Deschutes National Forest, 541-383-5512.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting is open to the public. Committee discussion is limited to Forest Service staff and Committee members. However, persons who wish to bring Title II matters to the attention of the Committee may file written statements with the Committee staff before the meeting. A public input session will be provided and individuals who made written requests by June 10 will have the opportunity to address the Committee at the session.

Dated: May 19, 2003.

Leslie A.C. Weldon,

Designated Federal Official.

[FR Doc. 03-13110 Filed 5-23-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

John Day/Snake Resource Advisory Council, Hells Canyon Subgroup

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Hells Canyon Subgroup of the John Day/Snake Resource Advisory Council will meet on June 25-27, 2003 at the Pittsburg Admin Site on Snake River. The meeting will begin at 2 p.m. and continue until 5 p.m. the first day, day 2 will begin at 8 a.m. and will end at 5 p.m., and the final day will begin at 8 a.m. and end at noon. Public comment will be heard on June 25 at 1 at Pittsburg Launch.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Direct questions regarding this meeting to Kendall Clark, Area Ranger, USDA, Hells Canyon National Recreation Area, 88401 Highway 82, Enterprise, OR 97828, 541-426-5501.

Dated: May 20, 2003.

Karyn L. Wood,

Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 03-13111 Filed 5-23-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Agenda and Notice of Public Meeting of the Oregon Advisory Committee

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, that a meeting of the Oregon Advisory Committee to the Commission will convene at 11 a.m. and adjourn at 12:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 29, 2003. The purpose of the meeting is to follow-up on pending Oregon state legislation discussed at the last meeting. House Bill 2051, allowing local law enforcement to assume INS powers, and House Bill 2554, allowing local law enforcement to collect and maintain personal information on private citizens.

This conference call is available to the public through the following call-in number: 1-800-497-7709, access code: 16752964. Any interested member of the public may call this number and listen to the meeting. Callers can expect to incur charges for calls not initiated using the supplied call-in number or made over wireless lines, and the Commission will not refund any incurred charges. Callers will incur no charge for calls using the call-in number over land-line connections. Persons with hearing impairments may also follow the proceedings by first calling the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-977-8339 and providing the Service with the conference call number and access code.

To ensure that the Commission secures an appropriate number of lines for the public, persons are asked to register by contacting Philip Montez, Director of the Western Regional Office, 213-894-3437 (TDD 213-894-3435), by 3 p.m. on Thursday, May 28, 2003. The meeting will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the Commission.

Dated at Washington, DC April 30, 2003.

Ivy L. Davis,

Chief, Regional Programs Coordination Unit.

[FR Doc. 03-13183 Filed 5-21-03; 3:23 pm]

BILLING CODE 6335-01-P

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Agenda and Notice of Public Meeting of the Western Region State Advisory Committees

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, that a conference call among the "Western Regional" advisory committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights in the Western Region (Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Texas and Washington) will convene at 2 p.m. (P.d.t.) and adjourn at 3 p.m., Friday, June 13, 2003. The purpose of the conference call is to offer suggestions on how advisory committees to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights may engage in activities that are meaningful and measurable.

This conference call is available to the public through the following call-in number: 1-800-659-8290, access code number 17026197. Any interested member of the public may call this number and listen to the meeting. Callers can expect to incur charges for calls not initiated using the provided call-in number or over wireless lines and the Commission will not refund any incurred charges. Callers will incur no charge for calls using the call-in number over land-line connections. Persons with hearing impairments may also follow the proceedings by first calling the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-977-8339 and providing the Service with the conference call number and access code.

To ensure that the Commission secures an appropriate number of lines for the public, persons are asked to register by contacting Philip Montez of the Western Regional Office, (213) 894-3437, by 3 p.m. on Thursday, June 12, 2003.

The meeting will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the Commission.

Dated in Washington, DC, May 19, 2003.

Ivy L. Davis,

Chief, Regional Programs Coordination Unit.

[FR Doc. 03-13184 Filed 5-23-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6335-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 051503C]

Endangered Species; Permits

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration,
Commerce

ACTION: Issuance of Permit No:1417.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the following action regarding permits for takes of endangered and threatened species for the purposes of incidental take under the Endangered Species Act (ESA): NMFS has issued permit 1417 to Dr. Anne RudloeGulf Specimen Marine Laboratories, Inc.(GSML), Florida.

DATES: Effective May 15, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Requests for copies of the permit and environmental assessment should be addressed to the Chief, Endangered Species Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Therese Conant (ph. 301-713-1401, fax 301-713-0376, e-mail Therese.Conant@noaa.gov), or Eric Hawk (ph. 727-570-5312, fax 727-570-5517, e-mail Eric.Hawk@noaa.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 9 of the ESA and Federal regulations prohibit the "taking" of a species listed as endangered or threatened. The term "take" is defined under the ESA to mean harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct. NMFS may issue permits, under limited circumstances, to take listed species incidental to, and not the purpose of, otherwise lawful activities. Section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA provides for authorizing incidental take of listed species. NMFS regulations governing permits for threatened and endangered species are promulgated at 50 CFR 222.307.

Background

NMFS published a notice of receipt and requested public comments on the GSML application for an incidental take permit on February 14, 2003 (68 FR 7505). No public comments were received.

Permit 1417 was issued on May 15, 2003, and will expire May 1, 2012. The permit will be reviewed and reauthorized on an annual basis. Permit 1417 authorizes the take of listed sea turtles incidental to otherwise lawful trawling activities in the Florida state waters of Gulf, Franklin and Wakulla Counties. Permit 1417 authorizes through May 1, 2012, an incidental take of up to a total of 3 sea turtles, all live, in any combination, of loggerhead, green, Kemp's ridley or leatherback sea turtles and up to 1 Gulf sturgeon, alive.

Dated: May 19, 2003.

David O'Brien,

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

[FR Doc. 03-13157 Filed 5-23-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 040703H]

Small Takes of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Coastal Commercial Fireworks Displays

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

ACTION: Notice of proposed incidental harassment authorization and notice of receipt of application; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS has received a request from The Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS) for a one-year authorization to take small numbers of California sea lions and harbor seals by Level B harassment incidental to permitting professional fireworks displays within the Sanctuary in California waters, and an application for the promulgation of regulations governing the incidental take of marine mammals for the same activity over a five-year period. Under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), NMFS is requesting comments on its proposal to authorize the incidental harassment of small numbers of these two species and the application for regulations.

DATES: Comments and information must be received no later than June 26, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Comments on the proposed authorization and application should be addressed to Chief, Marine Mammal Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3225. A copy of the application may be obtained by writing to this address or by telephoning one of the contacts listed here. Comments cannot be accepted if submitted via e-mail or the Internet.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sarah Hagedorn, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, (301) 713-2322, ext 117; or Christina Fahy, Southwest Regional Office, NMFS, (562) 980-4023.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Sections 101(a)(5)(A) and (D) of the MMPA (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) direct the Secretary of Commerce to allow, upon request, the incidental, but not intentional, taking of small numbers of marine mammals by U.S. citizens who engage in a specified activity (other than commercial fishing) within a specified geographical region if certain findings are made and either regulations are issued or, if the taking is limited to harassment, a notice of a proposed authorization is provided to the public for review.

Permission may be granted if NMFS finds that the taking will have a negligible impact on the species or stock(s) and will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of the species or stock(s) for subsistence uses, and if the permissible methods of taking and requirements pertaining to the monitoring and reporting of such takings are set forth. NMFS has defined "negligible impact" in 50 CFR 216.103 as "...an impact resulting from the specified activity that cannot be reasonably expected to, and is not reasonably likely to, adversely affect the species or stock through effects on annual rates of recruitment or survival."

Subsection 101(a)(5)(D) of the MMPA established an expedited process by which citizens of the United States can apply for an authorization to incidentally take small numbers of marine mammals by harassment. Under Section 3(18)(A), the MMPA defines "harassment" as:

any act of pursuit, torment, or annoyance which (i) has the potential to injure a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild; or (ii) has the potential to disturb a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild by causing disruption of behavioral patterns, including, but not limited to, migration, breathing, nursing, breeding, feeding, or sheltering.

The term "Level A harassment" means harassment described in subparagraph (A)(i). The term "Level B harassment" means harassment described in subparagraph (A)(ii).

Subsection 101(a)(5)(D) establishes a 45-day time limit for NMFS review of an application followed by a 30-day public notice and comment period on any proposed authorizations for the incidental harassment of small numbers of marine mammals. Within 45 days of the close of the comment period, NMFS must either issue or deny issuance of the authorization.

Summary of Request

On May 10, 2002, NMFS received an application from the MBNMS requesting a one-year Incidental Harassment