

Council address: New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; telephone: (978) 465-0492.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Committees will meet to review and provide input on topics relevant to the Council's Ecosystems Pilot Project including, but not limited to, a review of the elements of the project including non-fishing marine resource uses; marine pollution and governance under an ecosystem approach. The committee will review the recent stakeholder workshops; provide advice for integrating, as necessary, ecosystems approaches with the current management structures and may consider other topics at their discretion.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, at (978) 465-0492, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: December 30, 2005.

Tracey L. Thompson,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. E5-8311 Filed 1-5-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 123005A]

Endangered and Threatened Species; Take of Anadromous Fish

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

ACTION: Extension of scientific research permit 1376 - Modification 1.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that NMFS has received a request to extend the duration of a scientific research permit that currently allows Pacific salmon to be taken. The research is designed to increase knowledge of salmonids listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and help guide management and conservation efforts.

DATES: Comments or requests for a public hearing on the application must be received no later than 5 p.m. Pacific time on February 6, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on the application should be sent to Protected Resources Division, NMFS, 1201 NE. Lloyd Blvd., Suite 1100, Portland, OR 97232-1274. Comments may also be sent via fax to 503-230-5441 or by e-mail to resapps.nwr@NOAA.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Garth Griffin, Portland, OR (ph.: 503-231-2005, Fax: 503-230-5435, e-mail: Garth.Griffin@noaa.gov). Permit application instructions are available at <http://www.nwr.noaa.gov>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Species Covered in This Notice

The following listed species (evolutionarily significant unit) is covered in this notice:

Chinook salmon (*O. tshawytscha*): threatened naturally produced and artificially propagated Puget Sound (PS).

Authority

Scientific research permits are issued in accordance with section 10(a)(1)(A) of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1531 et. seq) and regulations governing listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR Parts 222-226). NMFS issues permits based on findings that such permits: (1) Are applied for in good faith; (2) if granted and exercised, would not operate to the disadvantage of the listed species that are the subject of the permit; and (3) are consistent with the purposes and policy of section 2 of the ESA. The authority to take listed species is subject to conditions set forth in the permits.

Anyone requesting a hearing on this extension request should set out the specific reasons why such a hearing would be appropriate (see **ADDRESSES**). Hearings are held at the discretion of the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA.

Extension Request

Permit 1376 - Modification 1

Permit 1376 currently authorizes the Washington Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit (University of Washington, School of Aquatic and Fisheries Sciences) to take juvenile and

adult PS Chinook salmon in Lakes Washington and Sammamish, Washington. The purpose of the research is to understand food web interactions, identify sources of mortality, and determine the energetic requirements for sustaining fish and zooplankton communities in each lake. The study helps researchers identify and quantify factors limiting survival and growth of juvenile salmon and other species. The UW captures (using gillnets, trawls, hook-and-line, trot lines, minnow traps, beach seines, and backpack electrofishing equipment), anesthetizes, handles, measures, weighs, and releases juvenile PS Chinook salmon and examines their stomach contents. The permittee is asking NMFS to allow the research to continue until December 31, 2006. No other changes are proposed. Further information on the actions covered by this permit may be obtained from previous notices, from the biological opinion analyzing the effects of the research (2002/01919C - which is still in effect), and on the web at <http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/>.

This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(c) of the ESA. NMFS will evaluate the request, associated documents, and comments submitted to determine whether the request meets the requirements of section 10(a) of the ESA and Federal regulations. The final permit decision will not be made until after the end of the 30-day comment period. NMFS will publish notice of its final action in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: December 30, 2005.

Susan Pultz,

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

[FR Doc. E6-16 Filed 1-5-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 122005B]

Endangered Species; File No. 1557

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

ACTION: Notice; receipt of application.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Molly Lutcavage, Department of Biology, 177 A Spaulding Hall, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH 03824-2617, has applied in due form for a permit to take leatherback