

and to each of the six fee-share fisheries as follows:

1. Reduction fishery, \$28,428,719; and
2. Fee-share fisheries:
 - a. California coastal Dungeness crab fishery, \$2,334,334,
 - b. California pink shrimp fishery, \$674,202,
 - c. Oregon coastal Dungeness crab fishery, \$1,367,545,
 - d. Oregon pink shrimp fishery, \$2,228,845,
 - e. Washington coastal Dungeness crab fishery, \$369,426, and
 - f. Washington pink shrimp fishery, \$259,400.

Each of these allocations became a reduction loan subamount repayable by fees from the applicable fishery.

NMFS published in the **Federal Register** on July 13, 2005 (70 FR 40225), the final rule to implement the industry fee system for repaying the groundfish program's reduction loan. The regulations implementing the program are located at § 600.1012 of 50 CFR part 600's subpart M.

On August 8, 2005, NMFS published in the **Federal Register** (70 FR 45695) a notice of the fee effective date and established September 8, 2005 as the effective date when fee collection and loan repayment began.

II. Purpose

The purpose of this notice is to adjust, in accordance with the framework rule's § 600.1013(b), the fee rate for the Oregon pink shrimp fee-share fishery. Section 600.1013(b) directs NMFS to recalculate the fee rate that will be reasonably necessary to ensure reduction loan repayment within the specified 30 year term.

NMFS has determined that the current fee rate of 3.75 percent for the Oregon pink shrimp fishery is inadequate to service the loan. Therefore, NMFS is increasing the fee rate to 4.70 percent which NMFS has determined is necessary to ensure timely loan repayment.

To provide more accessible services, streamline collections, and save taxpayer dollars, fish buyers may disburse collected fee deposits to NMFS by using a secure Federal system on the Internet known as *Pay.gov*. *Pay.gov* enables fish buyers to use their checking accounts to electronically disburse their collected fee deposits to NMFS. Fish buyers who have access to the Internet should consider using this quick and easy collected fee disbursement method. Fish buyers may access *Pay.gov* by going directly to *Pay.gov*'s Federal website at: <http://www.pay.gov/paygov/>

Fish buyers who do not have access to the Internet or who simply do not

wish to use the *Pay.gov* electronic system, may continue to disburse their collected fee deposits to us by sending their checks to our lockbox. Our lockbox's address is:

NOAA Fisheries Pacific Coast Groundfish Buyback
 P O Box 979059
 St. Louis, MO 63197 9000

Fish buyers must not forget to include with their disbursements the fee collection report applicable to each disbursement. The fee collection report tells NMFS how much of the disbursement it must apply to the reduction fishery and six fee share fisheries subamounts. Fish buyers using *Pay.gov* will find an electronic fee collection report form to receive information and accompany electronic disbursements. Fish buyers who do not use *Pay.gov* must include a hard copy fee collection report with each of their disbursements. Fish buyers not using *Pay.gov* may also access the NMFS website for an Excel spreadsheet version of the fee collection report at: http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/mb/financial_services/buyback.htm.

III. Notice

The new fee rate for the Oregon pink shrimp fishery will begin on September 5, 2007].

From and after this date, all groundfish program fish sellers paying fees on the Oregon pink shrimp fee-share fishery shall begin paying groundfish program fees at the revised rate.

From and after this date, all fees received by NMFS for the Oregon pink shrimp fee-share fishery shall be subject to the new fee rates regardless of the applicable fee month.

Fee collection and submission shall follow previously established methods in § 600.1013 of the framework rule and in the final fee rule published in the **Federal Register** on July 13, 2005 (70 FR 40225).

The revised fees applicable to the groundfish program's reduction fishery and to each of its six fee-share fishery are as follows:

FISHERY	CURRENT FEE RATE	NEW FEE RATE
Groundfish	5.00%	5.00%
CA Coastal	1.24%	1.24%
Dungeness Crab		
CA Pink Shrimp	5.00%	5.00%
OR Coastal	0.55%	0.55%
Dungeness Crab		
OR Pink Shrimp	3.75%	4.70%
WA Coastal	0.16%	0.16%
Dungeness Crab		
WA Pink Shrimp	1.50%	1.50%

Authority: The authority for this action is Pub. L. 107 206, Pub. L. 108 7, 16 U.S.C. 1861a (b) through (e), and 50 CFR 600.1000 et seq.

Dated: July 31, 2007.

John Oliver,

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Operations, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. E7-15207 Filed 8-3-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XB72

Marine Mammals; File No. 10018

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

ACTION: Notice; receipt of application.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Dr. Rachel Cartwright, 5277 West Wooley Road, Oxnard, CA 93035, has applied in due form for a permit to conduct research on humpback whales (*Megaptera novaeangliae*).

DATES: Written, telefaxed, or e-mail comments must be received on or September 5, 2007.

ADDRESSES: The application and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following offices:

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)427-2521; and Pacific Islands Region, NMFS, 1601 Kapiolani Blvd., Rm 1110, Honolulu, HI 96814-4700; phone (808)973-2935; fax (808)973-2941.

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on this application should be mailed to the Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, F/PR1, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this particular request would be appropriate.

Comments may also be submitted by facsimile at (301)427-2521, provided the facsimile is confirmed by hard copy submitted by mail and postmarked no later than the closing date of the comment period.

Comments may also be submitted by e-mail. The mailbox address for providing e-mail comments is

NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov. Include in the subject line of the e-mail comment the following document identifier: File No. 10018.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Brandy Hutnak or Carrie Hubbard, (301)713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject permit is requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (MMPA; 16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the regulations governing the taking and importing of marine mammals (50 CFR 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 222-226).

The applicant seeks a five year permit to study the behavior and dynamics of humpback whale female and calf pairs in the waters off of Maui, Hawaii, including waters of the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary. Up to 540 takes for close vessel approach, photo-identification, focal follows, underwater observations, collection of sloughed skin, and incidental harassment are requested annually to test the hypotheses that behavior, dynamics and distribution of female/calf pairs varies between different stocks and may be influenced by abiotic factors such as aspects of bathymetry, water quality, and levels of vessel traffic. Incidental harassment of bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*), spinner dolphins (*Stenella longirostris*), pantropical spotted dolphins (*Stenella attenuata*), false killer whales (*Pseudorca crassidens*), and pilot whales (*Globicephala* sp.) is also requested. Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, NMFS is forwarding copies of this application to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Dated: August 1, 2007.

P. Michael Payne,

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

[FR Doc. E7-15232 Filed 8-3-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XB82

North Pacific Fishery Management Council; Notice of Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Meetings of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council Aleutian Island Ecosystem Team.

SUMMARY: The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) Ecosystem Committee will meet at the Auke Bay Laboratory Lena Point facility, in Juneau, AK, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesday, August 22, 2007

DATES: The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) Ecosystem Committee will meet on August 22, 2007.

ADDRESSES: NMFS Auke Bay Laboratory, Ted Stevens Marine Research Institute, 17109 Pt. Lena Loop Road, Juneau, AK 99801.

Council address: North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 605 W. 4th Ave., Suite 306, Anchorage, AK 99501-2252.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Diana Evans, Council staff, Phone: 907-271-2809.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The agenda is to discuss the AI Fishery Ecosystem Plan (review summary pamphlet, discuss approaches to identifying desirable/ undesirable states of ecosystem), give feedback on the proposed approach to developing an Arctic Fishery Management Plan, and receive updates on the Alaska Marine Ecosystem Forum meeting and NOAA's integrated ecosystem assessment plans.

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Gail Bendixen at 907-271-2809 at least 7 working days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: August 1, 2007.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. E7-15187 Filed 8-3-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XB78

Endangered and Threatened Species; Take of Anadromous Fish

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

ACTION: Applications for two scientific research permits.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that NMFS has received two scientific research permit application requests relating to Pacific salmon. The proposed research is intended to increase knowledge of species listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and help guide management and conservation efforts.

DATES: Comments or requests for a public hearing on the applications must be received at the appropriate address or fax number (see **ADDRESSES**) no later than 5 p.m. Pacific standard time on September 5, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on the applications should be sent to the 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: 503-230-5441, e-mail: *Garth.Griffin@noaa.gov*). Permit application instructions are available from the address above.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Species Covered in This Notice

The following listed species are covered in this notice:

Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*): threatened lower Columbia River (LCR), threatened upper Willamette River (UWR), threatened Snake River (SR) spring/summer-run (spr/sum), threatened SR fall-run. Steelhead (*O. mykiss*): threatened LCR, threatened Snake River (SR). Coho salmon (*O. kisutch*): threatened LCR. Sockeye salmon (*O. nerka*): endangered SR.

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 222-226).