

published in the **Federal Register** a notice of initiation of an administrative review of the antidumping duty order on oil country tubular goods from the People's Republic of China covering 53 companies for the period November 17, 2009, through April 30, 2011. See *Initiation of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Administrative Reviews and Request for Revocation in Part*, 76 FR 37781 (June 28, 2011). The POR was corrected to May 19, 2010, through April 30, 2011 in *Initiation of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Administrative Reviews and Requests for Revocation in Part*, 76 FR 53404 (August 26, 2011) at footnote four. The preliminary results of review are currently due no later than April 30, 2012.

#### Extension of Time Limit of Preliminary Results

Pursuant to section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended ("the Act"), the Department shall make a preliminary determination in an administrative review of an antidumping duty order within 245 days after the last day of the anniversary month of the date of publication of the order. The Act further provides, however, that the Department may extend that 245-day period to 365 days if it determines it is not practicable to complete the review within the foregoing time period. We determined that completion of the preliminary results of this review within the 245-day period is not practicable because the Department requires additional time to analyze information pertaining to the respondents' sales practices, factors of production, and affiliations, and to issue supplemental questionnaires and review the responses. Therefore, on January 19, 2012, the Department extended the time period for completion of the preliminary results of this review by 90 days until April 30, 2012. See *Oil Country Tubular Goods From the People's Republic of China: Extension of Time for the Preliminary Results of the Antidumping Duty Administrative Review*, 77 FR 2700 (January 19, 2012). We have subsequently determined that we require additional time to complete these preliminary results. As a result, in accordance with section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Act, the Department is extending the time period for completion of the preliminary results of this review by an additional 30 days until May 30, 2012.

This notice is published in accordance with sections 751(a)(3)(A) and 777(i)(1) of the Act.

Dated: April 13, 2012.

**Christian Marsh,**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XC005**

#### Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; General Provisions for Domestic Fisheries; Application for Exempted Fishing Permits

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

**ACTION:** Notice; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Assistant Regional Administrator for Sustainable Fisheries, Northeast Region, NMFS (Assistant Regional Administrator), has made a preliminary determination that an Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) application contains all of the required information and warrants further consideration. This EFP would allow commercial fishing vessels to temporarily possess and scientifically sample fish caught during normal commercial fishing operations that would otherwise be required to be immediately discarded for the purpose of characterizing the bycatch of the Southern New England sea scallop fishery.

Regulations under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act require publication of this notification to provide interested parties the opportunity to comment on applications for proposed EFPs.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before May 9, 2012.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit written comments by any of the following methods:

- *Email:* [nero.efp@noaa.gov](mailto:nero.efp@noaa.gov). Include in the subject line "Comments on Fisheries Specialists 2012 Scallop RSA EFP."

- *Mail:* Daniel S. Morris, Acting Regional Administrator, NMFS, NE Regional Office, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930. Mark the outside of the envelope "Comments on Fisheries Specialists EFP."

- *Fax:* (978) 281-9135.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Christopher Biegel, Fishery Management Specialist, 978-281-9112, [Christopher.Biegel@noaa.gov](mailto:Christopher.Biegel@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Fisheries Specialists, a fisheries research company, submitted a complete application for an EFP on March 5, 2012, to conduct commercial fishing activities that the regulations would otherwise restrict. The EFP would authorize four vessels to temporarily possess and scientifically sample fish caught during commercial fishing operations that would otherwise be required to be immediately discarded.

The requested exemptions from size and possession limits are in support of a project that proposes to characterize bycatch in the Southern New England scallop fishery. This project is titled "Bycatch Characterization in the Southern New England Sea Scallop Fishery," and has been selected to be funded under the 2012 scallop research set-aside (RSA) program. Because catch sampling of bycatch will occur during commercial fishing operations, Fisheries Specialists requested temporary exemptions from size and possession limits of potential bycatch species. Aside from these exemptions, fishing activity would be conducted under normal commercial fishing practices and the associated Federal regulations. The exemptions would not include species protected under the Endangered Species Act. Limited Access General Category (LAGC) vessels will land catch in accordance with the conditions of the Federal permits held by the individual vessel and any prohibited catch will be discarded after sampling.

Fisheries Specialists will be placing trained scientific observers aboard LAGC vessels to collect bycatch data during the course of normal commercial fishing operations. The observers will conduct four days of sampling each month for 12 months for a total of 48 sampling days between April 2012 and May 2012, in open areas offshore of Massachusetts and Rhode Island in the Southern New England/Mid-Atlantic (SNE/MA) management area, with a focus on statistical area 539.

If approved, the applicant may request minor modifications and extensions to the EFP throughout the year. EFP modifications and extensions may be granted without further notice if they are deemed essential to facilitate completion of the proposed research and have minimal impacts that do not change the scope or impact of the initially approved EFP request. Any fishing activity conducted outside the scope of the exempted fishing activity would be prohibited.

**Authority:** 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: April 19, 2012.

**Emily H. Menashes,**

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

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XB169

#### Endangered and Threatened Species; Take of Anadromous Fish

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

**ACTION:** Applications for eight new scientific research permits, four research permit renewals, and three permit modifications.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that NMFS has received 15 scientific research permit application requests relating to Pacific salmon, the southern distinct population segment of Pacific green sturgeon, and three species of rockfish from the Puget Sound/Georgia Basin. The proposed research is intended to increase knowledge of species listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and to help guide management and conservation efforts. The applications may be viewed online at: [https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov/preview/preview\\_open\\_for\\_comment.cfm](https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov/preview/preview_open_for_comment.cfm).

**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 May 24, 2012.

**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 email to [nmfs.nwr.apps@noaa.gov](mailto:nmfs.nwr.apps@noaa.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Rob Clapp, Portland, OR (ph.: 503-231-2314), Fax: 503-230-5441, email: [Robert.Clapp@noaa.gov](mailto:Robert.Clapp@noaa.gov)). Permit application instructions are available from the address above, or online at <https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov>.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Species Covered in This Notice

The following listed species are covered in this notice:

Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*): threatened Puget Sound (PS); threatened lower Columbia River (LCR); endangered upper Columbia River (UCR); threatened Snake River (SR) spring/sum (spr/sum); threatened SR fall;

Steelhead (*O. mykiss*): threatened PS; threatened LCR; threatened UCR; threatened SR; threatened middle Columbia River (MCR).

Chum salmon (*O. keta*): Threatened Hood Canal (HC) summer-run, threatened Columbia River (CR).

Coho salmon (*O. kisutch*): Threatened LCR, threatened Oregon Coast (OC).

Sockeye salmon (*O. nerka*): Threatened Ozette Lake (OL); endangered SR.

Rockfish: Puget Sound/Georgia Basin (PS/GB) bocaccio (*Sebastes paucispinis*); PS/GB canary rockfish (*Sebastes pinniger*), and PS/GB yelloweye rockfish (*Sebastes ruberrimus*).

Pacific green sturgeon (*Acipenser medirostris*): Threatened SDPS.

#### 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). 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 an application listed in this notice should set out the specific reasons why a hearing on that application would be appropriate (see **ADDRESSES**). Such hearings are held at the discretion of the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NMFS.

#### Applications Received

*Permit 1386—6R*

The Washington Department of Ecology (WDOE) is seeking to renew for five years a research permit that currently allows them to take juvenile and adult LCR Chinook salmon, PS Chinook salmon, SR spring/summer-run Chinook salmon, SR fall-run Chinook salmon, UCR spring-run Chinook salmon, CR chum salmon, HC summer-run chum salmon, LCR coho salmon, OL sockeye salmon, LCR steelhead, MCR steelhead, PS steelhead, SR steelhead, and UCR steelhead. The WDOE

conducts various research projects to characterize toxic contaminants in resident freshwater fish across the state of Washington. The purpose of the research is to investigate the occurrence and concentrations of toxic contaminants in non-anadromous freshwater fish tissue, sediment, and water from sites throughout Washington. WDOE conducts this research in order to meet Federal and state regulations. The Federal Clean Water Act requires that all waters in the state be assessed in this manner. This research would benefit listed species by identifying toxic contaminants present in fish and thereby help inform pollution control actions such as removing and reducing toxic contaminant sources. The WDOE proposes to capture fish using backpack and boat electrofishing, beach seines, block, fyke, and gill nets, and angling. All captured salmon and steelhead would be either released immediately or held temporarily in an aerated live well to help them recover before being released. The researchers do not propose to kill any of the listed fish being captured, but a small number may die as an unintended result of the activities.

*Permit 1465—2R*

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) is seeking to renew their permit to annually take juvenile threatened SR steelhead, threatened SR fall Chinook salmon, threatened SR spr/sum Chinook salmon, and endangered SR sockeye salmon during the course of two research projects designed to ascertain the condition of many Idaho streams. The purposes of the research are to (a) determine whether aquatic life is being properly supported in Idaho's rivers, streams, and lakes, and (b) assess the overall condition of Idaho's surface waters. The fish would benefit from the research because the data it produces would be used to inform decisions about how and where to protect and improve water quality in the state. The researchers would use backpack- and boat-electrofishing equipment to capture the fish. They would then be weighed and measured (some may be anesthetized to limit stress) and released. The IDEQ does not intend to kill any of the fish being captured, but a small percentage may die as an unintended result of the research activities.

*Permit 13381—2R*

The Northwest Fisheries Science Center (NWFSC) is seeking to renew their permit to annually take natural