

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

RIN 0648-XE565

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

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

**ACTION:** Notice; availability of permit application and request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that NMFS has received an update to an application for a direct take permit, in the form of a Hatchery and Genetic Management Plan (HGMP), from the Chelan County Public Utility District (PUD) pursuant to the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The HGMP specifies the operation of a portion of a hatchery program rearing salmon in the Methow Basin within the State of Washington. This document serves to notify the public of the availability of the update to the existing permit application for comment prior to a decision by NMFS whether to issue the permit for the proposed hatchery program. NMFS also notifies the public of the intention to issue a separate ESA permit to the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation for operation of a component of the program described in the application update.

**DATES:** Comments must be received at the appropriate address or email mailbox (see **ADDRESSES**) no later than 5 p.m. Pacific time on May 18, 2016.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments on the application should be addressed to the NMFS Sustainable Fisheries Division, 1201 NE. Lloyd Boulevard, Suite 1100, Portland, OR 97232, or faxed to 503-872-2737. Comments may be submitted by email. The mailbox address for providing email comments is: [ChelanPlan.wcr@noaa.gov](mailto:ChelanPlan.wcr@noaa.gov). Include in the subject line of the email comment the following identifier: Comments on Chelan's 2016 Methow Hatchery Plan. The HGMP is available on the Internet at [www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov](http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Charlene Hurst, at phone number: (503) 230-5409, or via email: [charlene.n.hurst@noaa.gov](mailto:charlene.n.hurst@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****ESA-Listed Species Covered in This Notice**

Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*): Endangered, naturally produced and artificially propagated Upper Columbia River.

Steelhead (*O. mykiss*): Threatened, naturally produced and artificially propagated Upper Columbia River.

**Background**

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 to take listed species for any act otherwise prohibited by section 9 for scientific purposes or to enhance the propagation or survival of the affected species under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the ESA. NMFS regulations governing permits for threatened and endangered species are promulgated at 50 CFR 222.307.

The Methow spring Chinook hatchery program is an ongoing hatchery program designed to meet conservation and mitigation responsibilities related to impacts from development in the Methow and Columbia River basins. On November 13, 2012, NMFS received an ESA section 10(a)(1)(A) permit application from the Douglas and Grant County PUDs and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) for the Methow spring Chinook hatchery program. The permit application was in the form of an HGMP and was made available for public comment on December 10, 2013 (78 FR 74116).

On March 29, 2016, the Chelan County PUD submitted an HGMP updating a portion of the original permit application. The HGMP includes a gene flow management plan, a reduction in the number of juveniles released, and a description of an additional remote acclimation/release site. A separate section 10(a)(1)(A) permit would be issued to the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation for operation of this additional remote acclimation/release site, as described in the Chelan County PUD HGMP.

**Authority**

This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(c) of the ESA. NMFS will evaluate the permit application, associated documents, and comments submitted thereon to determine whether the application meets the requirements of section 10(a)(1)(A) of the ESA. If it is determined that the requirements are met, permits will be issued to WDFW, the PUDs, and the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation. NMFS will publish a record of its final action in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: April 13, 2016.

**Angela Somma,**

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

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**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE****Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers****National Wetland Plant List**

**AGENCY:** Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

**ACTION:** Final notice.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), as part of an interagency effort with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), is announcing the availability of the final 2016 National Wetland Plant List (NWPL). The NWPL is used to determine whether the hydrophytic vegetation parameter is met when conducting wetland determinations under the Clean Water Act and the Wetland Conservation Provisions of the Food Security Act. Other applications of the list include wetland restoration, establishment, and enhancement projects. The list will become effective on May 1, 2016 and will be used in any wetland delineation performed after this date. Delineations received prior to this date may still use the 2014 NWPL, or you may choose to use the 2016 list. Always reference the list used on any wetland delineation/determination forms.

**DATES:** The 2016 NWPL will become effective on May 1, 2016.

**ADDRESSES:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Attn: CECW-CO-R, 441 G Street NW., Washington, DC 20314-1000.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Karen Mulligan, Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Operations and Regulatory Community of Practice, Washington, DC 20314-1000, by phone at 202-761-4664 or by email at [karen.mulligan@usace.army.mil](mailto:karen.mulligan@usace.army.mil).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****Background**

The NWPL has undergone several revisions since its inception in 1988. The Corps led interagency efforts to update the list in 2012, 2013, and 2014. The 2012 list contained 7,828 species,