

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

[RTID 0648–XC418]

**Marine Mammals; File No. 26696**

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

**ACTION:** Notice; receipt of application.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that Dennis Clegg, Ph.D., University of California at Santa Barbara, Neuroscience Research Institute, Mail Code 5060, Santa Barbara, CA 93106, has applied in due form for a permit to export and conduct research on marine mammal parts.

**DATES:** Written, telefaxed, or email comments must be received on or before November 3, 2022.

**ADDRESSES:** The application and related documents are available for review by selecting “Records Open for Public Comment” from the “Features” box on the Applications and Permits for Protected Species (APPS) home page, <https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov>, and then selecting File No. 26696 from the list of available applications. These documents are also available upon written request via email to [NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov](mailto:NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov).

Written comments on this application should be submitted via email to [NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov](mailto:NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov). Please include File No. 26696 in the subject line of the email comment.

Those individuals requesting a public hearing should submit a written request via email to [NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov](mailto:NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov). The request should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this application would be appropriate.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Shasta McClenahan, Ph.D., or Jennifer Skidmore, (301) 427–8401.

**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 parts 222–226).

The applicant requests a 5-year research permit to conduct scientific research on marine mammal parts to create a resource of cetacean pluripotent

stem cells to aid basic biological research. The applicant would create and maintain cell lines from a total of 10 individual cetaceans representing 5 different species. The cell lines may be sent to Co-Investigators, including export to foreign countries.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), an initial determination has been made that the activity proposed is categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, NMFS is forwarding copies of the application to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Dated: September 29, 2022.

**Julia M. Harrison,**

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

[FR Doc. 2022–21507 Filed 10–3–22; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

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

[RTID 0648–XC424]

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

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

**ACTION:** Notice; determination on hatchery and genetic management plans and availability of the associated Findings of No Significant Impact (FONSIs).

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that NMFS has made determinations on 12 resource management plans in the form of joint tribal and state Hatchery and Genetic Management Plans (HGMPs) that were submitted in three bundles (Lake Washington HGMPs, Hood Canal HGMPs, and Hood River HGMPs) and four state HGMPs (Mid-Columbia HGMPs). NMFS also announces its issuance of Final Environmental Assessments (FEAs) and Findings of No Significant Impact (FONSIs) for the 11 hatchery programs in Mid-Columbia River, Hood River, and Lake Washington.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Allyson Purcell, at phone number: (503) 736–4736, or via email: [allyson.purcell@noaa.gov](mailto:allyson.purcell@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Before making its final determinations, NMFS solicited and took into account public comments for how the plans address the criteria in § 223.203(b)(5). The determinations announced in this notice consist of NMFS’ findings as to whether the plans submitted to NMFS meet the regulatory criteria.

**Species Covered in This Notice**

- Lower Columbia River Chinook Salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*): threatened, naturally and artificially propagated
- Middle Columbia River Steelhead (*O. mykiss*): threatened, naturally and artificially propagated
- Lower Columbia River Steelhead (*O. mykiss*): threatened, naturally and artificially propagated
- Lower Columbia River Coho Salmon (*O. kisutch*): threatened, naturally and artificially propagated
- Columbia River Chum Salmon (*O. keta*): threatened, naturally and artificially propagated
- Puget Sound Chinook Salmon (*O. tshawytscha*): threatened, naturally and artificially propagated
- Puget Sound Steelhead (*O. mykiss*): threatened, naturally propagated
- Hood Canal Summer Chum Salmon (*O. keta*): threatened, naturally propagated.

**Discussion of the Biological Analysis Underlying the Determinations***Mid-Columbia HGMPs*

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) submitted the Touchet River Endemic Summer Steelhead HGMP. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) submitted the Umatilla River Summer Steelhead HGMP, the Round Butte Hatchery Spring Chinook Salmon HGMP, and the Round Butte Hatchery Summer Steelhead HGMP. The Umatilla Hatchery program is funded by the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), as well as a small proportion of the Round Butte Hatchery programs, with the remainder of these programs funded by Portland General Electric (PGE).

*Touchet River:* The Touchet Endemic Steelhead Program is intended to conserve ESA-listed summer steelhead in the Touchet River, Washington, while also providing harvest opportunities and mitigating some of the effects of the development and operation of the Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS) in the Snake River Basin on fish and wildlife under the Lower Snake River Compensation Plan.

*Umatilla River:* The Umatilla River Steelhead Program is intended to conserve ESA-listed summer steelhead in the Umatilla River, Oregon, while also providing harvest opportunities. The BPA funds the program to mitigate for the effects of the development and operation of the FCRPS on fish and wildlife in the Columbia River and its tributaries under the Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act of 1980 (Northwest Power Act; 16 U.S.C. 839 *et seq.*) in a manner consistent with the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program. The BPA also funds the program to fulfill commitments to the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) related to proposed projects that are identified for funding in the 2008 Columbia River Basin Fish Accords Memorandum of Agreement among the CTUIR, the CTWSRO, the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, BPA, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Columbia Basin Fish Accords), as extended in 2018 (Fish Accord Extension).

*Deschutes River:* The Round Butte Spring Chinook Salmon and the Round Butte Summer Steelhead Programs are funded by PGE and CTWSRO under terms of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license for the Pelton Round Butte Project on the Deschutes River in Oregon. Under the FERC license, PGE and the CTWSRO need to restore native fish passage and improve fish habitat upstream of Round Butte Dam, and support the reintroductions of steelhead and Chinook Salmon above Round Butte Dam. Both programs also provide fish to mitigate for lost fishing opportunities downstream of the Pelton Round Butte Project.

#### *Lake Washington HGMPs*

*Issaquah Hatchery:* The purpose of the chinook and coho salmon programs at Issaquah hatchery is to produce salmon for sustainable fisheries (including those under the jurisdiction of the Magnuson-Stevens Act) and to facilitate the exercise of Treaty Indian fishing right entitlements (*U.S. v Washington*). The programs also provide educational opportunities for the citizens of the area through its Watershed Interpretive Center. Further, the coho program supplies salmon eggs to schools and 26 cooperative educational centers throughout the region.

*University of Washington Aquatic Research Facility (UWARF) Fall Chinook Salmon:* The purpose of the coho and Chinook salmon programs at UWARF are to support research programs (e.g., University of Washington faculty, research scientists, graduate students; MIT; WDFW; and other affiliated research organizations such as NOAA Fisheries and USGS-Western Fisheries Research Center) and to support educational activities for undergraduate and graduate students within the University of Washington, MIT members, other Tribes, and the general public. The intent of the research program is to reduce genetic risk to natural populations and to maintain a gene pool that is separated from all natural populations.

#### *Hood River HGMPs*

The CTWSRO and ODFW have submitted HGMPs for two programs in the Hood River, Oregon (spring Chinook salmon and winter steelhead). The programs are funded by the BPA.

The goal of the Hood River spring Chinook salmon program is to re-establish and maintain a naturally sustaining spring Chinook salmon population in the Hood River, with sustainable and consistent in-basin tribal and sport harvest opportunities. The goals of the Hood River winter steelhead program are (1) to provide in-basin harvest opportunity for sport and tribal anglers, and (2) to increase the number of natural-origin spawners while maintaining the long-term fitness of the natural population and minimizing ecological and genetic impacts on other populations in the Hood River. The BPA funds the programs to mitigate for the effects of the development and operation of the FCRPS on fish and wildlife in the Columbia River and its tributaries under the Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act of 1980 (Northwest Power Act; 16 U.S.C. 839 *et seq.*) in a manner consistent with the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program. The BPA also funds the program to fulfill commitments to the CTWSRO related to proposed projects that are identified for funding in the 2008 Columbia River Basin Fish Accords Memorandum of Agreement among the CTUIR, the CTWSRO, the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, BPA, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Columbia Basin Fish Accords), as extended in 2018 (Fish Accord Extension).

#### *Hood Canal HGMPs*

The Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe, the Skokomish Tribe, and the WDFW operate hatchery programs for sustainable fisheries (including those under the jurisdiction of the Magnuson-Stevens Act) and to facilitate exercise of Treaty Indian fishing right entitlements (*U.S. v Washington*). The operators requested changes to three HGMPs (Enetai fall chum, Hoodspout fall chum, Port Gamble coho) to provide additional forage to southern resident killer whales; a species listed as endangered under the ESA that relies on adult salmon as a food resource. The operators of the Hood Canal steelhead supplementation program propose to investigate genetic effects of natural-origin steelhead dispersal throughout the Hood Canal Basin. The operators of the Hoodspout fall Chinook salmon program also propose to investigate the effects of release timing on survival of adult fall Chinook salmon; a non-ESA-listed stock.

#### **Discussion of Determinations**

All of the HGMPs submitted to NMFS are consistent with the recovery plans for each of the ESA-listed species and are designed to aid in conserving their populations across the ESU and/or DPS range. NMFS, through its evaluation, has determined each of the programs are designed and operated to ensure that the impacts on ESA-listed natural-origin Chinook salmon, coho salmon, chum salmon, and steelhead populations will not appreciably reduce the survival and recovery of listed species. The programs use adaptive management procedures and the best available science to reduce adverse genetic effects and lessen competition and predation impacts typically associated with salmon and steelhead hatchery programs. Monitoring and evaluation will be implemented to assess the performance of each program in meeting population conservation or harvest augmentation objectives, and their effects on ESA-listed natural-origin Chinook salmon, coho salmon, chum salmon, and steelhead. The information gained through monitoring and evaluation will be used to assess whether the impacts of the programs on listed fish remain consistent with NMFS' determinations.

Review of monitoring and evaluation results by NMFS and the co-managers will occur annually to evaluate whether assumptions regarding the hatchery programs and their effects and analysis remain valid and whether the objectives are being accomplished. The HGMPs include provisions for annual reports that will assess compliance with

performance standards established through the HGMPs. Reporting and inclusion of new information derived from HGMPs' research, monitoring, and evaluation activities assures that performance standards will be achieved in future seasons.

### Summary of Comments Received

#### Mid-Columbia and Hood River HGMPs

NMFS published a notice of availability for public review and comment on four Mid-Columbia HGMPs and the proposed evaluation and pending determination (PEPD) for the two Hood River programs on July 14, 2020 (85 FR 42361), as required under Limit 5 and Limit 6 of the ESA section 4(d) Rule, respectively. The PEPD and HGMPs were available for public review and comment for 30 days.

NMFS published a notice of availability for public review and comment on the Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) on July 14, 2020 (85 FR 42361), in accordance with National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*). The DEA was available for public review and comment for 30 days.

No comments were received on the PEPD, HGMPs, or the DEA.

#### Lake Washington HGMPs

NMFS published a notice of its PEPD on the five hatchery programs for public review and comment on August 27, 2021 (86 FR 48125, August 27, 2021), as required under Limit 6 of the ESA section 4(d) Rule. The PEPD was available for public review and comment for 30 days. No comments were received on the PEPD.

NMFS published a notice of availability for public review and comment on the DEA on August 27, 2021 (85 FR 48125, August 27, 2021), in accordance with NEPA, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*). The DEA was available for public review and comment for 30 days. NMFS received four comments on the DEA; though none of the comments had specific information or supporting documentation to warrant a change in the proposed action or the analysis contained in the DEA.

#### Hood Canal HGMPs

NMFS published a notice of its PEPD on five hatchery programs for public review and comment on November 10, 2021 (86 FR 62517), as required under Limit 6 of the ESA section 4(d) Rule. The PEPD was available for public review and comment for 30 days. No comments were received on the PEPD.

*Authority:* 16 U.S.C. 1531–1543; 16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*; 16 U.S.C. 5503(d).

Dated: September 29, 2022.

**Angela Somma,**

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

[FR Doc. 2022–21482 Filed 10–3–22; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Improving Knowledge About NWS Forecaster Core Partner Needs for Reducing Vulnerability to Compound Threats in Landfalling Tropical Cyclones Amid Covid–19

The Department of Commerce will submit the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice. We invite the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** on July 19, 2022 (87 FR 43005) during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments.

*Agency:* National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

*Title:* Improving Knowledge About NWS Forecaster Core Partner Needs for Reducing Vulnerability to Compound Threats in Landfalling Tropical Cyclones Amid Covid–19.

*OMB Control Number:* 0648–XXXX.

*Form Number(s):* None.

*Type of Request:* Regular submission (new information collection).

*Number of Respondents:* 35.

*Average Hours per Response:* 1 hour.

*Total Annual Burden Hours:* 35 hours.

*Needs and Uses:* The data collection is sponsored by DOC/NOAA/National Weather Service (NWS)/Office of Science and Technology Integration (OSTI). Compound hazards, like tornadoes and flash floods (called TORFFs), are a significant issue for risk communication and are common in landfalling tropical cyclones. Currently, NOAA lacks data and data collection

instruments that articulate and explain how emergency managers and broadcast meteorologists receive, interpret, and respond to NWS prediction information about these compound hazards before and during landfalling tropical cyclones, like Hurricane Ida. Furthermore, NOAA lacks adequate knowledge about how these risks are best communicated during pandemics such as COVID–19, when it is important for those who are most vulnerable to adjudicate their risks of exposure to both severe weather and COVID–19. Such knowledge about compound weather hazards would be particularly useful for NWS forecasters who communicate risk information to their colleagues in emergency management and broadcast meteorology (hereafter “partners”), especially when information about sheltering practices, evacuation, and vulnerability can be complicated by exposure to public health threats and bilingual needs.

Semi-structured interviews will be conducted with partners in local areas impacted by recent hurricanes with embedded TORFF hazards, such as Hurricane Ida and its remnants. Semi-structured interview data will be collected on a one-off basis and will be conducted either virtually or in-person (COVID–19 restriction dependent). Specific questions in the interview guide determine how partners attend to, prioritize, and communicate information related to compound wind and water threats before and during landfalling tropical cyclones or hurricanes.

The interviews will be conducted by researchers at Texas Tech University's Risk and Equity in Disasters (RED) Lab and at Texas A&M. They have begun to develop data collection instruments that will allow them to gather risk information. These instruments are being created in collaboration with experts in emergency management and broadcast meteorology through the Board on Emergency Management and the Board on Professional Development within the American Meteorological Society. This helps assure the appropriateness of questions relative to different decision spaces, job roles, and communication processes.

This data collection serves many purposes, including building knowledge of how partners attend to, make sense of, and communicate compound hazards, as well as challenges they face in identifying vulnerable populations to severe weather in the context of COVID–19. These data will be reported in aggregate when possible and findings will be used by the NWS training centers in Norman, OK, and Kansas