

regulations can be obtained at the above address.

11.800 Minority Business Development
(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance)

Dated: July 24, 1992.

William Fuller,

Deputy Regional Director, Dallas Regional
Office.

[FR Doc. 92-18125 Filed 7-30-92; 8:45 am]

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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Listing Endangered and Threatened Species and Designating Critical Habitat: Petition To List Illinois River (Oregon) Winter Steelhead

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries
Service (NMFS), NOAA, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of petition and
request for information.

SUMMARY: NMFS has received a petition to list indigenous, naturally spawning Illinois River (Oregon) winter steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) and to designate critical habitat under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA). In accordance with section 4 of the ESA, NMFS has determined that the petition presents substantial scientific information indicating that the action may be warranted. NMFS is initiating a status review to determine if the petitioned action is warranted. To ensure that the review is comprehensive, NMFS is soliciting information and data regarding this action.

DATES: Comments and information must be received by October 29, 1992.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be submitted to Merritt Tuttle, Chief, Environmental and Technical Services Division, NMFS, 911 NE, 11th Avenue, room 620, Portland, OR 97232.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Garth Griffin, Environmental and Technical Services Division, NMFS, Portland, OR 97232 (503/230-5430) or Patricia Montano, Protected Species Management Division, NMFS, 1335 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2322).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Section 4 of the ESA contains provisions allowing interested persons to petition the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Commerce to add a species to or remove a species from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife (List) and to designate critical habitat. Section 4(b)(3)(A) of the ESA

requires that, to the maximum extent practicable, within 90 days after receiving such a petition, the Secretary determines whether the petition presents substantial scientific or commercial information indicating that the petitioned action may be warranted. NMFS interprets "substantial scientific or commercial information" to mean the amount of information that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the proposed measure may be warranted (50 CFR 424.14(b)).

Listing Factors and Basis for Determination

Under section 4(a)(1) of the ESA, a species can be determined to be endangered or threatened for any of the following reasons: (1) Present or threatened destruction, modification, or curtailment of its habitat or range; (2) overutilization for commercial, recreational, scientific, or educational purposes; (3) disease or predation; (4) inadequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms; or (5) other natural or manmade factors affecting its continued existence. Listing determinations are made solely on the best scientific and commercial data available after taking into account any efforts made by any state or foreign nation to protect the species.

Critical Habitat

Section 4(a)(3) of the ESA requires that critical habitat normally be designated concurrently with a determination that a species is endangered or threatened. Critical habitat includes (1) those areas currently occupied by a species that contain those physical and biological features essential to the conservation of the species and that may require special management considerations or protection; and (2) those areas outside the current range of the species that are essential for the conservation of the species. Areas outside the current range of a species can only be designated if a designation limited to the species' existing distribution would be inadequate to ensure its recovery. However, unlike designating a species as endangered or threatened, economic impacts must be considered when designating critical habitat. An area may be excluded from the designation if it is determined that the benefits of exclusion outweigh the benefits of including the area as critical habitat and the exclusion will not result in the extinction of the species (see 50 CFR 424.01, 424.12, and 424.19).

Petition Received

On May 6, 1992, the Secretary of Commerce received a petition from the Oregon Natural Resources Council; Siskiyou Regional Education Project; Federation of Fly Fishers; Kalmiopsis Audubon Society; Siskiyou Audubon Society; Klamath/Siskiyou Coalition; Headwaters; The Wilderness Society; North Coast Environmental Center; Oregon Chapter, The Sierra Club; and the National Wildlife Federation to list indigenous, naturally spawning Illinois River (Oregon) winter steelhead (*O. mykiss*), and to designate critical habitat under the ESA. The petitioners supplemented their petition on June 23, 1992. As required for a petition to list a Pacific salmon stock (May 18, 1992, 57 FR 21056), the petition presents information on and discusses whether the petitioned population qualifies as a "species" under the ESA, in accordance with NMFS' "Policy on Applying the Definition of Species under the Endangered Species Act to Pacific Salmon" (November 20, 1991, 56 FR 58612). The Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA, has determined that the petition presents substantial scientific information indicating that the petitioned action may be warranted. Under section 4(b)(3)(B) of the ESA, this determination requires that a review of the status of the Illinois River winter run of *O. mykiss* be conducted to determine if the petitioned action is warranted.

Biological Information Solicited

To ensure that the review is complete and is based on the best available scientific and commercial data, NMFS is soliciting information and comments concerning the present and historic status of the Illinois River winter steelhead. NMFS is also soliciting information on whether or not this stock qualifies as a "species" under the ESA (November 20, 1991, 56 FR 58612). Copies of the petition are available from the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** listed above.

NMFS is also requesting information on areas that may qualify as critical habitat for the Illinois River winter steelhead (see also Oct. 15, 1991, 56 FR 51864). Areas that include the physical and biological features essential to the recovery of the species should be identified. Areas outside the present distribution should also be identified if such areas are essential to the recovery of the species. Essential features should also be identified. Essential features include but are not limited to:

(1) Space for individual and population growth, and for normal behavior;

(2) Food, water, air, light, minerals, or other nutritional or physiological requirements;

(3) Cover or shelter;

(4) Sites for breeding, reproduction, rearing of offspring; and generally,

(5) Habitats that are protected from disturbance or are representative of the historic geographical and ecological distributions of the species.

Economic Information Solicited

For areas potentially qualifying as critical habitat, NMFS is requesting information describing (1) the activities that affect the area or could be affected by the designation, and (2) the economic costs and benefits of additional requirements or management measures likely to result from the designation. Those responding to this request should first project specified areas as potential critical habitat for Illinois River winter steelhead and then project the economic consequences of designating those areas as critical habitat.

The economic cost to be considered in critical habitat designations under the ESA is the probable economic impact "of the (critical habitat) designation upon proposed or ongoing activities" (50 CFR 424.19). Therefore, NMFS must consider the incremental net costs specifically resulting from a critical habitat designation, above the economic effects attributable to listing the species. Economic effects attributable to listing include actions resulting from section 7 consultations under the ESA to avoid jeopardy to the species and from the taking prohibitions under section 9 of the ESA. As a consequence, although information estimating the total economic impact of listing a species is welcome, comments most useful in determining critical habitat must clearly distinguish the incremental costs directly attributable to the designation of specific areas as critical habitat.

NMFS reiterates that it seeks information from any interested party and requests that such data, information, and comments be accompanied by: (1) Supporting documentation such as maps, bibliographic reference, or reprints of pertinent publications; and (2) the party's name, address, and any association, institution, or business that the party represents.

Dated: July 24, 1992.

William W. Fox, Jr.,

Assistant Administrator for Fisheries.

[FR Doc. 92-18185 Filed 7-30-92; 8:45 am]

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North Pacific Fishery Management Council; Addition to Meeting Agenda

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA, Commerce.

The agenda, previously published in the *Federal Register* at 57 FR 31176, on July 14, 1992, for a public meeting of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) at the Baranof Hotel in Juneau, Alaska, on August 4-5, 1992, is amended to add an additional item. All other information previously published remains unchanged. The addition to the agenda is as follows:

Addition to Agenda

Receive a report from the National Marine Fisheries Service on implementation of the 750 metric ton halibut prohibited species catch (PSC) for the longline fleet in the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands. The Council may take action if appropriate.

For more information contact the, North Pacific Fishery Management Council, P.O. Box 103136, Anchorage, AK 99510; telephone: (907) 271-2809.

Joe P. Clem,

Acting Director, Office of Fisheries Conservation and Management, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 92-18054 Filed 7-30-92; 8:45 am]

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Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA, Commerce.

The Pacific Fishery Management Council's Coastal Pelagic Species Plan Development Team (Team) will hold a public meeting on July 30, 1992, beginning at 1 p.m. The meeting will be held at the National Marine Fisheries Service, Southwest Fisheries Science Center, room C-127, 8604 La Jolla Shores Drive, La Jolla, CA.

The purpose of this meeting is to: (1) Review the work in progress on limited entry; (2) discuss the work being done on the definition of overfishing and harvest guidelines; and (3) prepare for upcoming advisory subpanel and Pacific Fishery Management Council meetings.

For more information contact Patricia Wolf from the California Department of Fish and Game at (213) 590-5117 or Larry Jacobson from the National Marine Fisheries Service at (619) 546-7117.

Joe P. Clem,

Acting Director, Office of Fisheries Conservation and Management, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 92-18053 Filed 7-30-92; 8:45 am]

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Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA, Commerce.

The Pacific Fishery Management Council's Coastal Pelagic Species Plan Development Team (Team) will hold a public meeting on August 23, 1992, beginning at 1 p.m. The meeting will be held at the National Marine Fisheries Service, Southwest Fisheries Science Center, room C-127, 8604 La Jolla Shores Drive, La Jolla, CA.

The purpose of this meeting is to: (1) Review the work in progress on limited entry; (2) discuss the work being done on the definition of overfishing and harvest guidelines; (3) compile recommendations to the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council); and (4) prepare for upcoming advisory subpanel and Council meetings.

For more information contact Patricia Wolf from the California Department of Fish and Game at (213) 590-5117 or Larry Jacobson from the National Marine Fisheries Service at (619) 546-7117.

Joe P. Clem,

Acting Director, Office of Fisheries Conservation and Management, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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Endangered Species; Permits

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), NOAA, Commerce.

ACTION: Issuance of Permit No. 792; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (P504A).

On May 12, 1992, notice was published in the *Federal Register* (57 FR 20247) that an application had been filed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Walla Walla District, Walla Walla, WA 99362-0285, to take listed Snake River sockeye salmon (*Oncorhynchus nerka*) and Snake River spring/summer and fall chinook salmon (*O. tshawytscha*) for the purposes of scientific research and enhancement. An emergency permit allowing the requested activities for research on, and the enhancement of, Snake River chinook and sockeye salmon was issued on May 29, 1992. This emergency permit was in effect pending full public and governmental review of the application and is now superseded by issuance of this permit.

Notice is hereby given that on July 24, 1992, as authorized by the provisions of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543), the National Marine Fisheries Service issued a Permit for the