

II. Method of Collection

Reports from a Vessel Monitoring System VMS are automatic and electronic. Pre-landing and pre-offloading notifications are made by phone or FAX. Other submissions are made in paper form.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0214.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations, individuals or households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 162.

Estimated Time Per Response: 5.25 minutes per day for a logbook in Pacific Pelagic fisheries (unless otherwise noted); 5 minutes per report for logbooks in the western Pacific Crustacean or pelagic toll or handline fisheries; 7 minutes per day for a logbook in the western Pacific Precious Coral fishery; 5 minutes per report for a pelagic longline transshipment logbook; 5 minutes for a crustacean sales report in a logbook; 3 minutes for an at-sea crustacean catch report; 3 minutes for a crustacean pre-trip or pre-offloading notice; 1 hour per longline observer placement meeting; 4 hours for a claim of lost longline fishing time; 5 minutes for a report on lobster trap gear left at sea; 5 minutes for a precious corals sales report; 2 hours for a protected species interaction report in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI) bottomfish fishery; 3 minutes for a NWHI lobster pre-season Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) report; 4 hours for installation of a VMS unit in Hawaii-based longline fishery; 2 hours for annual maintenance of a VMS unit in the Hawaii longline fishery; 24 seconds a day for automated VMS position reports from the Hawaii longline area closures; 4 hours for an experimental fishing report; 5 minutes for a pelagic management unit species dealer report; 24 seconds/day for notification of entry to/exit from a protected species zone [automated position report via a VMS]; 30 minutes for a request for longline closed area exemption; 5 minutes for crustacean dealer packing, weigh-out slips, and records; 3 minutes for a NWHI bottomfish fishery pre-trip notification; and 3 minutes for a NWHI bottomfish pre-landing notification.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 2,339.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$3,293.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: April 10, 2003.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 03-9489 Filed 4-16-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 032703F]

Endangered and Threatened Species; Take of Anadromous Fish

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

ACTION: Receipt of applications for scientific research permits 1430 and 1431 and request for comment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that NMFS has received an application for scientific research from Jones & Stokes (J&S) in Sacramento, CA (1430) and California Department of Water Resources (CDWR) in Sacramento, CA (1431). These permits would affect federally threatened Central Valley spring-run Chinook salmon and Central Valley steelhead. This document serves to notify the public of the availability of the permit applications for review and comment.

DATES: Written comments on the permit applications must be received at the appropriate address or fax number (see **ADDRESSES**) no later than 5 p.m. Pacific Standard Time on May 19, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on this request should be sent to the appropriate office as indicated below. Comments may also be sent via fax to the number indicated for the request. Comments will not be accepted if submitted via e-mail or the Internet. The applications and related documents are available for review by appointment, for permits 1430 and 1431: Protected Resources Division, NMFS, 650 Capitol Mall, Suite 8-300, Sacramento, CA 95814 (ph: 916-930-3600, fax: 916-930-3629). Documents may also be reviewed by appointment in the Office of Protected Resources, F/PR3, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3226 (301-713-1401).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Rosalie del Rosario at phone number 916-930-3600, or e-mail:

Rosalie.delRosario@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority

Issuance of permits and permit modifications, as required by the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531B1543) (ESA), is based on a finding that such permits/modifications: (1) are applied for in good faith; (2) would not operate to the disadvantage of the listed species which are the subject of the permits; and (3) are consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA. Authority to take listed species is subject to conditions set forth in the permits. Permits and modifications are issued in accordance with and are subject to the ESA and NMFS regulations governing listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR parts 222-226).

Those individuals 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**). The holding of such a hearing is at the discretion of the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA. All statements and opinions contained in the permit action summaries are those of the applicant and do not necessarily reflect the views of NMFS.

Species Covered in This Notice

This notice is relevant to the federally threatened Central Valley spring-run Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) and threatened Central Valley steelhead (*O. mykiss*).

Applications Received

J&S requests a 1-year permit (1430) for take of adult and juvenile threatened Central Valley spring-run Chinook

salmon and threatened Central Valley steelhead to assess potential impacts of water transfers on Central Valley fall-run Chinook salmon, spring-run Chinook salmon, and steelhead in the lower Yuba River. J&S requests authorization for an estimated total take of 18,306 adult spring-run Chinook salmon (that includes 0.5 percent incidental mortality) and 2,000 adult steelhead (0.5 percent incidental mortality) resulting from observation and release of adult fish, and 619,865 juvenile spring-run Chinook salmon (0.9 percent incidental mortality) and 18,324 juvenile steelhead (2 percent incidental mortality) resulting from capture, handling, and releasing of juvenile fish.

CDWR requests a 5-year permit (1431) for take of adult and juvenile Central Valley spring-run Chinook salmon and Central Valley steelhead associated with studies to evaluate the effects of Oroville-Thermalito Complex operations on anadromous fishes in the Feather River. The studies concern spring-run Chinook salmon holding areas and spawning areas, Chinook salmon spawning escapement surveys, and steelhead life history. CDWR requests authorization for an estimated annual take resulting from carcass surveys, marking, releasing, and/or tissue samples of 40,555 adult spring-run Chinook salmon (that includes >0.01 percent incidental mortality) for the first 3 years and 50 adult spring-run Chinook salmon annually thereafter, 115 adult steelhead (4 percent incidental mortality), and 775 juvenile steelhead (3 percent incidental mortality) resulting from the proposed studies.

Dated: April 11, 2003.

Phil Williams,

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

[FR Doc. 03-9492 Filed 4-16-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 040103B]

Availability of Draft Environmental Assessment

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

ACTION: Notice of availability and request for comment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that NMFS has prepared a draft environmental assessment (EA) of impacts on the human environment of the potential issuance of three enhancement permits authorizing take of listed salmon and steelhead in the upper Columbia River Basin associated with the operation of artificial propagation programs. This document serves to notify the public of the availability of the draft EA for review and comment before a final decision on whether to issue a Finding of No Significant Impact is made by NMFS.

DATES: Written comments on the draft EA must be received no later than 5 p.m. Pacific daylight time on May 2, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on the application should be sent to Hatcheries and Inland Fisheries Branch, Sustainable Fisheries Division, NMFS, 525 N.E. Oregon Street, Suite 510, Portland, Oregon 97232. Comments may also be sent via fax to (503) 872-2737. Comments will not be accepted if submitted via e-mail or the Internet. Requests for copies of the draft EA should be directed to the Portland office. The document also is available on the Internet at <http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/> or it may be reviewed by appointment during business hours at the Portland office by calling (503) 230-5409.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kristine Petersen, Portland, Oregon, at phone number: (503) 230-5409, e-mail: Kristine.Petersen@noaa.gov

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This document is relevant to the following species and evolutionarily significant units (ESUs):

Steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*): endangered Upper Columbia River.

Chinook salmon (*O. tshawytscha*): endangered Upper Columbia River spring run.

Background

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires Federal agencies to conduct an environmental analysis of their proposed actions to determine if the actions may affect the human environment. NMFS expects to take action on ESA section 10(a)(1)(A) submittals expected from the applicants. Therefore NMFS is seeking public input on the scope of the required NEPA analysis, including the range of reasonable alternatives and associated impacts of any alternatives.

On June 12, 2002, NMFS received an application for an ESA section 10 permit from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife requesting a multi-

year authorization for an annual take of Upper Columbia River steelhead and Upper Columbia River spring chinook salmon associated with proposed steelhead artificial propagation programs intended to enhance the natural production of ESA-listed Upper Columbia River steelhead. Notice of the receipt of this permit application was published in the **Federal Register** on August 1, 2002, and a public informational meeting was held on August 28, 2002, in Wenatchee, WA to inform the public of the receipt of this permit application.

In April 2002, negotiations on the Anadromous Fish Agreement and Habitat Conservation Plans (HCP) for Rocky Reach Hydroelectric Project (FERC License Number 2145), Rock Island Hydroelectric Project (FERC License Number 943), and the Wells Hydroelectric Project (FERC License Number 2149) were completed related to the re-licensing of Wells Dam with Public Utilities District No. 1 of Douglas County, and Rocky Reach Dam, and Rock Island Dam with Public Utilities District No. 1 of Chelan County. These long-term agreements provide for mitigation in the form of artificial propagation programs to replace unavoidable losses to natural fish production. The artificial propagation component of each HCP specifies the number and species to be reared. The impacts of the HCP on the environment were considered in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) which was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on December 27, 2002.

On June 11, 2002, NMFS received a similar application for an ESA section 10 permit from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, requesting a multi-year authorization for an annual take of Upper Columbia River steelhead and Upper Columbia River spring chinook salmon associated with a steelhead artificial propagation program in the Methow River Basin. Notice of the receipt of this permit application was published in the **Federal Register** on August 1, 2002, and a public informational meeting was held on August 28, 2002, in Wenatchee, WA to inform the public of the receipt of this permit application.

On October 23, 2002, NMFS received an application for a section 10 permit from the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, requesting a multi-year authorization for an annual take of ESA-listed Upper Columbia River steelhead and Upper Columbia River spring chinook salmon associated with a steelhead artificial propagation program in the Okanogan River Basin.