

a forest management program which complies with local, State, and Federal laws. Under Plum Creek's Proposed Plan, the Services would issue incidental take permits and Plum Creek would implement the Plan on their 1.7 million acres of timberlands. Under the Internal Conservation Plan alternative, Plum Creek would implement conservation measures designed to avoid take of currently listed species. Under the Simplified Prescription alternative, Plum Creek would implement riparian buffers and severely limit roads and livestock grazing on their lands. Conservation measures identified in the Plan alternative would not be implemented under any of the other alternatives.

The No Action, Plum Creek's Proposed Plan, the Internal Plum Creek Plan, and the Simplified Prescriptions alternatives are analyzed in detail in the draft EIS.

The Services will evaluate the application, associated documents, and comments received to determine whether the application meets the requirements of the ESA and NEPA. If it is determined that the requirements are met, a permit will be issued for the incidental take of listed species. The final permit decision will be made no sooner than 60 days from the date of this notice.

Dated: December 7, 1999.

Anne Badgley,

Regional Director, Region 1, Fish and Wildlife Service.

Dated: December 13, 1999.

Wanda L. Cain,

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

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BILLING CODES 3510-22-F, 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 120999]

Endangered Species; Permits

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

ACTION: Receipt of applications for scientific research and enhancement permits (1224, 1225).

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that NMFS has received an application for a scientific research permit from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at Cascade

Locks, OR (COE) (1224), and an application for an enhancement permit from Mr. Bruce Hecker, of the South Carolina Aquarium (BH-SCA) (1225).

DATES: Comments or requests for a public hearing on the applications must be received at the appropriate address or fax number no later than 5:00pm eastern standard time on January 18, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on the applications should be sent to the appropriate office as indicated below. Comments may also be sent via fax to the number indicated for the application. Comments will not be accepted if submitted via e-mail or the internet. The applications and related documents are available for review in the indicated office, by appointment:

For permit 1224: Protected Resources Division, F/NWO3, 525 NE Oregon Street, Suite 500, Portland, OR 97232-2737 (ph: 503-230-5400, fax: 503-230-5435).

For permit 1225: Office of Protected Resources, Endangered Species Division, F/PR3, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (ph: 301-713-1401, fax: 301-713-0376).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

For permit 1224: Leslie Schaeffer, Portland, OR (ph: 503-230-5433, fax: 503-230-5435, e-mail: Leslie.Schaeffer@noaa.gov).

For permit 1225: Terri Jordan, Silver Spring, MD (ph: 301-713-1401, fax: 301-713-0376, e-mail: Terri.Jordan@noaa.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority

Issuance of permits and permit modifications, as required by the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543) (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 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

The following species and evolutionarily significant units (ESU's) are covered in this notice:

Steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*): Threatened Snake River (SnR), threatened lower Columbia River (LCR), threatened middle Columbia River (MCR), endangered upper Columbia River (UCR).

Endangered shortnose sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*).

To date, protective regulations for threatened SnR, LCR, and MCR steelhead under section 4(d) of the ESA have not been promulgated by NMFS. This notice of receipt of an application requesting takes of these species is issued as a precaution in the event that NMFS issues protective regulations. The initiation of a 30-day public comment period on the application, including its proposed takes of LCR steelhead, SnR steelhead, and MCR steelhead, does not presuppose the contents of the eventual protective regulations.

New Applications Received

COE (1224) requests a 5-year scientific research permit to authorize annual takes of SnR steelhead kelts; LCR steelhead kelts, MCR steelhead kelts, and naturally produced and artificially propagated, UCR steelhead kelts associated with research designed to evaluate the survival, travel times and passage routes of adult steelhead that have spawned and are emigrating past John Day, The Dalles, and Bonneville Dams on the Columbia River on their migration back to the Pacific Ocean. Fish will be obtained from Smolt Monitoring Personnel at sampling facilities at John Day and McNary Dams on the Columbia River and from Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife personnel at Powerdale Dam on the Hood River, anesthetized, sampled for length, fin condition and descaling percentages and tagged with passive integrated transponder, radio and/or visual implant tags, and released or transported to a location either above or below Bonneville Dam and released. Indirect mortalities are requested as part of this research.

BH-SCA (1225) requests a 5-year enhancement permit to maintain a population of up to eight juvenile shortnose sturgeon in a captive environment for educational purposes. This application meets Recovery Task 2.5 C concerning public education and raising public awareness of sturgeon

issues. The aquarium proposes to present the fish in a manner that will enhance the conservation of the species through public education.

Dated: December 13, 1999.

Wanda L. Cain,

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

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COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

RIN 3038-ZA02

Agency Information Collection Activities Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

ACTION: Notice; Information Collection 3038-0043, Rules Relating to Review of National Futures Association Decisions in Disciplinary, Membership Denial, Registration, and Member Responsibility Actions.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the Information Collection Request (ICR) abstracted below has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection and its expected costs and burden; it includes the actual data collection instruments [if any].

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before January 18, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gina Lightfoot Walker at CFTC, (202) 418-5121; FAX: (202) 418-5524; email: gwalker@cftc.gov and refer to OMB Control No. 3038-0043.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Rules Relating to Review of National Futures Association Decisions in Disciplinary, Membership Denial, Registration, and Member Responsibility Actions, OMB Control No. 3038-0043. This is a request for extension of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: 17 CFR Part 171 rules require a registered futures association to provide fair and orderly procedures for membership and disciplinary actions. The Commission's review of decisions of registered futures associations in disciplinary, membership denial, registration, and member responsibility actions is governed by Section 17(h)(2) of the Commodity Exchange Act, 7 U.S.C.

Section 21(h)(2) (1994). The rules establish procedures and standards for Commission review of such actions, and the reporting requirements included in the procedural rules are either directly required by Section 17 of the Act or are necessary to the type of appellate review role Congress intended the Commission to undertake when it adopted that provision.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB control numbers for the CFTC's regulations were published on December 30, 1981. See 46 FR 63035 (Dec. 30, 1981). The Federal Register notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on September 1, 1999 (64 FR 47773).

Burden statement: the respondent burden for this collection is estimated to average 1.42 hours per response. This estimate includes the time needed to review instructions; develop, acquire, install, and utilize technology and systems for the purposes of collecting, validating, and verifying information, processing and maintaining information and disclosing and providing information; adjust the existing ways to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements; train personnel to be able to respond to a collection of information; and transmit or otherwise disclose the information.

Respondents/Affected Entities: 22.

Estimated number of responses: 89.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 126 hours.

Frequency of collection: On occasion.

Send comments regarding the burden estimated or any other aspect of the information collection, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the addresses listed below. Please refer to OMB Control No. 3038-0043 in any correspondence.

Gina Lightfoot Walker, Office of General Counsel, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, 1155 21st Street, NW, Washington, DC 20581 and Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Attention: Desk Office for CFTC, 725 17th Street, Washington, DC 20503.

Issued in Washington, DC on December 13, 1999.

Jean A. Webb,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 99-32728 Filed 12-16-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6351-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The Leader, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before February 15, 2000.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Leader, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g. new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment.

The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology.