

5. Canary Rockfish Allocation and Inseason Adjustment in the Pink Shrimp and Other Fisheries
6. Adoption of Rockfish Bycatch Estimate and Inseason Adjustments in Relevant Fisheries
7. Inseason Adjustments including English Sole and Redband Rockfish Retention Regulations
8. Inseason Adjustment in the Vertical Line Black Rockfish Allocation
9. Plan Amendment for Stock Rebuilding
10. Rebuilding Plans for Canary Rockfish and Cowcod
11. Status of Groundfish Strategic Plan
12. Observer Program
13. Plan Amendment to Address Bycatch and Management Measure Issues-Review First Draft
14. Renewal of Emergency Rule for 2000 Management Measures
15. American Fisheries Act
16. Efforts to Reduce Yellowtail Rockfish Catch in the Whiting Fishery: Review of Exempted Fishing Permit
 - C. Salmon Management
 1. Agendum Overview
 2. Identification of Stocks Not Meeting Escapement Goals for Three Consecutive Years
 3. Methodology Reviews for 2000
 4. Tentative Adoption of 2000 Ocean Salmon Management Measures for Analysis
 5. Clarify Council Direction on 2000 Management Measures, If Necessary
 6. Final Action on 2000 Measures
 7. Clarification of Final Action on 2000 Measures (IF NECESSARY)
 - D. Administrative and Other Matters
 1. Agendum Overview
 2. Report of the Budget Committee
 3. Report of the Legislative Committee
 4. Establishment of a Council Operating Procedure for E-Mail
 5. Appointments to and Composition of Council Advisory Entities
 6. Groundfish Workload Issues
 7. June 2000 Draft Agenda
 - E. Marine Reserves Staff Report
 - F. Habitat Issues
 - Report of the Habitat Steering Group

Advisory Meetings

The Groundfish Management Team will meet at 1 p.m. on Sunday, April 2 and throughout the week as necessary to address groundfish management items on the Council agenda.

The Salmon Advisory Subpanel will convene on Monday, April 3, at 8 a.m. and will continue to meet throughout the week as necessary to address salmon management items on the Council agenda.

The Scientific and Statistical Committee will convene on Monday,

April 3, at 8 a.m., and on Tuesday, April 4, at 8 a.m. to address scientific issues on the Council agenda.

The Habitat Steering Group meets at 9 a.m. on Monday, April 3, to address issues and actions affecting habitat of fish species managed by the Council.

The Budget Committee meets on Monday, April 3 at 9 a.m. to review the status of the 2000 Council budget and the proposed budget for 2001.

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel will meet at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, April 3 and will convene throughout the week to address groundfish management items on the Council agenda.

The Salmon Technical Team will convene throughout the week (Monday April 3 through Friday April 7) as necessary to address salmon management items on the Council agenda.

The Enforcement Consultants meet at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 4, and will continue to meet as necessary through Friday, April 7 to address enforcement issues relating to Council agenda items.

The ad-hoc Marine Reserve Committee will meet on Tuesday, April 4 at 5 p.m. to discuss marine reserve issues relating to Council agenda items.

Comments on Council Agenda Items will not be accepted if submitted via e-mail or internet.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal Council action during this meeting. Council action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Mr. John S. Rhoton at (503) 326-6352 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: March 16, 2000.

Bruce C. Morehead,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Science Advisory Board

AGENCY: Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, NOAA, DOC.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: The Science Advisory Board (SAB) was established by a Decision Memorandum dated September 25, 1997, and is the only Federal Advisory Committee with responsibility to advise the Under secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere on long- and short-range strategies for research, education, and application of science to resource management. SAB activities and advice will provide necessary input to ensure that National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) science programs are of the highest quality and provide optimal support to resource management.

Time and Date: The meeting will be held Wednesday, April 5, 2000, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Thursday, April 6, 2000, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; and Friday, April 7, 2000, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Place: American Geophysical Union, 2000 Florida Avenue, NW, Washington, DC.

Status: The meeting will be open to public participation with two 30-minute time periods set aside during the meeting for direct verbal comments or questions from the public. The SAB expects that public statements presented at its meeting will not be repetitive of previously submitted verbal or written statements. In general, each individual or group making a verbal presentation will be limited to a total time of five (5) minutes. Written comments (at least 35 copies) should be received in the SAB Executive Director's Office by March 29, 2000, in order to provide sufficient time for SAB review. Written comments received by the SAB Executive Director after March 29 will be distributed to the SAB, but may not be reviewed prior to the meeting date. Approximately thirty (30) seats will be available for the public including five (5) seats reserved for the media. Seats will be available on a first-come first-served basis.

Matters to Be Considered: The meeting will include the following topics: (1) Overview and SAB discussion of FY 2000 NOAA budget, (2) NOAA update to SAB recommendations concerning the establishment of three pilot SAB Working Groups to develop review processes that will be used to review

various NOAA science efforts (see <http://www.sab.noaa.gov/oct1999finalminutes.html>), (3) NOAA response to SAB request to establish an Ocean and Coastal Information Dissemination Service (see <http://www.sab.noaa.gov/oct1999finalminutes.html>), (4) Discussion of the SAB Report for the next NOAA Administrator, (5) Public Input Session with SAB discussion, (6) Presentations and SAB discussion of the "Census of Marine Life" and NOAA's Ocean Exploration and Research Initiative, (7) Overview and SAB discussion of potential recommendations relating to the NOAA FY 2002 budget request, (8) SAB Subcommittee and Issue Group Reports, (9) Overview and SAB discussion of NOAA/Universities Administrative Efficiencies Subcommittee, (10) Presentation and SAB discussion of Aquaculture Initiative.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Michael S. Uhart, Executive Director Science Advisory Board, NOAA, Rm. 11142, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910 (Phone: 301-713-9121, Fax: 301-713-3515, E-mail: Michael.Uhart@noaa.gov); or visit the NOAA SAB website at www.sab.noaa.gov.

Dated: March 15, 2000.

Louisa Koch,

Deputy Assistant Administrator, OAR.

[FR Doc. 00-6873 Filed 3-20-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-08-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 031400B]

Endangered Species; Permits

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

ACTION: Receipt of an application for a scientific research permit (1245); receipt of applications to modify permits (1194, 1212); and receipt of a modification to an application to modify a permit (994).

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the following actions regarding permits for takes of endangered and threatened species for the purposes of scientific research and/or enhancement:

NMFS has received a permit application from Mr. J. David Whitaker, of South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) (1245); NMFS has received applications for permit

modifications from Northwest Fisheries Science Center, NMFS at Seattle, WA (NWFSC)(1194, 1212); and NMFS has received an amendment to an application for permit modifications from the Idaho Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit at Moscow, ID (ICFWRU) (994).

DATES: Comments or requests for a public hearing on the new application or any of the modification requests must be received at the appropriate address or fax number (see **ADDRESSES**) no later than 5:00 p.m. eastern standard time on April 20, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on the new application or any of the modification requests should be sent to the appropriate office as indicated below. Comments may also be sent via fax to the number indicated for the application or modification request. 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 permits 994, 1194, and 1212: Protected Resources Division, F/NW03, 525 NE Oregon Street, Suite 500, Portland, OR 97232-2737 (ph: 503-230-5400, fax: 503-230-5435).

For permit 1245: 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).

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: For permits 994, 1194, and 1212: Robert Koch, Portland, OR (ph: 503-230-5424, fax: 503-230-5435, e-mail: Robert.Koch@noaa.gov).

For permit 1245: 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:

Sea Turtles

Endangered green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*), endangered Kemp's ridley turtle (*Lepidochelys kempii*), endangered leatherback turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*), threatened loggerhead turtle (*Caretta caretta*).

Fish

Sockeye salmon (*Oncorhynchus nerka*): endangered Snake River (SnR).

Chinook salmon (*O. tshawytscha*): threatened SnR spring/summer; threatened SnR fall; endangered upper Columbia River (UCR) spring; threatened lower Columbia River (LCR).

Steelhead (*O. mykiss*): threatened SnR; endangered UCR; threatened middle Columbia River (MCR); threatened LCR.

To date, final protective regulations for threatened LCR chinook salmon and SnR, MCR, and LCR steelhead under section 4(d) of the ESA have not been promulgated by NMFS. Protective regulations are currently proposed for threatened LCR chinook salmon (65 FR 169, January 3, 2000) and threatened SnR, MCR, and LCR steelhead (64 FR 73479, December 30, 1999). This notice of receipt of applications requesting takes of these species is issued as a precaution in the event that NMFS issues final protective regulations that prohibit takes of threatened LCR chinook salmon and threatened SnR, MCR, and LCR steelhead. The initiation of a 30-day public comment period on the applications, including their proposed takes of threatened LCR chinook salmon and threatened SnR, MCR, and LCR steelhead does not presuppose the contents of the eventual final protective regulations.