

(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 3 federally listed salmonid ESUs: endangered Sacramento River Winter-run Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), threatened Central Valley spring-run Chinook salmon (*O. tshawytscha*), and threatened Central Valley steelhead (*O. mykiss*).

### New Applications Received

USFWS requests a 5-year permit to conduct monitoring and research on Sacramento River winter-run Chinook salmon, Central Valley spring-run Chinook salmon, and Central Valley steelhead throughout the Central Valley of California.

CDFG/CDWR requests a 1-year permit to extend normal fish ladder operations at the Feather River Hatchery to allow for additional genetic, life history, and population assessments of wild and hatchery adult Central Valley spring-run Chinook salmon and Central Valley steelhead in the Feather River.

Dated: March 12, 2003.

**Barbara Schroeder,**

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

[FR Doc. 03–6470 Filed 3–17–03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–S**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 031003E]

### North Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meetings.

**SUMMARY:** The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory committees will hold public meetings.

**DATES:** The meetings will be held on Monday, March 31, 2003 through Tuesday, April 8, 2003. See

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times.

**ADDRESSES:** The meetings will be held at the Anchorage Hilton Hotel, 500 W 3rd Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99501.

*Council address:* North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 605 W. 4th Ave., Suite 306, Anchorage, AK 99501–2252.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Council staff, telephone: 907–271–2809.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Council's Advisory Panel will begin at 8 a.m., Monday, March 31 and continue through Saturday, April 5, 2003. The Scientific and Statistical Committee will begin at 8 a.m. on Monday, March 31, and continue through Wednesday, April 2, 2003.

The Council will begin its plenary session at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, April 2 continuing through Tuesday April 8th. All meetings are open to the public except executive sessions.

*Council Plenary Session:* The agenda for the Council's plenary session will include the following issues. The Council may take appropriate action on any of the issues identified.

1. Reports
  - (a) Executive Director's Report
  - (b) NMFS Management Report
  - (c) Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G) Management Report
  - (d) Coast Guard Report
  - (e) U.S. Fish & Wildlife Report
2. Gulf of Alaska Rationalization (GOA): Receive draft analytical outline, refine Alternatives as necessary.
3. Crab Rationalization: (a) Receive Committee reports and finalize action on trailing amendments; (b) Department of Justice opinion on anti-trust issues.
4. Steller Sea Lion (SSL) Issues: (a) Review draft response to Biological Opinion (BiOp) remand; (b) National

Academy of Science SSL Report - Schedule discussion for future action; (c) Report on Aleutian Island pollock closure analysis.

5. Essential Fish Habitat (EFH): Receive progress report on Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) development, objectives, and research plan.

6. Programmatic Groundfish Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (PGSEIS): Receive progress report.

7. Bering Sea/Aleutian Island (BSAI) Pacific Cod Allocation: Initial review of Amendment 77 (allocations among fixed gear components).

8. Improved Retention/Improved Utilization (IR/IU): (a) Review proposal for Trailing Amendment A (multi-species head & Gut (H&G) co-ops), and associated allocation issues; (b) Initial review of Trailing Amendment C (minimum retention standards); (c) Final review of Trailing Amendment D (5% exemption); and (d) Discussion of relationship of Amendment A & C.

9. Observer Program: Review timeline and analytical outline for restructuring observer program.

10. Halibut Subsistence: (a) Final action on Ninilchik inclusion; (b) Report on other potentially eligible communities.

11. Community Development Quota (CDQ) Program: Final action on "other species" exemption

12. Groundfish Issues: (a) Discuss future actions resulting from F40 Report; (b) Receive progress report on rockfish/non-target species management; (c) Review status of TAC-setting amendment package; (d) Review request(s) for Experimental Fishing Permits (halibut donation and salmon excluder device); (e) Recommend VIP rates for latter half of 2003; (f) SSC comments on National Standards 1 guidelines; and (g) Review research priorities.

13. Staff Tasking: Review tasking and committees and provide direction to staff.

14. Other Business.

*Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC):* The SSC agenda will include the following issues:

1. C–1 GOA Rationalization
2. C–3 Steller Sea Lion
3. C–4 Essential Fish Habitat
4. C–5 PGSEIS
5. C–6 BSAI Cod Allocation
6. C–7 IR/IU
7. C–8 Observer Program
8. D–1 Groundfish Issues

*Advisory Panel:* The Advisory Panel will address the same agenda issues as the Council.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come