

Authority

Scientific research permits are issued in accordance with Section 10(a)(1)(A) of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et. seq.*) and Federal regulations governing listed fish and wildlife permits (50CFR Parts 222–226). NMFS issues permits and modifications based on findings that such permits and modifications: (1) Are applied for in good faith; (2) if granted and exercised, would not operate to the disadvantage of the listed species that are the subject of the permit; and (3) are consistent with the purposes and policy of section 2 of the ESA. Authority to take listed species is subject to conditions set forth in the permits and modifications.

Anyone requesting a hearing on the permit modification application listed in this notice should set out the specific reasons why a hearing would be appropriate (*see ADDRESSES*). The holding of such hearing is at the discretion of the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA.

Species Covered in This Notice

The following listed species and evolutionarily significant units (ESUs) are covered in this notice:

Chinook salmon (*O. tshawytscha*): threatened naturally produced and artificially propagated Puget Sound (PS).

Permit Applications Received*Permit 1335–Modification 3*

The U.S. Forest Service in Corvallis, Oregon requests a modification to permit 1335 for annual take of juvenile threatened artificially propagated PS chinook salmon associated with its current study in the Puget Sound basin, Washington State. The purposes of the research are to assess watershed conditions and factors limiting salmonid health and production, and evaluate watershed health under the Northwest Forest Plan. The activities will benefit listed fish by generating information to improve forest management.

Permit 1369–Modification 1

The King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks in Seattle, Washington requests a modification to permit 1369 for increased annual take of juvenile threatened naturally produced PS chinook salmon associated with an expansion of work sites under its current study. The purpose of the study is to investigate scientific issues pertaining to how salmonid habitat in King County can be protected while concurrently providing local farmers with the technical and regulatory means to drain their farmlands to continue

agricultural production. This program will develop a comprehensive information base about the habitat quality; the extent of the current and potential salmonid use of habitat where most commercial agriculture occurs; and techniques to avoid, minimize, or mitigate agriculture-related impacts on listed salmonids and their habitat.

This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(c) of the ESA. NMFS will evaluate the applications and modification requests, associated documents, and any comments submitted to determine whether the applications and modification requests meet the requirements of section 10(a) of the ESA and Federal regulations. NOAA will not make any final determinations until after the end of the 30 day comment period. NMFS will publish notice of its final action in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: August 14, 2003.

Barbara Schroeder,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[I.D. 080703D]

**Endangered and Threatened Species;
Take of Anadromous Fish**

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

ACTION: Issuance of 16 scientific research permits (1114, 1119, 1124, 1134, 1152, 1194, 1379, 1403, 1406, 1410, 1421, 1422, 1423, 1426, 1427,) and six scientific research permit modifications (1290, 1291, 1322, 1335, 1366, 1382).

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that on June 30, 2003, NMFS' Northwest Region issued the permits and permit modifications allowing researchers to take endangered and threatened species for purposes of scientific research and enhancement under the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

ADDRESSES: The applications and related documents are available for review in the following office, by appointment:

Protected Resources Division, NOAA Fisheries, 525 NE Oregon Street, Suite 500, Portland, OR 97232–2737 (phone: 503–230–5400, fax: 503–230–5435).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Garth Griffin, Portland, Oregon (phone: (503) 231–2005, fax: (503) 230–5435, e-mail: garth.griffin@noaa.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Authority:** 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. Scientific research and enhancement permits are issued in accordance with and subject to Section 10(a)(1)(A) of the ESA and NMFS' regulations governing listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR parts 222–226). Authority to take listed species is subject to conditions set forth in the permits.

Species Covered in this Notice

The listed species (evolutionarily significant units) covered by this notice are identified below and listed in the subsequent table by the numbers that precede each of them in the following list:

- (1) Endangered upper Columbia River steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*)
- (2) Endangered upper Columbia River Chinook Salmon (*O. tshawytscha*)
- (3) Endangered Snake River sockeye salmon (*O. nerka*)
- (4) Threatened Snake River fall chinook salmon (*O. mykiss*)
- (5) Threatened Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon (*O. mykiss*)
- (6) Threatened Snake River steelhead (*O. mykiss*)
- (7) Threatened middle Columbia River steelhead (*O. mykiss*)
- (8) Threatened lower Columbia River chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*)
- (9) Threatened lower Columbia River steelhead (*O. mykiss*)
- (10) Threatened lower Columbia River chum salmon (*O. keta*)
- (11) Threatened upper Willamette River chinook salmon (*O. mykiss*)
- (12) Threatened upper Willamette River steelhead (*O. mykiss*)
- (13) Threatened Puget Sound chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*)
- (14) Threatened Hood Canal summer chum (*O. keta*)
- (15) Threatened Ozette lake sockeye salmon (*O. nerka*)
- (16) Threatened Oregon coast coho salmon (*O. kisutch*)
- (17) Threatened southern Oregon–northern California coast coho salmon (*O. kisutch*)