

published on July 1, 1994 (59 FR 34271), NMFS will rely on the best and most comprehensive technical information available; gather and impartially evaluate information that disputes official positions; document evaluation of information; use, retain, and reference primary and original sources of information; and conduct management-level review of documents to verify and assure the quality of the science used to make the critical habitat designations. NMFS will review all comments and information resulting

from this advanced notice of proposed rulemaking prior to making any proposed designations and will include such documents in the agency's public record. The public may review information submitted by contacting NMFS (*see* **ADDRESSES** and **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**) or via the internet at <http://www.nwr.noaa.gov>. The agency will continue to meet with comanagers and other stakeholders to review this information as well as the overall designation process prior to a proposed critical habitat designation.

References

The complete citations for the references used in this document can be obtained by contacting NMFS or via the Internet (*see* **ADDRESSES** and **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**).

Dated: September 24, 2003.

Rebecca Lent,

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