

directed to Dr. Danielle Schwarzmann, 301-713-7254 or danielle.schwarzmann@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

This request is for a new information collection to provide benefit throughout the sanctuary system and specifically our sites that work with Ocean Guardian Schools. The National Ocean Service (NOS) proposes to collect information from parents and teachers about the attitudes and preferences and economic value they receive from being involved with an Ocean Guardian school.

Up-to-date socioeconomic data is needed to support the further development and improvement of Ocean Guardian Schools. These schools receive funding from the NOAA Office of Education and the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries. Schools may apply for funding up to five years. A number of schools have continued their Ocean Guardian School projects after the five years. From 2010–2015, the total funding received by 71 schools was \$544,315.

Although the costs and sources of funding are known, there is limited information known about the economic value participants place on this program and the economic value created by these schools and their many activities. Currently, there is no information available that provides estimates of the value of education programs like Ocean Guardian to parents and teachers. Ocean Guardian Schools receive funding to develop projects to help protect the ocean in the future and promote ocean conservation and stewardship. Projects include recycling, beach clean-up days, installing rain barrels, installing wildlife structures, composting, and energy reduction.

The types of data targeted for this collection are: Attitudes and preferences towards the projects and student involvement, importance of/satisfaction with the program and attributes of the program, extent of reach (are parents aware of their student's involvement and are they too learning about ocean stewardship), level of teacher, student, parent and administrative involvement, and teachers' and parents' willingness to pay. The primary focus for the survey will be to gather data on parents' and teachers' willingness to pay for this program. Specifically, researchers will collect data to determine the economic value teachers, administrators and parents place on this program. The information collected will help to inform Ocean Guardian Schools about areas for improvement and the value

that their programs create for the community.

II. Method of Collection

Respondents have a choice of either electronic or paper forms. Methods of submittal include email of electronic forms, and mail and facsimile transmission of paper forms.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0648–XXXX.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission (request for a new information collection).

Affected Public: State, local and tribal government, business or other for-profit organizations; not-for-profit institutions; individuals or households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 60 teachers/other faculty; 900 parents.

Estimated Time per Response: 45 minutes per survey for teachers/other faculty; 20 minutes per survey for parents.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 342.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$0 in recordkeeping/reporting costs.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: November 2, 2015.

Sarah Brabson,

NOAA PRA Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2015-28287 Filed 11-5-15; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648–XE301

Western Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will convene a meeting of Habitat Areas of Particular Concern (HAPC) Working Group comprised of Fishery Ecosystem Plan Team members. The working group will explore and evaluate options in developing an HAPC designation process for the Western Pacific region.

DATES: The working group will meet on November 23, 2015. For specific times and agendas, see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

ADDRESSES: The HAPC working group meeting will be held at the Council office, 1164 Bishop Street, Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI 96813; telephone: (808) 522-8220. WebEx and teleconference facilities will be provided for the meeting. The teleconference numbers are: U.S. toll-free: 1-888-482-3560 or International Access: +1 647 723-3959, and Access Code: 5228220; The web conference can be accessed at <https://wprfmc.webex.com/join/info.wpcouncilnoaa.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kitty M. Simonds, Executive Director, Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council; telephone: (808) 522-8220.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: HAPC working group members will explore different process options for designating Habitat Areas of Particular Concern in the Western Pacific Region. The purpose of this meeting is to evaluate process options to be consolidated into a report to the Council's Fishery Ecosystem Plan Team. A public comment period will be provided. The order in which agenda items are addressed may change. The meetings will run as late as necessary to complete scheduled business.

Schedule and Agenda for the HAPC Working Group Meeting

November 23, 2015 2 p.m.±4 p.m.

1. Introductions
2. HAPC Process Options
3. Evaluation
4. Public Comment

5. Other Business

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Kitty M. Simonds, (808) 522-8220 (voice) or (808) 522-8226 (fax), at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: November 3, 2015.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. 2015-28330 Filed 11-5-15; 8:45 am]

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

RIN 0648-XE306

Endangered and Threatened Species; Take of Anadromous Fish

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

ACTION: Applications for three new scientific research permits and two permit renewals.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that NMFS has received five scientific research permit application requests relating to Pacific salmon, steelhead, and eulachon. The proposed research is intended to increase knowledge of species listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and to help guide management and conservation efforts. The applications may be viewed online at: https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov/preview/preview_open_for_comment.cfm.

DATES: Comments or requests for a public hearing on the applications must be received at the appropriate address or fax number (see **ADDRESSES**) no later than 5 p.m. Pacific standard time on December 7, 2015.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on the applications should be sent to the Protected Resources Division, NMFS, 1201 NE Lloyd Blvd., Suite 1100, Portland, OR 97232-1274. Comments may also be sent via fax to 503-230-5441 or by email to nmfs.nwr.apps@noaa.gov (include the permit number in the subject line of the fax or email).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rob Clapp, Portland, OR (ph.: 503-231-2314), Fax: 503-230-5441, email: Robert.Clapp@noaa.gov. Permit application instructions are available

from the address above, or online at <https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Species Covered in This Notice**

The following listed species are covered in this notice:

Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*): Lower Columbia River (LCR); threatened Puget Sound (PS).

Steelhead (*O. mykiss*): Threatened LCR; threatened PS.

Chum salmon (*O. keta*): Threatened Columbia River (CR).

Coho salmon (*O. kisutch*): Threatened LCR.

Eulachon (*Thaleichthys pacificus*): Threatened Southern (S) distinct population segment.

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 regulations governing listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR parts 222-226). NMFS issues permits based on findings that such permits: (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. The authority to take listed species is subject to conditions set forth in the permits.

Anyone 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**). Such hearings are held at the discretion of the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NMFS.

Applications Received**Permit 15582±2R**

The City of Bothell, Washington is seeking to renew for five years a research permit that allows them to annually take juvenile PS Chinook salmon and PS steelhead. The purpose of the study is to develop a baseline and trend analysis to inform management decisions that could affect or be affected by stream water quality. These surveys would entail collecting macroinvertebrate samples and surveying streams for fish. The project would benefit listed salmonids by determining fish diversity in the monitored streams and generating information to help guide management decisions that would help remedy stream degradation. The researchers propose to capture fish using backpack electrofishing equipment and dip nets. The captured fish would be transferred

to buckets via dip nets, anesthetized, identified by species, enumerated, measured, and released when recovered. The researchers do not propose to kill any listed fish, but a small number may die as an unintended result of the activities.

Permit 15611±2R

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is seeking to renew for five years a permit that currently authorizes them to take adult LCR Chinook salmon, LCR steelhead, LCR coho salmon, and CR chum salmon while operating a fish collection facility on the North Fork Toutle River in Washington State. The fish collection facility is located at river mile 47.5, approximately 1.3 miles downstream from the Mount St. Helens sediment-retention structure. The purpose of the project is to trap and haul salmon and steelhead around the sediment retention structure. The WDFW would also collect scientific information and tag a portion of the fish to monitor migration patterns and spawning success. The primary benefit of the activities would be to allow listed salmon and steelhead to spawn in historically accessible habitat upstream of the sediment retention structure. The work would also benefit the fish by generating information on the species migration and spawning timing and location. The WDFW proposes to operate the trap several days a week during the species' upstream migration. Captured fish would be transported in a tanker truck and released upstream of the sediment retention structure. The WDFW does not intend to kill any fish being captured but some may die as an unintentional result of the activities.

Permit 18908

The Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group (SFEG) has requested a five-year permit to annually take juvenile PS Chinook and PS steelhead in the Skagit River watershed. The purpose of the study is to help SFEG identify sites in need of restoration and target enhancement efforts. The project would benefit listed salmonids by helping guide projects designed to provide restored and high-quality rearing habitat. The SFEG proposes to capture fish using a beach seine and dip net. Fish captured in the seine (and kept in the water) would be removed using a small dip-net, quickly identified by species, and then immediately released into the water outside of the seine. The researchers do not propose to kill any of the listed fish being captured, but a small number may die as an unintended result of the activities.