

constituent portion of the Council are chosen based upon their particular expertise and experience in relation to the seat for which they are applying; community and professional affiliations; and philosophy regarding the conservation and management of marine resources. Applicants who are chosen as alternates represent a seat in the absence of the primary Council member and/or may also complete the term if a primary member resigns. Alternates hold the same privileges as members when they are representing the member at a Council meeting. When the member is present at meetings, the alternate may participate as a member of the public. Alternates should expect to serve two- to three-year terms, pursuant to the Council's charter and matching those terms held by the primary seat for which the alternate is chosen. Persons who are interested in applying for membership on the Council may obtain an application from either the person or website identified above. Completed applications must be sent to the address listed above and must be received by June 4, 2001.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. Section 1431 et seq.; Pub. L. 106-513.

(Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog Number 11.429 Marine Sanctuary Program)

Dated: April 27, 2001.

Ted I. Lillestolen,

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Oceans and Coastal Zone Management.

[FR Doc. 01-11234 Filed 5-3-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-08-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Availability of Seats for the Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council

AGENCY: National Marine Sanctuary System (NMSS), National Ocean Service (NOS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce (DOC).

ACTION: Notice and request for applications.

SUMMARY: The Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary (SBNMS or Sanctuary) is seeking applicants for the following fifteen vacant seats on its Sanctuary Advisory Council (Council): Research (2); Conservation (2); Education (2); Marine Transportation (1); Fixed gear Fishing (1); Mobile gear Fishing (1); Recreation (1); Whale Watching Industry (1); Business/ Industry (1); and Citizen-at-Large (3).

Applicants are chosen based upon their particular expertise and experience in relation to the seat for which they are applying; community and professional affiliations; philosophy regarding the conservation and management of marine resources; and the length of residence in the area affected by the Sanctuary. Applicants who are chosen as members should expect to serve two or three-year terms, pursuant to the Council's Charter. Alternates to the fifteen members will also be chosen from the same pool of applicants.

DATES: Applications are due by June 8, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Application kits may be obtained from Sandi Dentino at Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary, 175 Edward Foster Road, Scituate, MA 02066. Completed applications should be sent to the same address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sandi Dentino, Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary, 175 Edward Foster Road, Scituate, MA 02066.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The SBNMS Advisory Council was established in 1998 to assure continued public participation in the management of the Sanctuary. The past Council was dissolved in 2000 and this recruitment will establish a new Council to advise the new Superintendent. Since its establishment, the original Council has played a vital role in the decisions affecting the Sanctuary and surrounding waters.

The Council's fifteen voting members represent a variety of local user groups, as well as the general public. Six ex-officio members will represent state and federal governmental jurisdictions.

The Council represents the coordination link between the Sanctuary and the state and federal management agencies, user groups, researchers, educators, policymakers, and other various groups that help to focus efforts and attention on Sanctuary issues.

The Council functions in an advisory capacity to the Sanctuary Superintendent and is instrumental in helping to develop policies and program goals, and to identify education, outreach, research, long-term monitoring, resource protection and revenue enhancement priorities. The Council works in concert with the Sanctuary Superintendent by keeping him informed about issues of concern throughout the Sanctuary, offering recommendations on specific issues, and aiding the Superintendent in achieving the goals of the Sanctuary

program within the context of SBNMS programs and policies.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. Section 1431 et seq. (Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog Number 11.429 Marine Sanctuary Program)

Dated: April 27, 2001.

Ted I. Lillestolen,

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Oceans and Coastal Zone Management.

[FR Doc. 01-11233 Filed 5-3-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-08-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 042501G]

Endangered and Threatened Species; Take of Anadromous Fish

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

ACTION: Notice of availability and request for comment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) has submitted four Fisheries Management and Evaluation Plans (FMEP) pursuant to the protective regulations promulgated for Middle Columbia River (MCR) steelhead under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The FMEPs specify the future management of inland recreational fisheries potentially affecting the MCR steelhead. This document serves to notify the public of the availability of the FMEPs for review and comment before a final approval or disapproval is made by NMFS.

DATES: Written comments on the draft FMEPs must be received at the appropriate address or fax number (see **ADDRESSES**) no later than 5 p.m. Pacific standard time on June 4, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and requests for copies of the draft FMEPs should be addressed to Richard Turner, Sustainable Fisheries Division, Hatchery and Inland Fisheries Branch, 525 N.E. Oregon Street, Suite 510, Portland, OR 97232 or faxed to 503-872-2737. The documents are also available on the Internet at <http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/>. Comments will not be accepted if submitted via e-mail or the Internet.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard Turner, Portland, OR at phone number 503-736-4737 or e-mail: rich.turner@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is relevant to the Middle Columbia River Steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) Evolutionarily Significant Unit (ESU).

Background

ODFW has submitted to NMFS four FMEPs: (1) *Walla Walla River Summer Steelhead and Trout Fisheries*, (2) *Umatilla River Summer Steelhead, Trout and Warmwater Fisheries*, (3) *John Day River Steelhead, Trout and Warmwater Fisheries*, and (4) *Deschutes River, Small Columbia Tributaries: Fifteenmile, Mill and Chenoweth Creeks Summer Steelhead, Trout and Warmwater Fisheries*. These FMEPs are for inland recreational fisheries potentially affecting listed adult and juvenile MCR ESU steelhead. These include fisheries occurring in the Oregon portion of the Walla Walla River, the Umatilla River, the John Day River, the Deschutes River and in the smaller tributaries to the Columbia River in Oregon between the Hood River and the Deschutes River. The objective of these FMEPs is to harvest known, hatchery-origin steelhead and other fish species in a manner that does not jeopardize the survival and recovery of the MCR steelhead ESU. All fisheries included in these FMEPs will be managed such that only adult hatchery-origin steelhead that are adipose fin clipped may be retained. Impacts levels to listed MCR steelhead are specified in the FMEPs. Population viability analysis and risk assessments in the FMEPs indicate the extinction risk for listed steelhead under the proposed fishery impact levels to be low. A variety of monitoring and evaluation tasks are specified in the FMEPs to assess the abundance of steelhead, determine fishery effort and catch of steelhead and angler compliance. A review of compliance with the provisions of the FMEP will be conducted by ODFW annually and a comprehensive review to evaluate the effectiveness of the FMEPs will occur at a minimum of every five years. In the John Day River, ODFW has also proposed a consumptive fishery on listed naturally produced MCR steelhead that would be implemented only after specific conditions are achieved. This fishery is in addition to the selective fishery for hatchery-origin adults described here. The conditions are described in the FMEP "John Day River Steelhead, Trout and Warmwater Fisheries."

ODFW has provided NMFS a draft of the Conservation Assessment of Steelhead Populations in Oregon (Assessment) as part of the FMEP submittal. The Assessment provides the

population viability analysis and risk assessment developed for ODFW's FMEPs. This Assessment is also available for review and comment.

As specified in the July 10, 2000 ESA 4(d) rule for salmon and steelhead (65 FR 42422), NMFS may approve an FMEP if it meets criteria set forth in § 223.203 (b)(4)(i)(A) through (I). Prior to final approval of an FMEP, NMFS must publish notification announcing its availability for public review and comment.

Authority

Under section 4 of the ESA, the Secretary of Commerce is required to adopt such regulations as he deems necessary and advisable for the conservation of species listed as threatened. The ESA salmon and steelhead 4(d) rule (65 FR 42422, July 10, 2000) specifies categories of activities that contribute to the conservation of listed salmonids and sets out the criteria for such activities. The rule further provides that the prohibitions of paragraph (a) of the rule do not apply to activities associated with fishery harvest provided that an FMEP has been approved by NMFS to be in accordance with the salmon and steelhead ESA 4(d) rule (65 FR 42422, July 10, 2000).

Dated: April 30, 2001.

Margaret Lorenz,

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

[FR Doc. 01-11316 Filed 5-3-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 042501H]

Endangered and Threatened Species; Take of Anadromous Fish

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

ACTION: Notice of availability and request for comment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) has submitted two Fisheries Management and Evaluation Plans (FMEP) and The Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) has submitted a FMEP pursuant to the protective regulations promulgated for Snake River (SR) steelhead under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The

FMEPs specify the future management of inland recreational fisheries potentially affecting the SR steelhead. This document serves to notify the public of the availability of the FMEPs for review and comment before a final approval or disapproval is made by NMFS.

DATES: Written comments on the draft FMEPs must be received at the appropriate address or fax number (see **ADDRESSES**) no later than 5 p.m. Pacific standard time on June 4, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and requests for copies of the draft FMEPs should be addressed to Richard Turner, Sustainable Fisheries Division, Hatchery and Inland Fisheries Branch, 525 N.E. Oregon Street, Suite 510, Portland, OR 97232 or faxed to 503-872-2737. The documents are also available on the Internet at <http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/>. Comments will not be accepted if submitted via e-mail or the Internet.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Debbie Martin, Boise, ID at phone number: 208-321-2959, or e-mail: debbie.martin@noaa.gov, or Richard Turner, Portland, OR at phone number 503-736-4737 or e-mail: rich.turner@noaa.gov regarding FMEPs.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is relevant to the Snake River Basin Steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) Evolutionarily Significant Unit (ESU).

Background

ODFW has submitted to NMFS an FMEP (*Snake, Grande Ronde, and Imnaha Rivers Warmwater and Sturgeon Recreation Fisheries*) for warmwater and sturgeon recreational fisheries potentially affecting listed adult and juvenile SR steelhead. This includes fisheries occurring in the Snake, Grande Ronde, and Imnaha River Basins. The objective of the FMEP is to provide a catch and release recreational fishing opportunity and harvest on introduced warmwater species in the Oregon portion of the Snake River, the Imnaha River, and the Grande Ronde River and tributaries in a manner that does not jeopardize the survival and recovery of the SR steelhead ESU. The FMEP focuses on the incidental mortality to SR steelhead from these fisheries. Impacts can result from the fisheries themselves and the potential impacts from the resident fish stocking program. Impact levels to listed steelhead populations in the ESU due to catch and release are specified in the FMEP. Population viability analyses and risk assessments in the FMEP indicate the extinction risk for listed steelhead under the proposed fishery impact levels to be low. A variety of monitoring