

Pursuant to a court order, the proposed rule is based only on the 1994 administrative record. All available information, including current data, will be considered prior to taking final action on the listing proposal. If, after consideration of all available data, this proposal is made final, it would extend protection of the Act to these two bull trout population segments.

Written comments may now be submitted until October 17, 1997, to the Service Office in the ADDRESSES section.

Author: The primary author of this notice is Steve Duke (see ADDRESSES section).

Authority

The authority for this action is the Endangered Species Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*)

Dated: July 28, 1997.

Thomas J. Dwyer,

Acting Regional Director, Region 1, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 97-20540 Filed 8-4-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

50 CFR Part 23

Proposed Revision of Regulations Implementing the Endangered Species Convention (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora; CITES)

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to propose rulemaking.

SUMMARY: This document requests suggestions and recommendations from the public for revisions to certain Federal regulations which implement the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) in the United States; 50 CFR part 23 subparts A, B, C, and D. These regulations, which the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) plans to update and modify, include provisions concerned with the import, export, re-export, and introduction from the sea of CITES-listed wildlife and plants to and from the United States, as well as those regulations which cover public participation in the development of U.S. negotiating positions for meetings of the CITES Conference of the Parties (COP).

DATES: Comments and other information received through September 30, 1997, will be considered by the Service in developing proposed amendments to 50 CFR part 23.

ADDRESSES: Comments and other information should be sent to Kenneth Stansell, Chief, Office of Management Authority, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Room 430, Arlington, VA 22203.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Bruce J. Weissgold or Susan S. Lieberman, Office of Management Authority, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; telephone 703/358-2093; fax 703/358-2280.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic Access

Comments and other information can also be sent via electronic mail (E-mail) to: r9oma_cites@fws.gov.

Background

The Service is planning to revise regulations covering the implementation of CITES in the United States (50 CFR part 23) in order to provide the public with a more transparent and open explanation of Service procedures with regard to the implementation of CITES wildlife and plant international trade control provisions. The Service is considering revising and reorganizing subparts A, B, C, and D of 50 CFR part 23. These regulations were last revised in 1977 and 1980 (depending on which subpart is considered); and since that time, the Service has developed and modified procedures to adjust to the changing circumstances and conditions necessary for effective CITES implementation in the United States.

At each of the ten CITES COPs convened since the treaty went into force in 1975, including COP10 which was held in Harare, Zimbabwe in June 1997, interpretive resolutions to the Convention have been adopted by the Parties. The Service has determined that some of these interpretive CITES resolutions, as they relate directly to implementation and enforcement of the Convention, need to be implemented through the promulgation of regulations. In addition, the Service has developed procedures through the statutory authority granted by Congress in the Endangered Species Act but has not yet updated Part 23 to incorporate those procedures. The proposed revision of 50 CFR part 23 will address those procedures and interpretive resolutions.

Furthermore, it is the intent of the Service to find ways to improve and enhance the opportunities which the public has to participate in the development of policy positions for meetings of the CITES Conference of the Parties (COP). The Service intends to continue to fully consider public input on the development of U.S. policy positions, and invites comments as to how the Service can most effectively

receive information from the public on CITES COP policy position formulation. The Service will consider all comments regarding revisions to subparts A, B, C, and D of 50 CFR part 23, as well as comments on specific procedures related to these regulations. The Service is not requesting comments which are unrelated to 50 CFR part 23 revisions, such as CITES species listing positions, policy positions related to the CITES Conference of the Parties (COP), or any other wildlife trade issue which is not directly related to 50 CFR part 23 revisions.

Interested organizations and individuals are invited to comment on the planned revision of 50 CFR part 23 and on public participation in the development of Service policy positions for CITES COPs. The Service will consider all comments received during the comment period in drafting a proposed rule.

Author: This notice was prepared by Bruce J. Weissgold, Office of Management Authority, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

List of Subjects in 50 CFR Part 23

Endangered and threatened species, Exports, Imports, Treaties.

Dated: July 23, 1997.

John G. Rogers,

Acting Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 97-20594 Filed 8-4-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 600

[Docket No. 970527125-7125-01; I.D. 032797B]

RIN 0648-AJ95

Magnuson Act Provisions; Appointment of Regional Fishery Management Council Members; Extension of Comment Period

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

ACTION: Proposed rule; extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: At the request of a tribal representative, NMFS is extending the public comment period on a proposed rule to amend the regulations governing the nomination and appointment of