

MD 21218. *Instrument:* Electron Microscope, Model CM300. *Manufacturer:* Philips, The Netherlands. *Intended Use:* See notice at 64 FR 4843, February 1, 1999. *Order Date:* December 10, 1997.

*Comments:* None received. *Decision:* Approved. No instrument of equivalent scientific value to the foreign instrument, for such purposes as the instrument is intended to be used, was being manufactured in the United States at the time the instrument was ordered. *Reasons:* The foreign instrument is a conventional transmission electron microscope (CTEM) and is intended for research or scientific educational uses requiring a CTEM. We know of no CTEM, or any other instrument suited to these purposes, which was being manufactured in the United States at the time of order of the instrument.

**Frank W. Creel,**

*Director, Statutory Import Programs Staff.*  
[FR Doc. 99-5794 Filed 3-8-99; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 030199C]

#### Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC); Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's Scientific & Statistical Committee (SSC), Tilefish Committee, and Tilefish Advisory Panel will hold public meetings.

**DATES:** On Wednesday, March 31, 1999 the SSC will meet from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. On Thursday, April 1, 1999 the Tilefish Committee and the Tilefish Advisory Panel will meet from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** These meetings will be held at the Radisson Hotel Philadelphia Airport, 500 Stevens Drive, Philadelphia, PA; telephone: 610-521-5900.

*Council address:* Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 300 S. New Street, Dover, DE 19904.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Daniel T. Furlong, Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; telephone: 302-674-2331, ext. 19.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On March 31, 1999 the SSC will review the assessment and make recommendations on the status of tilefish resources. On April 1, 1999 the Tilefish Committee and the Tilefish Advisory Panel will meet to review the SSC recommendations and develop recommendations on Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) and fishery management measures.

Although other issues not contained in this agenda may come before the Committees for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in this notice.

#### Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Joanna Davis at the Council (see ADDRESSES) at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

March 3, 1999.

**Gary C. Matlock,**

*Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 99-5799 Filed 3-8-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### Modernization Transition Committee (MTC)

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**TIME AND DATE;** March 24, 1999 beginning at 8 a.m.

**PLACE:** This meeting will take place at the Silver Spring Holiday Inn, 8777 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland.

**STATUS:** The meeting will be open to the public. The time between 11:30 a.m. and 12 noon will be set aside for public comments. Approximately 50 seats will be available to the public on a first-come, first-served basis.

**MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:** This meeting will include status updates on the Huntsville, Alabama, proposed certifications; consultation on the FY 2000 National Implementation Plan; a Fire Weather program presentation; and a report on the NWS Modernization status.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Nicholas Scheller, National Weather

Service, Modernization Staff, 1325 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3283. Telephone: 301-713-0454.

**John E. Jones, Jr.,**

*Deputy Assistant Administrator for Weather Services.*

[FR Doc. 99-5743 Filed 3-8-99; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 021299D]

#### New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meetings revision.

**SUMMARY:** The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) has modified a meeting of its Groundfish Oversight Committee for March 22, 1999. The meeting will now be a joint meeting of the Groundfish Advisory Panel and Groundfish Committee.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on March 22, 1999. See SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION for specific dates and times.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held in Peabody, MA. See SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION for specific locations.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council (781) 231-0422. Requests for special accommodations should be addressed to the New England Fishery Management Council, 5 Broadway, Saugus, MA 01906-1036; telephone: (781) 231-0422.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The original notice (64 FR 8330, February 19, 1999) stated that only the Groundfish Committee would meet on Monday, March 22, 1999. The meeting has been rescheduled to meet jointly as a Groundfish Advisory Panel and Groundfish Committee.

*Monday, March 22, 1999, 9:30 a.m.—* Joint meeting of the Groundfish Oversight Committee and Advisors  
Location: Holiday Inn, One Newbury Street (Rt. 1 North), Peabody, MA 01960, phone: (978) 535-4600; fax: (978) 535-8238.

#### Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other

auxiliary aids should be directed to Paul J. Howard (see ADDRESSES) at least 5 days prior to the meeting dates.

All other previously published information remains unchanged.

Dated: March 3, 1999.

**Gary C. Matlock,**

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

[FR Doc. 99-5800 Filed 3-8-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 030199D]

#### Endangered Species; Permits

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

**ACTION:** Receipt of applications for new scientific research permits (1202, 1203), receipt of an amendment to an application for a scientific research permit (1129), and receipt of a request to modify an existing scientific research permit (1114).

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given of the following actions regarding permits for takes of endangered and threatened species for the purposes of scientific research and/or enhancement: NMFS has received new permit applications from the U.S. Forest Service in Corvallis, OR (USFS) (1202) and from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife in Olympia, WA (WDFW) (1203); NMFS has received an amendment to a pending application from WDFW (1129); and NMFS has received a request to modify an existing permit from WDFW (1114).

**DATES:** Written comments or requests for a public hearing on any of the new applications or modification requests must be received on or before April 8, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** The applications and related documents are available for review in the following office, by appointment: Protected Resources Division, F/NWO3, 525 NE Oregon Street, Suite 500, Portland, OR 97232-4169 (503-230-5400).

All documents may also be reviewed by appointment in the Office of Protected Resources, F/PR3, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3226 (301-713-1401).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For permit 1129: Leslie Schaeffer, Portland, OR (503-230-5433).

For permits 1114, 1202, and 1203: Tom Lichatowich, Portland, OR (503-230-5438)

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Authority

Issuance of permits and permit modifications as required by the 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. Permits and modifications are issued in accordance with and are subject to parts 217-222 of Title 50 CFR, the NMFS regulations governing listed species permits.

##### Species Covered in this Notice

The following species and evolutionarily significant units (ESU's) are covered in this notice:

Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*): Upper Columbia River (UCR) spring, Snake River (SnR) spring/summer and Steelhead trout (*O. mykiss*): Lower Columbia River (LCR), UCR.

To date, neither a listing determination for UCR spring chinook salmon under the ESA, nor protective regulations for threatened LCR steelhead under section 4(d) of the ESA have been promulgated by NMFS. This notice of receipt of applications requesting takes of these species is issued as a precaution in the event that NMFS issues an UCR spring chinook salmon listing determination and/or LCR steelhead protective regulations. The initiation of a 30-day public comment period on the applications, including their proposed takes of UCR spring chinook salmon and/or LCR steelhead, does not presuppose a listing determination or the contents of the eventual protective regulations, respectively.

##### New Applications Received

USFS (1202) requests a 5-year permit authorizing direct takes of juvenile, threatened, LCR steelhead associated with three salmonid monitoring studies in the Clackamas River and tributaries. In study 1, USFS proposes to evaluate the downstream migration of juvenile salmonids. The fish will be captured with screw traps, anesthetized, tagged with passive integrated transponders (PIT) tags, and released. For study 2, USFS proposes to conduct a catch and effort study. Juvenile salmonids will be captured with fly fishing gear, anesthetized, PIT tagged, and released. In study 3, USFS proposes to use snorkel surveys to count juvenile

salmonids. Data from these three studies will be used to assess the survival of downstream salmonids as they pass through various habitats. USFS has also requested some indirect mortalities of the ESA-listed, juvenile fish associated with the research.

WDFW (1203) requests a 5-year permit, for takes of adult and juvenile, UCR spring chinook salmon associated with five research studies in UCR tributaries and the mainstem river in anticipation of a possible listing decision of this species by NMFS. In study 1, WDFW proposes to assess migrating juvenile salmonid populations. The fish will be captured with screw traps, anesthetized, sampled for biological data and released downstream. In study 2, WDFW proposes to trap returning adults at fish ladders, record biological information, and release them upstream. In study 3, WDFW proposes to survey the spawning grounds to identify redds and collect biological data from carcasses. In study 4, WDFW proposes to assess the capacity of salmonid habitat. Juvenile salmonids will be captured using electroshockers, seines, and other techniques; anesthetized; sampled for biological data; and released. In study 5, WDFW proposes to conduct presence/absence studies by using electroshockers to determine the distribution of salmonids in various watersheds. Data from these five studies will provide managers valuable information that will be used to assess the survival of migrating juvenile salmonids, the abundance of adults on spawning grounds, the annual success of spawners, and the relative abundance of salmonids in the available habitat. WDFW has also requested some indirect mortalities of the ESA-listed, juvenile fish associated with the research.

##### Amended Application

On March 24, 1998, a notice was published (63 FR 14069) that NMFS had received an application (1129) for a 5-year permit from WDFW that would authorize takes of adult and juvenile, threatened, naturally produced and artificially propagated, SnR spring/summer chinook salmon associated with a supplementation program at the Tucannon River and Lyons Ferry Hatcheries. NMFS has received an amendment to that application requesting the initiation of a captive broodstock program for Tucannon River spring chinook salmon. The goal of the captive broodstock program is for the short term rebuilding of the Tucannon River spring chinook salmon run because of poor expected runs through the year 2001. Supplementation fish are