

Increased take is also requested due to the revised estimate for the number of fish thought to be available in the estuary in 1999. Modification 6 also authorizes annual takes of juvenile, naturally produced and artificially propagated UCR spring chinook salmon associated with the research. An associated increase in ESA-listed juvenile fish indirect mortalities is also authorized. Modification 6 to permit 946 is valid for the duration of the permit, which expires on December 31, 2000.

Notice was published on April 21, 1999 (64 FR 19515), that FPC applied for a modification to scientific research permit 1193. Modification 1 to permit 1193 was issued on December 22, 1999, and authorizes an increase in annual takes of juvenile, naturally produced and artificially propagated SnR spring/summer chinook salmon associated with FPC's Smolt Monitoring Program. The increased annual take is needed because a larger than anticipated outmigration run is estimated in 1999. An associated increase in ESA-listed juvenile fish indirect mortalities is also authorized. Also for modification 1, FPC is authorized annual takes of juvenile, naturally produced and artificially propagated UCR spring chinook salmon. Modification 1 to permit 1193 is valid for the duration of the permit, which expires on December 31, 2003.

Notice was published on June 24, 1999 (64 FR 33827), that NWFSC applied for a modification to scientific research permit 1213. Modification 1 to permit 1213 was issued on December 22, 1999, and authorizes NWFSC an increased take of juvenile SnR sockeye salmon, juvenile, naturally produced and artificially propagated SnR spring/summer chinook salmon; juvenile SnR fall chinook salmon; and juvenile, naturally produced and artificially propagated UCR steelhead associated with additional testing at McNary Dam under study 4. Modification 1 also authorizes NWFSC takes of juvenile, naturally produced and artificially propagated UCR spring chinook salmon associated with the research. An associated mortality of juvenile, naturally produced and artificially propagated UCR spring chinook salmon is also authorized. Modification 1 to permit 1213 is valid for the duration of the permit, which expires on December 31, 2000.

Dated: January 7, 2000.

Wanda L. Cain,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 121599B]

Marine Mammals; File No. 782-1532-00

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

ACTION: Issuance of permit.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the National Marine Mammal Laboratory (NMML), National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA, 7600 Sand Point Way, NE, BIN C15700, Bldg. 1, Seattle, WA 98115-0070 [PI: Dr. Thomas Loughlin] has been issued a permit to take Steller sea lions (*Eumetopias jubatus*), Northern fur seals (*Callorhinus ursinus*), and harbor seals (*Phoca vitulina richardsi*) and for purposes of scientific research.

ADDRESSES: The permit and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s):

Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289);

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ruth Johnson, 301/713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On November 2, 1999, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (64 FR 59163) that a request for a scientific research permit to take had been submitted by the above-named organization. The requested permit has been issued under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216), the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222-226), and the Fur Seal Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1151 *et seq.*).

Issuance of this permit, as required by the ESA, was based on a finding that such permit (1) was applied for in good

faith, (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of the endangered species which is the subject of this permit, and (3) is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

Dated: January 10, 2000.

Ann D. Terbush,

Chief, Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 00-955 Filed 1-13-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the National Park Seminary Historic District, Forest Glen Annex, Walter Reed Army Medical Center

AGENCY: Department of the Army, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: On June 3, 1997, the Army published a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the reuse of the National Park Seminary Historic District (NPSHD). A public scoping meeting was held on July 14, 1997. The proposed EIS was intended to analyze a broad range of Army reuse alternatives for the site; however, the Army no longer needs to use the NPSHD site and now proposes to declare the property excess. Under the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act and its accompanying regulations, the General Services Administration (GSA) is responsible for the disposal of excess federal property. The Army's proposed excessing action will begin the disposal process by providing notice to GSA that the property is excess to the Army's needs.

Therefore, the Army proposes to report the property as excess to GSA, in accordance with Army Regulation 405-90 ("Disposal of Real Estate," dated May 10, 1985) and federal property law. Accordingly, this notice is to inform the public that the EIS for Army reuse of the NPSHD has been discontinued and that the Army is now preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed excessing action. Should the property be declared excess by the Army, then GSA (as the property disposal agent) will be responsible for evaluating the potential environmental impacts associated with disposal and reuse.

ADDRESSES: Address comments to Ms. Beverly Chidel, Public Affairs Office, Walter Reed Medical Center, 6825 16th

Street, NW, Washington, DC 20307–5001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Beverly Chidel, Public Affairs Officer, at (202) 782–7177 or beverly.chidel@na.amedd.army.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the EA is to identify the environmental impacts that could be associated with the proposed excessing action and to ensure that the Army makes an informed decision based on full and informed public participation. An EA, rather than an EIS, normally is prepared for proposals that may lead to excessing Army real property (Army Regulation (AR) 200–2, Section 5–3, “Environmental Effects of Army Actions,” dated December 23, 1988). In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, the regulations published by the Council on Environmental Quality (Title 40 CFR parts 1500–1508) and AR 200–2, the EA will identify all relevant direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental impacts associated with the proposed action and alternatives.

The NPSHD is part of the Walter Reed Army Medical Center’s Forest Glen Annex, which is located in the Silver Spring area of Montgomery County, Maryland, approximately 1.5 miles north of the District of Columbia. The NPSHD has been listed as an historic district on the National Register of Historic Places since 1972 and was the first historic district to be designated by Montgomery County in 1979. As a result of consolidation and replacement of outmoded facilities, Walter Reed Army Medical Center’s mission-related activities have been relocated and the historic buildings on this property now are mostly vacant.

The EA will address a series of alternatives for the immediate future of the NPSHD. Alternatives may include: Excessing (declaring the NPSHD to be an excess property, which would allow the disposal process to begin); the no-action alternative (retaining the property indefinitely in its current underutilized condition); or “mothballing” the historic buildings and retaining the property. As part of the excessing alternative, the EA will address measures for interim maintenance of the historic buildings, pending their ultimate disposal.

Because GSA is responsible for screening and marketing the property for disposal and reuse, consideration of specific reuse alternatives is beyond the scope of the Army’s EA. Therefore, the EA will be limited to the Army’s proposed excessing action and alternatives, as described above, and

will evaluate the potential environmental effects of disposal and reuse only as indirect and cumulative effects of the Army’s excessing action.

As noted, if the property is declared excess, GSA will market and dispose of the NPSHD and will consider any relevant disposal alternatives and their potential impacts, in compliance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act, as a part of its subsequent disposal action. Public comments are welcome at any time during preparation of the EA. Public information meetings were held (May 11 and Oct. 28, 1999), while the EA was being prepared and were announced in the “Washington Post,” the “Washington Times,” and the “Montgomery Journal” newspapers. Copies of the EA will be made available for public review and a public notice will be published in these same newspapers to advise the public of the availability of the EA.

Dated: January 10, 2000.

Raymond J. Fatz,

Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Environment, Safety, and Occupational Health) OASA (I&E).

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Science Financial Assistance Program Notice 00–10; Human Genome Program—Ethical, Legal, and Social Implications

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice inviting grant applications.

SUMMARY: The Office of Biological and Environmental Research (OBER) of the Office of Science (SC), U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), hereby announces its interest in receiving applications in support of the Ethical, Legal, and Social Implications (ELSI) subprogram of the Human Genome Program (HGP). Applications should focus on issues of (1) genetics and the workplace, (2) storage of genetic information and tissue samples, (3) education, or (4) complex or multigenic traits. The HGP is a coordinated, multidisciplinary, directed research effort aimed at obtaining a detailed understanding of the human genome at the molecular level. This particular research notice invites research grants that address ethical, legal, and social implications from the use of information and knowledge resulting from the HGP.

DATES: Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to submit a brief

preapplication. All preapplications, referencing Program Notice 00–10, should be received by 4:30 p.m., E.S.T., February 17, 2000. Early submissions are encouraged. A response discussing the potential program relevance and encouraging or discouraging a formal application generally will be communicated within 20 days of receipt.

Formal applications submitted in response to this notice must be received by 4:30 p.m., E.D.T., April 6, 2000, to be accepted for merit review and to permit timely consideration for award in Fiscal Year 2000.

ADDRESSES: Preapplications, referencing Program Notice 00–10, should be sent to: Dr. Daniel W. Drell, Office of Biological and Environmental Research, SC–72, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, MD 20874–1290.

Formal applications, referencing Program Notice 00–10, should be forwarded to: U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Science, Grants and Contracts Division, SC–64, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, MD 20874–1290, ATTN: Program Notice 00–10. This address also must be used when submitting applications by U.S. Postal Service Express Mail, or any commercial mail delivery service, or when hand carried by the applicant. An original and seven copies of the application must be submitted.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Daniel W. Drell, Office of Biological and Environmental Research, SC–72, Office of Science, U.S. Department of Energy, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, MD 20874–1290, telephone: (301) 903–6488 or E-mail: daniel.drell@science.doe.gov. The full text of Program Notice 00–10 is available via the Internet using the following web site address: <http://www.sc.doe.gov/production/grants/grants.html>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The DOE encourages the submission of applications that will address, analyze, or anticipate ELSI issues associated with human genome research in four broad areas:

I. Genetics and the Workplace

Research is encouraged on the uses, impacts, implications of, and privacy of genetic information in the workplace. A particular emphasis of this solicitation is screening and monitoring programs that involve the collection and evaluation of genetic information. Research is also encouraged on the use of the workplace as a research venue. Research could explore historical experiences, current practices,