

(c) Special flight permits may be issued in accordance with sections 21.197 and 21.199 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 21.197 and 21.199) to operate the airplane to a location where the requirements of this AD can be accomplished.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on August 2, 1996.

Gary L. Killion.

Acting Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 96-20290 Filed 8-8-96; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

30 CFR Part 250

RIN 1010-AC19

Proposed Rule to Clarify Unitization

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.

ACTION: Extension of comment period for proposed rule.

SUMMARY: This document extends to August 19, 1996, the deadline for the submission of comments on the proposed rule governing unitization of Outer Continental Shelf oil and gas leases, which was published on June 5, 1996. The proposed rule amends the unitization regulations by removing the model unit agreements, making them available from the Regional Supervisor as needed.

DATES: We will consider all comments that are received by August 19, 1996. We will begin our review of those comments at that time and may not fully consider comments we receive after August 19, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Mail or hand-carry comments to the Department of the Interior: Minerals Management Service; 381 Elden Street; Mail Stop 4700; Herndon, Virginia 20170-4817; Attention: Chief, Engineering and Standards Branch.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Judy Wilson, Engineering and Standards Branch, Telephone (703) 787-1600.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The MMS has been asked to extend the deadline for respondents to submit comments on the proposed rule published on June 5, 1996 (61 FR 28525). The requests explain that more time is needed to allow respondents time to prepare comments on omissions in the proposed rule.

Dated: August 5, 1996.

Lucy R. Querques.

Acting Associate Director for Offshore Minerals Management.

[FR Doc. 96-20354 Filed 8-8-96; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Parts 222 and 227

[Docket No. 960730210-6210-01; I.D. 050294D]

Endangered and Threatened Species: Proposed Endangered Status for Five ESUs of Steelhead and Proposed Threatened Status for Five ESUs of Steelhead in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and California

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

ACTION: Proposed rule; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS has completed a comprehensive status review of West Coast steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*, or *O. mykiss*) populations in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and California, and has identified 15 Evolutionarily Significant Units (ESUs) within this range. NMFS is now issuing a proposed rule to list five ESUs as endangered and five ESUs as threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The endangered steelhead ESUs are located in California (Central California Coast, South/Central California Coast, Southern California, and Central Valley ESUs) and Washington (Upper Columbia River ESU). The threatened steelhead ESUs are dispersed throughout all four states and include the Snake River Basin, Lower Columbia River, Oregon Coast, Klamath Mountains Province, and Northern California ESUs. NMFS is also designating the Middle Columbia River ESU as a candidate species.

NMFS is requesting public comments on the biological issues pertaining to this proposed rule and suggestions on integrated local/state/Federal conservation measures that might best achieve the purposes of the ESA relative to recovering the health of steelhead populations and the ecosystems upon which they depend. Should the proposed listings be made final, protective regulations under the ESA would be put into effect and a recovery program would be implemented.

DATES: Comments must be received by November 7, 1996. NMFS will announce the dates and locations of public hearings in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and California in a separate Federal Register document. Requests for additional public hearings must be received by September 23, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Comments on this proposed rule and requests for public hearings or reference materials should be sent to the Protected Species Branch, Environmental and Technical Services Division, NMFS, Northwest Region, 525 NE Oregon Street, Suite 500, Portland, OR 97232-2737.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Garth Griffin, 503-231-2005, Craig Wingert, 310-980-4021, or Marta Nammack, 301-713-1401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On May 5, 1992, NMFS received a petition to list Illinois River winter steelhead from the Oregon Natural Resources Council, the Siskiyou Regional Education Project, Federation of Fly Fishers, Kalmiopsis Audubon Society, Siskiyou Audubon Society, Klamath/Siskiyou Coalition, Headwaters, The Wilderness Society, North Coast Environmental Center, The Sierra Club—Oregon Chapter, and the National Wildlife Federation. On July 31, 1992, NMFS published a notice stating that the petition presented substantial information indicating that a listing might be warranted (57 FR 33939) and concurrently solicited information about the status of this population. NMFS completed a status review (Busby et al. 1993) that was summarized in a May 20, 1993, determination (58 FR 29390). NMFS concluded that Illinois River winter steelhead did not represent a "species" under the ESA and therefore, a proposal to list this population was not warranted. However, NMFS recognized that this population was part of a larger ESU whose extent had not yet been determined, but whose status might warrant listing because of declining trends in steelhead abundance observed in several southern Oregon streams.

In its May 20, 1993, finding regarding Illinois River winter steelhead, NMFS announced that it would conduct an expanded status review to identify all coastal steelhead ESU(s) within California, Oregon, and Washington, and to determine whether any identified ESU(s) warrant listing under the ESA. Subsequently, on February 16, 1994, NMFS received a petition from the Oregon Natural Resources Council and 15 co-petitioners to list all steelhead (or

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