

NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service

Public Scoping Workshops for a Green Sturgeon 4(d) Rule

The Southern Distinct Population (DPS) of North American green sturgeon was listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) on April 7, 2006. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) must issue a 4(d) rule to specify protective regulations, conditions, and exemptions for the threatened green sturgeon. NMFS recognizes that the 4(d) rule may affect the recreational fishing and water resources communities in areas where Southern DPS fish occur. To develop a proposed 4(d) rule, NMFS seeks input from resource users and managers to identify programs and activities that may affect the species, major issues of concern regarding the upcoming rule, and recommendations for regulations and exemptions to be included in the proposed 4(d) rule. The information gathered during these workshops will be used in

the development of a proposed 4(d) rule for the threatened Southern DPS of green sturgeon.

We continue to develop the agenda for these workshops and will post more information on the website as it becomes available.

Workshop Schedule

Focus: Recreational Fishing Issues

Date: Wednesday, May 31, 2006

Time: 9AM – 5PM

Focus: Water Resource Issues

Date: Thursday, June 1, 2006

Time: 9AM – 5PM

Location for both workshops:

Federal Building Stanford Room

650 Capitol Mall

Sacramento, CA 95814

Draft AGENDA

Sign in

Introduction/Overview

Presentations (morning session)

Lunch Break

Discussion (afternoon session)

- · Identify issues
- · Generate recommendations
- Evaluate recommendations

Summary and Wrap-up

** If you are unable to attend the workshops, you may submit relevant information prior to or following the workshops.

For more information go to

http://swr.nmfs.noaa.gov, "Latest News,"

or contact: Melissa Neuman or Susan Wang

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"Let's help NMFS write the rules so we don't have to fight the rules!"