

Model SX-10. *Manufacturer:* Hi-Tech Scientific, United Kingdom. *Intended Use:* See notice at 61 FR 28175, June 4, 1996. *Reasons:* The foreign instrument provides: (1) a high voltage power supply integrated and coupled to a xenon flashlamp, (2) UV antireflection optics and (3) flash photolysis and spectrophotometric capabilities. *Advice received from:* The National Institutes of Health, June 10, 1996.

Docket Number: 96-051. *Applicant:* Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, CT 06520-8002. *Instrument:* Free-Flow Electrophoresis Device, Model OCTOPUS PZE. *Manufacturer:* Dr. Weber, GmbH, Germany. *Intended Use:* See notice at 61 FR 30220, June 14, 1996. *Reasons:* The foreign instrument provides: (1) high resolution focusing with short throughput times and (2) a fractionation chamber for simultaneous collection of 96 samples. *Advice received from:* The National Institutes of Health, June 11, 1996.

Docket Number: 96-057. *Applicant:* University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA 52242. *Instrument:* Mass Spectrometer, Model VG AutoSpec. *Manufacturer:* Micromass, United Kingdom. *Intended Use:* See notice at 61 FR 30221, June 14, 1996. *Reasons:* The foreign instrument provides: (1) high sensitivity and resolving power, continuously variable to 60 000 (10% valley definition) in EI mode, (2) extended mass range to 5000 Daltons at 8keV ion energy and (3) linked scanning capability. *Advice received from:* The National Institutes of Health, June 11, 1996.

The National Institutes of Health advises in its memoranda that (1) the capabilities of each of the foreign instruments described above are pertinent to each applicant's intended purpose and (2) they know of no domestic instrument or apparatus of equivalent scientific value for the intended use of each instrument.

We know of no other instrument or apparatus being manufactured in the United States which is of equivalent scientific value to any of the foreign instruments.

Frank W. Creel,

Director, Statutory Import Programs Staff.
[FR Doc. 96-20933 Filed 8-15-96; 8:45 am]

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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[Docket No. 960503125-6191-02; I.D. 080896D]

RIN 0648-AH03

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Salmon Donation Program

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

ACTION: Selection of an authorized distributor.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces the selection of Tuck Donnelly, Executive Director, Northwest Food Strategies (NFS), as an Authorized Distributor for purposes of distributing Pacific salmon to economically disadvantaged individuals. These salmon are caught as bycatch during directed groundfish fishing operations in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI) and Gulf of Alaska (GOA) management areas. This action is necessary to comply with provisions of the Salmon Donation Program (SDP) and is intended to promote the goals and objectives of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council).

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 16, 1996, through August 16, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the Authorized Distributor Permit may be obtained from the Director, Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21688, Juneau, AK 99802. Copies of Amendments 26 and 29 and the Environmental Assessment/Regulatory Impact Review (EA/RIR) prepared for the amendments may be obtained from the Council, Suite 396, 605 West 4th Ave., Anchorage, AK 99510-2252; telephone: 907-271-2809.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Susan Salvesson, 907-586-7228.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Fishing for groundfish by U.S. vessels in the exclusive economic zone of the BSAI and GOA management areas is managed by NMFS according to the Fishery Management Plan for the Groundfish Fishery of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area and the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska. These fishery management plans (FMPs) were prepared by the Council under the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801, *et seq.*) and are implemented at regulations governing the U.S. groundfish fisheries

at subpart H of 50 CFR part 600 and 50 CFR part 679.

Amendments 26 and 29 to the BSAI and GOA FMPs, respectively, which were approved by NMFS on July 10, 1996, implement the SDP. A full description of, and background information on, the SDP may be found in the preamble to the proposed rule published in the Federal Register on May 16, 1996 (61 FR 24750) and in the EA/RIR prepared for that action.

Implementing regulations at 61 FR 38358 (July 24, 1996) authorize the distribution of Pacific salmon taken incidentally in the groundfish trawl fisheries off Alaska to economically disadvantaged individuals by tax-exempt organizations through an authorized distributor. The Director, Alaska Region, NMFS (Regional Director) may select one or more tax-exempt organizations to be authorized distributors, as defined by § 679.2, based on the information submitted by applicants under § 679.26. After review of qualified applicants, NMFS will announce the selection of authorized distributor(s) in the Federal Register. Participation in the SDP is voluntary.

On July 24, 1996, the Regional Director received an application for an Authorized Distributor Permit from Tuck Donnelly, Executive Director, NFS, 600 Erickson Avenue, Suite 395, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110. Upon receipt of the application, the Regional Director determined that it provided the information required by § 679.26(a)(1). The Regional Director has selected Mr. Donnelly as an Authorized Distributor for purposes of the SDP. As required by § 679.26(a)(2), the Regional Director based his selection on the criteria listed below. His findings for each criterion are provided.

1. *The number and qualifications of applicants for SDP permits.* As of August 16, 1996, only the application from NFS has been received. Under experimental fishing permits issued by NMFS in 1993, 1994, and 1995, NFS (formerly Terra Marine Research and Educations, Incorporated) coordinated a salmon donation program, using salmon bycatch from the trawl groundfish fisheries. NFS will operate the same type of program as an Authorized Distributor. Information contained in the application indicates that NFS has coordinated the transportation and routing of seafood products from Alaska since 1993, relying on all the major carriers serving Dutch Harbor and Kodiak as well as carriers serving southeast Alaska.

2. *The number of harvesters and the quantity of salmon that applicants can*

effectively administer: NFS currently administers four shorebased processors, 17 catcher/processors, and one mothership that are located on shore and at sea. The vessel numbers represent about 55 percent of the vessel processing capacity in the BSAI. NFS could administer 40 processors and associated catcher vessels that might deliver to them. In 1995, NFS processed 44,249 lb (20 metric tons (mt)) of salmon for distribution under a food bank program. To date in 1996, NFS has processed 42,767 lb (19.4 mt) of salmon. This amount will increase substantially during the remainder of the year. NMFS does not have information to convert accurately these weights to numbers of salmon. Nonetheless, assuming a recovery rate of 30 percent, and an average recovered weight of 8 lb (3.63 kg) per fish, the above weights could represent about 18,000 fish.

3. *The anticipated level of salmon bycatch based on salmon bycatch from previous years.* During 1995, about 45,000 salmon were caught in the BSAI management area by trawl vessels. About 51 percent of these, or 23,000 salmon, were caught from the middle of August through the end of calendar year 1995.

4. *The potential number of vessels and processors participating in the groundfish trawl fisheries.* About 10 shorebased processors, 60 trawl catcher/processors, five processing motherships, and about 50 trawl catcher vessels operate in the BSAI management area.

This Authorized Distributor Permit is in effect for a 3-year period from the date of publication of this announcement, unless suspended or revoked. It may not be transferred; however, it may be renewed following the application procedures in § 679.26.

If the authorized distributor modifies any information on participants or delivery locations on the SDP permit application submitted under § 679.26(a)(1)(xi) or (a)(1)(xiii), the authorized distributor must submit a modified list of participants or delivery locations to the Regional Director.

This permit may be suspended, modified, or revoked under 15 CFR part 904 for noncompliance with terms and conditions specified in the permit or for violation of § 679.26 or other regulations in 50 CFR part 679.

Classification

This action is taken under 50 CFR 679.20 and is exempt from review under E.O. 12866.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: August 12, 1996.

Richard H. Schaefer,
Director, Office of Fisheries Conservation and Management, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 96-20962 Filed 8-15-96; 8:45 am]

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[I.D. 072296D]

Endangered Species; Permits

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

ACTION: Notice of receipt of application for a research permit (P618)

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Thomas S. Squiers, Jr., of the Maine Department of Marine Resources (P618) has applied for a permit for scientific research on shortnose sturgeon.

DATES: Written comments or requests for a public hearing on the application must be received on or before September 16, 1996.

ADDRESSES: The application and related documents are available for review by appointment in the following offices:

Office of Protected Resources, F/PR8, NMFS, 1315 East-West Hwy., Room 13307, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3226 (301-713-1401); and

Director, Northeast Region, NMFS, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930-2298 (508-281-9250).

Written comments, or requests for a public hearing on these applications should be submitted to the Chief, Endangered Species Division, Office of Protected Resources.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Application (P618) requests a permit under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543) and NMFS regulations governing listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR parts 217-227). The applicant requests a five-year permit to capture, examine, and tag 500 listed shortnose sturgeon in Maine waters. Some would be tagged with radio or ultrasonic transmitters, and some would have tissue samples taken for DNA analysis. The purpose of the research is to determine migratory movements and to help identify spawning, feeding, and overwintering areas.

Those individuals requesting a hearing should set out the specific reasons why a hearing on this particular application would be appropriate (see **ADDRESSES**). The holding of such hearing is at the discretion of the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA. All statements and opinions

contained in this application summary are those of the applicant and do not necessarily reflect the views of NMFS.

Dated: August 12, 1996.

Margaret Lorenz.

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

[FR Doc. 96-20977 Filed 8-15-96; 8:45 am]

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[I.D. 080896C]

Marine Mammals; Permit No. 926 (P562)

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

ACTION: Issuance of amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that a request for amendment of scientific research permit No. 926 submitted by Dr. Robin Baird, Marine Mammal Research Group, Box 6244, Victoria, B.C., Canada V8P 5L5, has been granted. **ADDRESSES:** The amendment and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following offices:

Permits Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Suite 13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289); and

Director, Northwest Region, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way, NE, BIN C15700, Building 1, Seattle, WA 98115-0070 (206/526-6150).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On May 31, 1996, notice was published in the Federal Register (61 FR 27337) that an amendment of permit No. 926, issued June 10, 1994 (59 FR 31217), had been requested by the above-named individual. The requested amendment has been granted under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), and the provisions of § 216.39 of the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216).

Permit No. 926 authorizes the take (i.e., harassment) of up to 300 killer whales (*Orcinus orca*) annually, up to 25 of which may be radio tagged via suction cups annually, in waters off Washington state, over a five year period. The purpose of the research is to study killer whale behavior and ecology. The Permit has been amended to authorize the harassment and suction cup radio tagging of Dall's porpoise (*Phocoenoides dalli*), in order to study that species' diving behavior. Activities will be undertaken in the waters of Juan