

**NOAA Fisheries**  
**Southwest Region**  
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# News Release

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**For Immediate Release**  
December 29, 2004

## Notice of Public Hearings: Proposed Critical Habitat Designations for Salmon and Steelhead in California

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA's), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Southwest Region has scheduled four public hearings to gather input on its proposed designation of critical habitat for seven Evolutionary Significant Units (ESUs) of Pacific salmon and steelhead in California.

On December 10, 2004, NMFS proposed critical habitat designations for two ESUs of chinook salmon and five ESUs of anadromous steelhead (including resident rainbow trout) in California that are listed under the Endangered Species Act.

These public hearings have been scheduled to provide the public and other interested parties additional opportunity to comment on the proposed regulations by February 8, 2005. Comments may be made directly to agency staff at the hearing or by a number of other methods listed at the end of this news release.

Public hearings will be held from 6:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. on the date and location noted below:

January 13, 2005 North Coast Inn 4975 Valley West Blvd <b>Arcata, CA 95521</b>	January 20, 2005 Radisson Hotel Sacramento 500 Leisure Lane <b>Sacramento, CA 95815</b>
January 19, 2005 DoubleTree Hotel Sonoma Wine Country One DoubleTree Drive <b>Rohnert Park, CA 94928</b>	February 1, 2005 Fess Parker's DoubleTree Resort 633 East Cabrillo Blvd <b>Santa Barbara, CA 93103</b>

Written comments on the proposed critical habitat designations must be received by February 8, 2005. You may submit comments on the proposed critical habitat designations, identified by docket number [041123329I-4329-01] and RIN number [0649-AO04], by any of the following methods:

E-mail: [critical.habitat.swr@noaa.gov](mailto:critical.habitat.swr@noaa.gov) Include docket number and RIN number in the subject line of the message.

Federal e-Rulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov> Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

Agency Web site: <http://ocio.nmfs.noaa.gov/ibrm-ssi/index.shtml> Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

Mail: Submit written comments and information to Assistant Regional Administrator, NMFS, Protected Resources Division, 501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, California, 90802-4213. You may hand-deliver written comments to our office during normal business hours at the address given above.

Fax: 562-980-4027.

The proposed rule, maps and other materials related to the proposal can be found on the Southwest Region's web site at <http://swr.nmfs.noaa.gov>.