

shall be furnished the Commission. Responses will be available for public inspection during regular business hours in the Commission's Broadcast and Docket Reference Room at its Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS
COMMISSION,
VINCENT J. MULLINS,
Secretary.

I. Part 91 of the rules is amended as follows:

Section 91.354(a) table is amended by changing the class of station on several frequencies and adding the limitation (36), and paragraph (b) (36) to read as follows:

§ 91.354 Frequencies Available.

(a) * * *

Forest products radio service frequency table

Frequency (Megahertz) or band	Class of station(s)	Limitations
451.750	do.....	11, 32
452.050	Base or mobile.....	36
452.100	do.....	36
452.150	do.....	36
452.200	do.....	36
452.225	do.....	36
452.250	do.....	36
452.275	do.....	36
452.300	do.....	36
452.350	do.....	36
452.400	do.....	36
452.450	do.....	36
452.500	do.....	36
456.750	Base or mobile.....	5, 33
457.050	Mobile only.....	33, 36
457.100	do.....	33, 36
457.150	do.....	33, 36
457.200	do.....	33, 36
457.225	do.....	33, 36
457.250	do.....	33, 36
457.275	do.....	33, 36
457.300	do.....	33, 36
457.350	do.....	33, 36
457.400	do.....	33, 36
457.450	do.....	33, 36
457.500	do.....	33, 36

(b) * * *

(36) This frequency is shared with the Taxicab Radio Service. It is available for assignment in this service only in the states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana in areas outside standard metropolitan areas of 50,000 or more population. The maximum output power is limited to 75 watts.

II. Part 93 of the rules is amended as follows:

Section 93.402(c) is amended as follows:

§ 93.402 Frequencies below 952 MHz available for base and mobile operations.

(c) The following frequency pairs are available for assignment to base stations or mobile stations in the Taxicab Radio Service, on a shared basis with other stations in the same service. For two-frequency systems, separation between base and mobile transmit frequencies is 5 MHz; however a mobile station may be

assigned the frequency of an associated base station. (Such operation may, however, subject the single-frequency system to interference that would not occur to a two-frequency system.) The frequencies are also available in the Forest Products Radio Service in the states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana in areas outside standard metropolitan areas of 50,000 or more population.

Base and mobile (MHz)	Mobile only (MHz)
452.050	457.050
452.100	457.100
452.150	457.150
452.200	457.200
452.225	457.225
452.250	457.250
452.275	457.275
452.300	457.300
452.350	457.350
452.400	457.400
452.450	457.450
452.500	457.500

STANDARD METROPOLITAN AREAS OF OVER 50,000 POPULATION

The states below have one or more counties listed which are Standard Metropolitan Areas having 50,000 or more population.

WASHINGTON	OREGON
Clackamas	Clark
Multnomah	King
Washington	Pierce
	Snohomish
	Spokane

The states of Idaho and Montana have no metropolitan areas of more than 50,000 population.

[FR Doc.77-27993 Filed 9-23-77; 8:45 am]

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Materials Transportation Bureau, Office of Pipeline Safety Operations

[49 CFR Part 195]

[Notice No. 77-6, Docket No. OFSO-48]

TRANSPORTATION OF LIQUIDS BY PIPELINE

Seams on Adjacent Pipe Lengths

AGENCY: Materials Transportation Bureau, Office of Pipeline Safety Operations, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Materials Transportation Bureau (MTB) is considering revoking the requirement contained in § 195.218 that the longitudinal seams on adjacent pipe lengths be offset. This notice of proposed rulemaking sets forth the MTB's reasoning why it does not consider the requirement any longer necessary and solicits public comments concerning the proposed action.

DATE: Comments must be received on or before November 1, 1977.

ADDRESS: Comments should be sent to: Director, Office of Pipeline Safety Operations, Department of Transportation, Trans Point Building, 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, D.C. 20590. All comments received will be available for in-

spection and copying at Docket Room 6500, Trans Point Building.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Peggy Hammond, 202-426-0135.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

In connection with construction of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System, the Alyeska Pipeline Service Co. (Alyeska) twice requested waivers from compliance with the general requirements of § 195.218 for a total of eight girth welds. The information furnished by Alyeska in support of their requests and by welding engineering experts outside the government, supported MTB's granting (41 FR 38202, September 9, 1976, and 42 FR 42943, August 25, 1977) the requested waivers. In addition to finding that the waivers were not inconsistent with pipeline safety and were in the public interest, MTB concluded that the requirement of § 195.218 does not appear necessary for safety. Because of the significance of these decisions and their impact on pipelines to be constructed by others, MTB is considering removing the requirement of § 195.218 from 49 CFR Part 195. MTB is of the opinion that the advancement of technology for pipe manufacturing and pipe welding has made obsolete the need to offset the longitudinal seam when welding lengths of pipe together. MTB's opinion is based upon the following reasons:

1. The ductility of the pipe and girth weld metals presently in general use provides for localized yielding where high residual stresses may exist and thereby prevents fracture initiation and failure of the weld. (Section 195.218 was adopted when pipe and weld materials in general use were less ductile than materials in general use at present.)

2. The similarity of mechanical properties between the girth weld and pipe metals that are presently in general use minimizes the likelihood of any concentration of residual stresses existing at the intersection of welds and surrounding heat affected zone.

3. The fact that longitudinal seams are ground flush with the inside pipe circumference at the joint mitigates the likelihood of any concentration of residual stresses caused by excess metal at the intersection of welds.

MTB invites all interested persons to participate in this proposed rulemaking by submitting in triplicate such written comments, data, and information as they may desire not later than November 1, 1977. All comments received by the close of the comment period will be considered so far as practicable in developing the final rule. Communications should identify the docket and notice numbers and be submitted to the above address. This proposal may be changed in light of comments received. No hearing is contemplated, but one may be held at a time and place set in a later notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER if requested by an interested person desiring an opportunity to comment orally at a public hearing and raising a genuine issue.

IMPACT EVALUATION: MTB has determined that this document does not contain a major proposal requiring preparation of an Inflation Impact Statement under Executive Order 11821, as amended, and OMB Circular A-107.

Principal authors: Ralph T. Simmons, Regulations Specialist, and Robert L. Beauregard, Attorney.

In consideration of the foregoing, it is proposed to amend Title 49 CFR by revoking and reserving § 195.218.

(18 U.S.C. 831-835, 49 U.S.C. 1655, 49 CFR 1.53(a) and paragraph (b)(1) of App. A to Part 102.)

Issued in Washington, D.C., on September 21, 1977.

CESAR DELEON,
Acting Director, Office of
Pipeline Safety Operations.

[FR Doc. 77-28089 Filed 9-23-77; 8:45 am]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[50 CFR Part 17]

ENDANGERED AND THREATENED WILDLIFE AND PLANTS

Proposed Threatened Status for Greenback
Cutthroat Trout

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Service issues a proposed rulemaking pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973, which would reclassify from Endangered status to Threatened status the greenback cutthroat trout (*Salmo clarki stomias*). Conservation efforts by State and Federal agencies on behalf of this species have restored it to the point where it is no longer endangered. Threats from hybridization and habitat alteration exist but are not serious enough to require an Endangered status; they do indicate, however, that the trout is Threatened. The greenback cutthroat trout occurs only in Colorado and this proposed rulemaking would permit the species to be taken in accordance with the laws of that State.

DATES: All comments and materials with regard to this proposed rulemaking received no later than December 27, 1977, will be considered.

ADDRESSES: Comments and materials concerning this proposed rulemaking should be sent to the Director (FWS/OES), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

Comments and materials received will be available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Service's Office of Endangered Species, Suite 1100, 1612 K Street NW., Washington, D.C. 20240.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mr. Keith Schreiner, Associate Director, Federal Assistance, Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240 (202-343-4646).

BACKGROUND

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The greenback cutthroat trout is currently classified as an endangered species. It was originally listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Conservation Act of 1969, and evidence on hand at that time indicated that it was endangered due to competition from hybridization with introduced species of trout and deterioration of its habitat. We now have evidence that the greenback cutthroat trout is no longer endangered as defined by the Endangered Species Act of 1973 and should be reclassified as Threatened.

Greenback cutthroat trout populations have been located or reintroduced in a number of waters within its former range in the headwaters of the South Platte and Arkansas River drainages, and efforts to eliminate introduced species of trout in selected areas which could hybridize with the greenback cutthroat trout are succeeding. The greenback cutthroat trout is not presently in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

Section 4(a) of the Act states:

General.—(1) The Secretary shall by regulation determine whether any species is an endangered species or a threatened species because of any of the following factors:

- (1) The present or threatened destruction, modification, or curtailment of its habitat or range;
- (2) Overutilization for commercial, sporting, scientific, or educational purposes;
- (3) Disease or predation;
- (4) The inadequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms; or
- (5) Other natural or manmade factors affecting its continued existence.

This authority has been delegated to the Director.

SUMMARY OF FACTORS AFFECTING THE SPECIES

Specifically, we have evidence that conditions (1) and (5) above are pertinent to determination that the greenback cutthroat trout be classed as threatened.

(1) *The present or threatened destruction, modification, or curtailment of its habitat or range.* The greenback cutthroat trout is less tolerant of adverse conditions than are other trouts such as brown trout or rainbow trout. Optimum conditions of oxygen, temperature, water purity, etc., from the greenback cutthroat trout appear to be more stringent than for other trouts. The original distribution of the greenback cutthroat trout was the headwaters of the South Platte and Arkansas River basins. Permanent populations were restricted to the mountains and foothills because the warm, turbid conditions in

the South Platte and Arkansas Rivers in the plains did not provide suitable habitat. The extirpation of the greenback cutthroat trout proceeded very rapidly due to competition and hybridization with introduced trouts and loss and degradation of habitat from mining, logging, grazing, and irrigation projects. By 1930, the greenback cutthroat trout in its pure form was commonly assumed to be extinct.

Protection of presently occupied habitat varies. Como Creek and Black Hollow Creek are on Roosevelt National Forest lands with the exception of a few hundred yards of the head of Como Creek, which is on the grounds of the Arctic and Alpine Research Institute of the University of Colorado. Bear Lake, Forest Canyon, Hidden Valley, and Caddis Lake are on lands of the Rocky Mountains National Park; Island Lake and the Boulder Watershed Lakes are on land owned by the City of Boulder. The headwaters of the Little South Platte River is on Roosevelt National Forest and Rocky Mountain National Park. South Huerfano Creek is on a private ranch surrounded by San Isabel National Forest and Florence Creek is on the Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservations. The habitats on public lands appear to be safe from degradation. Waters on private land either known to contain greenback cutthroat trout or in the historic range and possibly containing undiscovered populations continue to be threatened by habitat destruction due to logging, mining, grazing, or water development projects.

(5) *Other natural or manmade factors affecting its continued existence.* The greenback cutthroat trout is not likely to coexist successfully with other species of trout. The introduction of nonnative trout within the range of the greenback cutthroat trout presents the most serious threat to its continued existence. Hybridization usually occurs with other subspecies of cutthroat trout and with rainbow trout. Eastern brook trout do not hybridize with greenback cutthroat trout wherever the two species occur together. Introduction of nonnative trout into greenback cutthroat habitat by fishermen is a threat to the species, as is destruction of barrier dams.

In spite of the above problems, there is evidence that the greenback cutthroat trout would benefit from regulated taking by noncommercial fishing in some areas. Regulated fishing on streams and lakes which have reached their carrying capacity would be beneficial to the population and increases public support for further restoration projects on public lands.

The Director intends that finally adopted rules be as responsive as possible to the conservation of the greenback cutthroat trout; he therefore desires to obtain the comments and suggestions of the public, other concerned governmental agencies, and private interests on these proposed rules.