

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

50 CFR Part 17

RIN 1018-AB

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing of the Snake River Sockeye Salmon as an Endangered Species

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Service is adding the Snake River sockeye salmon (*Oncorhynchus nerka*) to the list of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife. This measure, required by the Endangered Species Act of 1973, corresponds with a determination of endangered status by the National Marine Fisheries Service, which has jurisdiction for the Snake River sockeye salmon.

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 20, 1991.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Larry Shannon, Chief, Division of Endangered Species, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (452 ARLSQ), Washington, DC 20240 (703/358-2171, FTS 921-2171).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), and in accordance with Reorganization Plan No. 4 of 1970, the National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, is responsible for the sockeye salmon. Under section 4(a)(2) of the Act, NMFS must decide whether a species under its jurisdiction should be classified as endangered or threatened. The Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) is responsible for the actual addition of a species to the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife in 50 CFR 17.11(h).

NMFS published its determination of endangered status for the Snake River sockeye salmon on November 20, 1991 (56 FR 58619-58624). Accordingly, the FWS is adding the Snake River sockeye salmon as an endangered species to the

List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife. This addition is effective as of December 20, 1991 as indicated in the NMFS's determination. Because this action of the FWS is nondiscretionary and the species was proposed for listing (April 5, 1991; 56 FR 14055), the FWS finds that good cause exists to omit the notice and public comment procedures of 5 U.S.C. 553(b).

National Environmental Policy Act

The Fish and Wildlife Service has determined that an Environmental Assessment, as defined under the authority of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, need not be prepared in connection with regulations adopted pursuant to Section 4(a) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. A notice outlining the Service's reasons for this determination was published in the Federal Register on October 25, 1983 (48 FR 49244).

List of Subjects in 50 CFR Part 17

Endangered and threatened species, Export, Import, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, and Transportation.

Regulation Promulgation

PART 17—[AMENDED]

Accordingly, part 17, subchapter B of chapter 1, title 50 of the Code of Federal Regulations, is amended as set forth below:

1. The authority citation for part 17 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1361-1407; 16 U.S.C. 1531-1544; 16 U.S.C. 4201-4245; Pub. L. 99-625, 100 Stat. 3500, unless otherwise noted.

2. § 17.11(h) is amended by adding the following entry in alphabetical order under FISHES in the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife:

§ 17.11 Endangered and threatened wildlife.

* * * * *
(h) * * *

SPECIES		Historic range	Vertebrate population where endangered or threatened	Status	When listed	Critical habitat	Special rules
Common name	Scientific name						
Fishes							

SPECIES		Historic range	Vertebrate population where endangered or threatened	Status	When listed	Critical habitat	Special rules
Common name	Scientific name						
Salmon, sockeye (=red, =blueback).	<i>Oncorhynchus nerka</i>	North Pacific Basin from U.S.A. (CA) to U.S.S.R.	Snake R., (U.S.A.) stock wherever found.	E	455	NA	NA

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Dated: December 24, 1991.

Richard N. Smith,
Acting Director, Fish and Wildlife Service.
 [FR Doc. 92-46 Filed 1-2-92; 8:45 am]
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