

Service, Division of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203, telephone 703/358-2104 or fax 703/358-2281.

Dated: August 24, 2001.

Michael S. Moore,

Senior Permit Biologist, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.

[FR Doc. 01-22384 Filed 9-5-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Marine Mammal Protection Act; Notice of Receipt of Petition To List the Alaska Stock of Sea Otters as Depleted

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), Interior.

ACTION: Receipt of petition.

SUMMARY: On August 21, 2001, the FWS received a petition under section 115 of the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) from the Center for Biological Diversity (CBD). The petition requests that FWS list the Alaska stock of sea otters as depleted under the MMPA. Within 60 days of the receipt of this petition, the FWS will publish a finding in the **Federal Register** as to whether the petition presents substantial information indicating that the petitioned action may be warranted.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The petition can be viewed online at <http://www.r7.fws.gov/ea/sotter/Pet2.pdf>. For a printed copy of the petition, contact: Douglas Burn, Wildlife Biologist, Marine Mammals Management Office, 1011 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, Alaska 99503, or telephone 907/786-3800 or facsimile 907/786-3816.

Authority: The authority for this action is the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended, 16 U.S.C. 1383b *et seq.*

Dated: August 17, 2001.

Gary Edwards,

Deputy Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 01-22346 Filed 9-5-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Availability of a Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior (Lead Agency); New York State Department of Environmental

Conservation; Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife (Cooperating Agencies).

ACTION: Notice of availability of Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for a sea lamprey control proposal in Lake Champlain

SUMMARY: This notice announces the availability of a Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (FSEIS) on a proposal to continue sea lamprey control in Lake Champlain. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in cooperation with the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife (VTDFW) and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) prepared the FSEIS pursuant to Sec. 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

DATES: A 30-day review period will follow the Environmental Protection Agency's notice of availability of the FSEIS on September 7, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the FSEIS are available from Mr. Dave Tilton, Project Leader, USFWS Lake Champlain Office, 11 Lincoln St., Essex Junction, Vermont 05452; phone 802-872-0629, fax 802-872-9704.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Dave Tilton, Project Leader, USFWS Lake Champlain Office, 11 Lincoln St., Essex Junction, Vermont 05452; phone 802-872-0629, fax 802-872-9704. New York contact person is Mr. Lawrence Nashett, Acting Regional Fisheries Manager, New York Department of Environmental Conservation, Region 5, P.O. Box 296, Ray Brook, New York 12977; phone 518-897-1333. Vermont contact person is Mr. Brian Chipman, District Fisheries Biologist, Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife, 111 West Street, Essex Junction, Vermont 05452, phone 802-878-1564.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Sea lamprey are primitive marine invaders to Lake Champlain. They are parasitic fish that feed on the body fluids of other fish resulting in reduced growth and often the death of host fish. A substantial body of information collected on Lake Champlain indicates sea lamprey have a profound negative impact upon the lake's fishery resources and have suppressed efforts to establish new and historical sportfisheries. In 1990, the USFWS, NYSDEC, and VTDFW initiated an 8-year experimental sea lamprey control program for Lake Champlain. The experimental program treated tributaries and deltas of Lake Champlain with the

chemical lampricides TFM and Bayluscide (listed as Bayer 73 in the Final Environmental Impact Statement), which substantially reduced larval sea lamprey numbers in treated waters. The program included monitoring and assessment of the effects of this sea lamprey reduction technique on the characteristics of certain fish populations, the sport fishery, and the area's growth and economy. A set of thirty evaluation standards were established. Overall, the experimental sea lamprey control program met or exceeded the majority of the standards demonstrating a successful reduction in the sea lamprey population. In addition to this evaluation, the cooperating agencies assessed the effects of the program on nontarget organisms.

Two rounds of treatments were planned for each significantly infested stream and delta. From 1990 through 1996, 24 TFM treatments were conducted on 14 Lake Champlain tributaries, and 9 Bayluscide treatments were conducted on 5 deltas. Approximately 141 stream miles and 1220 delta acres were treated.

In summary, trap catches of spawning-phase sea lamprey declined by 80 to 90 percent; nest counts were reduced by 57 percent. Sixteen of 22 TFM treatments reduced ammocoetes at index stations to less than 10 percent of pre-treatment levels. Eight of the nine Bayluscide treatments resulted in mean mortality rates over 85 percent among caged ammocoetes. Relatively small numbers of nontarget amphibian and fish species were killed. Adverse effects on nontarget species were higher for Bayluscide treatments than TFM. Native mussels, snails and some other macroinvertebrates were significantly affected after the 1991 Bayluscide treatments of the Ausable and Little Ausable deltas in New York. However, they recovered to pre-treatment levels within 4 years. American brook lamprey also experienced substantial treatment-related mortality. Yet, the finding of dead American brook lamprey during the experimental program's second-round treatments, in each stream where they were negatively affected during the first round, suggested survival or immigration was adequate to maintain their populations. Wounding rates on lake trout and landlocked Atlantic salmon were reduced in the main lake basin, and catches of both species increased. A significant increase in survival of 3 to 4-year old lake trout was noted: survival of older fish improved, but did not change significantly. Returns of Atlantic salmon to tributaries increased significantly after treatment. Changes in wounding rates on brown

and rainbow trout could not be evaluated, but angler catches increased since 1990. Catch per unit effort of rainbow smelt, the major forage species for salmonids, decreased significantly at one of two sampling stations in the main lake basin and in Malletts Bay, but not at other locations; length-at-age also decreased at most sites. Evaluation of angler responses to the program indicated a favorable economic benefit-cost ratio of 3.5-1.

A Comprehensive Evaluation of an 8-Year Program of Sea Lamprey Control in Lake Champlain provides a detailed description of the results of the project. It is available on the USFWS web-site at, [www.fws.gov/r5lcfwro/lamprey/lamprey.html.], or from any of the contacts for further information listed above.

Decision To Be Made

The responsible officials in the USFWS, NYSDEC, and VTDFW must decide whether to continue sea lamprey control for Lake Champlain. If sea lamprey control will continue, the agencies must also decide whether to implement the following actions:

(1) Establish long term program objectives to include:

(a) Achieve and maintain lamprey wounding rates at or below 25 wounds per 100 lake trout, ideally 10 wounds per 100 lake trout; 15 wounds per 100 landlocked salmon, ideally 5 wounds per 100 landlocked salmon; and 2 wounds per 100 walleye, ideally less than 1 wound per 100 walleye.

(b) Attain target wounding rates within 5 years of full implementation of the Proposed Action. Full implementation is defined as application of optimal sea lamprey control strategies on all tributaries that are identified in the Proposed Action and are known to warrant sea lamprey control measure.

(2) Employ an integrated approach to continuing sea lamprey control using lampricides and nonchemical means.

In addition, if sea lamprey control will continue, the agencies must also make the following determinations:

(1) Determine mitigation and monitoring measures required for sound resource management.

(2) Determine whether sea lamprey control is in the best interest for the resource and citizens of the States of New York and Vermont.

The Record of Decision is expected to be released in September, 2001. The Responsible Officials will make a decision regarding this proposal after considering public comments and the environmental consequences displayed in the Final Supplemental

Environmental Impact Statement, applicable laws, regulations, and policies. The decision and supporting reason will be documented in the Record of Decision.

Dated: August 24, 2001.

Richard O. Bennett,

Acting Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 01-22432 Filed 9-5-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Issuance of Permit for Marine Mammals

On June 14, 2001, a notice was published in the **Federal Register** (volume 66 FR page 32371), that an application had been filed with the Fish and Wildlife Service by Samuel T. Fejes, Jr. for a permit (PRT-043925) to import one polar bear taken from the Lancaster Sound population, Canada, for personal use.

Notice is hereby given that on August 15, 2001, as authorized by the provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) the Fish and Wildlife Service authorized the requested permit subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

Documents and other information submitted for these applications are available for review by any party who submits a written request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203, telephone (703) 358-2104 or fax (703) 358-2281.

Dated: August 24, 2001.

Michael S. Moore,

Senior Permit Biologist, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Justice Management Division

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comments Requested

ACTION: 60-Day Notice of Information Collection Under Review: New Collection; Applicant Qualification Form.

The Department of Justice (DOJ), Justice Management Division (JMD) has submitted the following information

collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The proposed information collection is published to obtain comments from the public and affected agencies. Comments are encouraged and will be accepted for "sixty days" until November 5, 2001. This process is conducted in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.10.

If you have comments especially on the estimated public burden or associated response time, suggestions, or need a copy of the proposed information collection instrument with instructions or additional information, please contact Joanne Simms, Director, JMD Personnel Staff, Suite 1110, 1331 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20350.

Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information are encouraged. Your comments should address one or more of the following four points:

(1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agencies estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Overview of This Information Collection

(1) *Type of Information Collection:* New Collection.

(2) *Title of the Form/Collection:* Applicant Qualification Form.

(3) *Agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the Department of Justice sponsoring the collection:* Form Number: N/A. Personnel, Staff, Justice Management Division, Department of Justice.

(4) *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:* Primary: Applicants for employment with certain DOJ components who do not have access to the Internet. Other: None Abstract: This