



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Anchorage Fish & Wildlife Field Office
605 West 4th Avenue, Room G-61
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2249



In reply, refer to:
AFWFO

Agenda Item B-5: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
June 1, 2009

Short-tailed Albatross

The 15 short-tailed albatross chicks translocated from Torishima Island to Mukojima Island in Japan have all fledged and have all survived past the “drifting” phase of their post-fledging dispersal. Tagged parentally-reared chicks from Torishima experienced some apparent mortality during this drifting phase. Thus far, 25 of 25 chicks moved from Torishima to Mukojima have been successfully hand-reared and all have successfully fledged. This year, seven of the 15 translocated chicks and 7 parentally-reared chicks from Torishima are carrying PTT backpacks. This project has thus far been supported by the North Pacific Research Board, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Japan Ministry of the Environment, Yamashina Institute of Japan, Japan’s Asahi News Corporation, the Sapporo Beer Company, the Suntory Fund (also a producer of fine albatross-friendly fermented beverages) and the Mitsui Fund. This translocation project is the highest priority recovery task as identified by the Short-tailed Albatross Recovery Team. The objective is to continue the translocation operation for an additional 3 years, although funding for the continuation of this project is not yet fully secured.

Walrus

The walrus/fisheries issue in Bristol Bay is not on the agenda for this meeting; it will come back up at the October meeting. We are working with Bill on the discussion paper requested at the last council meeting on this issue. Walrus are just starting to use the Bristol Bay haulouts. Round Island numbers are low (29-45 walrus for 5/14 -5/17). Togiak Refuge flew a survey on May 15. No walrus were reported at Hageimeister, Cape Pierce or Newenham. Walrus number should begin to ramp up as the ice recedes farther north.

The Service recently settled with the Center for Biological Diversity on the following timeline for evaluating walrus under the ESA. A 90 day finding is due out by September 10, 2009. If the Service makes a positive 90-day finding, then a status evaluation and listing recommendation is due out in September 2010.

Sea Otters

The sea otter critical habitat public comment period was reopened on May 8 through July 1. We will release the Draft Economic Analysis of sea otter critical habitat next month. We will also hold a public hearing on June 18 at the Z. J. Loussac library in Anchorage.

The Southwest Alaska Sea Otter Recovery Team will submit a draft plan for a full editorial review in early June. The Service hopes to have a draft plan available for public review and comment in the Fall. The economic analysis for proposed Sea Otter Critical Habitat will be available to the public soon.

provided on the Website for submitting comments.

For ECFS filers, if multiple docket or rulemaking numbers appear in the caption of this proceeding, filers must transmit one electronic copy of the comments for each docket or rulemaking number referenced in the caption. In completing the transmittal screen, filers should include their full name, U.S. Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket or rulemaking number. Parties may also submit an electronic comment by Internet e-mail. To get filing instructions, filers should send an e-mail to ecfs@fcc.gov, and include the following words in the body of the message: "get form." A sample form and directions will be sent in response.

Paper Filers: Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and four copies of each filing. If more than one docket or rulemaking number appears in the caption of this proceeding, filers must submit two additional copies for each additional docket or rulemaking number.

Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail (although we continue to experience delays in receiving U.S. Postal Service mail). All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.

The Commission's contractor will receive hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary at 238 Massachusetts Avenue, NE., Suite 110, Washington, DC 20002. The filing hours at this location are 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes must be disposed of before entering the building.

Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743.

U.S. Postal Service first-class, Express, and Priority mail must be addressed to 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20554.

People with Disabilities: To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice), 202-418-0432 (tty).

Parties shall send one copy of their comments and reply comments to Best Copy and Printing, Inc., Portals II, 445

12th Street, SW., Room CY-B402, Washington, DC 20554, (800) 378-3160, e-mail FCC@BCP/WEB.com. Comments filed in response to this document will be available for public inspection and copying during business hours in the FCC Reference Information Center, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW., Room CY-A257, Washington, DC 20554, and via the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) by entering the docket number, WT Docket No. 08-165. The comments may also be purchased from Best Copy and Printing, Inc., telephone (800) 378-3160, facsimile (202) 486-5563, or e-mail FCC@BCP/WEB.com.

Federal Communications Commission,
James D. Schlichting,
Acting Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau.
[FR Doc. E9-10815 Filed 5-7-09; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

50 CFR Part 17

[FWS-R7-ES-2008-0105; 82210-1117-0000-B4]

RIN 1018-AV82

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designation of Critical Habitat for the Southwest Alaska Distinct Population Segment of the Northern Sea Otter (*Enhydra lutris kenyoni*)

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Proposed rule; reopening of public comment period; notice of public hearing.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the reopening of the public comment period on our proposal to designate critical habitat for the southwest Alaska Distinct Population Segment (DPS) of the northern sea otter (*Enhydra lutris kenyoni*) under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). This action will provide all interested parties with an additional opportunity to submit written comments on our December 16, 2008, proposed rule to designate approximately 15,225 square kilometers (km²) (5,879 square miles (mi²)) as critical habitat.

DATES: We are reopening the comment period until July 1, 2009. For more information, see Public Comments Solicited section below.

ADDRESSES:

Public Comments: You may submit information by one of the following methods:

• **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

• **U.S. mail or hand-delivery:** Public Comments Processing, Attn: FWS-R7-ES-2008-0105; Division of Policy and Directives Management; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 222; Arlington, VA 22203.

Public Hearing: We will hold one public hearing on June 18, 2009, at the Z.J. Loussac Library in Anchorage, Alaska. There will be an informational meeting with a questions and answer session from 7 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., and we will accept public comments verbally from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. In addition to having the opportunity to provide oral comments in person, telephone access will be provided for this hearing. Contact the Marine Mammals Management Office (see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT) for more information about this public hearing.

We will post all information received on <http://www.regulations.gov>. This generally means that we will post any personal information you provide us (see the Public Comments Solicited section below for more details).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Douglas M. Burn, Marine Mammals Management Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1011 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, AK 99503; telephone 907/786-2800; facsimile 907/766-2816. If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 800-877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On December 16, 2008, we published a proposed rule to designate approximately 15,225 square kilometers (km²) (5,879 square miles (mi²)) as critical habitat for the southwest Alaska DPS of the northern sea otter (73 FR 76454). We accepted public comments on this proposed rule for 60 days, ending on February 17, 2009. During that period, we received 15 submissions from various individuals, communities, and organizations. Recognizing that the original public comment period partially overlapped with the holiday season, we are reopening the public comment period to provide additional time for concerned individuals to provide input on the proposed designation.

We intend that any final action resulting from this proposal will be as

accurate and as effective as possible. Therefore, we request comments or suggestions on this proposed rule. We particularly seek comments concerning:

(1) The reasons why we should or should not designate habitat as "critical habitat" under section 4 of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), including whether there are threats to the species from human activity, the degree of which can be expected to increase due to the designation, and whether the benefit of designation would outweigh threats to the species caused by the designation, such that the designation of critical habitat is prudent.

(2) Specific information on:

- The amount and distribution of habitat of the southwest Alaska DPS of the northern sea otter.

- What areas occupied at the time of listing and that contain features essential for the conservation of the species we should include in the designation and why, and

- What areas not occupied at the time of listing are essential to the conservation of the species and why.

(3) Land use designations and current or planned activities in the subject areas and their possible impacts on proposed critical habitat.

(4) Any foreseeable economic, national security, or other potential impacts resulting from the proposed designation and, in particular, any impacts on small entities, and the benefits of including or excluding areas that exhibit these impacts.

(5) Any areas that might be appropriate for exclusion from the final designation under section 4(b)(2) of the Act.

(6) Special management considerations or protections that the proposed critical habitat may require.

(7) Whether we could improve or modify our approach to designating critical habitat in any way to provide for greater public participation and understanding, or to better accommodate public concerns and comments.

We are also in the process of preparing a draft Economic Analysis of the proposed critical habitat designation, which will be made available for public review and comment. We will publish a separate Notice of Availability for the draft Economic Analysis.

Public Comments Solicited

We will accept written comments and information we receive on or before July 1, 2009. You may submit comments and materials concerning the proposed rule by one of the methods listed in the ADDRESSES section.

If you submit a comment via <http://www.regulations.gov>, your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—will be posted on the Web site. If your submission is made via a hardcopy that includes personal identifying information, you may request at the top of your document that we withhold this information from public review. However, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. We will post all hardcopy comments on <http://www.regulations.gov>. Comments previously submitted on the December 16, 2008 proposed rule (73 FR 76454) need not be resubmitted, as they have been incorporated into the public record and will be fully considered in preparation of the final rule. Comments submitted during this reopened comment period also will be incorporated into the public record and will be fully considered in the final rule.

Comments and materials we receive, as well as supporting documentation we used in preparing this notice, will be available for public inspection on <http://www.regulations.gov>, or by appointment, during normal business hours, at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Marine Mammals Management Office (see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT).

You may obtain copies of the proposed rule on the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov>, or by mail from the Marine Mammals Management Office in Anchorage, Alaska.

Author

The primary author of this package is the Marine Mammals Management Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1011 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, AK 99503.

Authority

The authority for this action is the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Dated: April 29, 2009.

Will Shafroth,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.

[FR Doc. E9-10715 Filed 5-7-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 300

[Docket No. 090223227-9691-01]

RIN 0648-AX63

Electronic Filing of Trade Documents for Fishery Products

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

ACTION: Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS issues this advance notice of proposed rulemaking to announce that it is revising procedures to file import and export documentation for certain fishery products to meet requirements of the SAFE Port Act of 2006, the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, other applicable statutes, and obligations that arise from U.S. participation in regional fishery management organizations. Specifically, NMFS intends to integrate the collection of trade documentation within the government-wide International Trade Data System and require electronic information collection through the automated internet portal maintained by the United States Customs and Border Protection. NMFS is seeking advance public comment on the feasibility of electronic reporting by parties involved in an import or export transaction for applicable seafood products.

DATES: Written comments must be received by August 6, 2009.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on this action and requests for background information should be addressed to Christopher Rogers, Trade and Marine Stewardship Division, Office of International Affairs, NMFS. Comments and requests, identified by 0648-AX63, may be submitted by any of the following methods:

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

- Mail: Christopher Rogers, Trade and Marine Stewardship Division, Office of International Affairs, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 12657, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

- Fax: 301-713-0106, Attn: Christopher Rogers.

Instructions: All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted to <http://www.regulations.gov> without change.