complements the Agency’s efforts to monitor and enforce compliance with applicable regulations, including time/area closures. Vessel operators who are purchasing and installing a VMS unit for the first time are required to follow an equipment installation checklist and submit it to NMFS. The checklist provides information on the hardware and communications service selected by each vessel. NMFS uses the returned checklists to ensure that position reports are received and to aid NMFS in troubleshooting problems.

II. Method of Collection

Equipment installation checklists are submitted in paper form. Position reports are automatically sent electronically by the VMS units.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0648–0372.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 297.

Estimated Time per Response: 4 hours for installation, 2 hours for annual maintenance of the equipment, and 5 minutes to complete and return a one-time installation checklist.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 604.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: $11,002 in start-up costs ($2,200 for a new unit, $0.42 for the equipment installation checklist), annualized to $3,667; $251,706 in operation and maintenance costs (based on the current 292 vessels plus 5 possible new vessels: VMS maintenance ($500/year, and automatic position reports ($1.00/day). Total: $255,373.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.


Gwennlar Banks,
Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. E8–26490 Filed 11–5–08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648–XL10

Endangered and Threatened Species; Status Review of Southeast Alaska Population of Pacific Herring; Request for Information

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

ACTION: Notice; request for information.

SUMMARY: We, NMFS, request information, data, and comments pertinent to a risk assessment as part of a status review of the Southeast Alaska population of Pacific herring (Clupea pallasi). On April 11, 2008, we initiated a status review of this herring stock under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). In conducting this status review, we now seek information regarding the stock’s population structure and trends, current conditions of its habitat, known and anticipated threats to the viability of the population, and efforts being made to protect the species.

DATES: Information, data, and comments must be received by December 8, 2008.

ADDRESSES: Data, information, or comments may be submitted to Kaja Brix, Assistant Regional Administrator, Protected Resources Division, Alaska Region, NMFS, Attn: Ellen Sebastian. You may submit information by any of the following methods:

1. Mail: P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802.

2. Hand deliver to the Federal Building at 700 West 9th Street, Juneau AK.

3. Fax: (907) 586–7557

4. Email: seakherring@noaa.gov. Please include “SEAKHerring” as an identifier in the subject line.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kate Savage, NMFS Alaska Region (907) 586–7312, or Kaja Brix, NMFS Alaska Region, (907) 586–7235.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On April 2, 2007, we received a petition from the Juneau Group of the Sierra Club, Juneau, Alaska, to list the Lynn Canal stock of Pacific herring as a threatened or endangered species under the ESA and to concurrently designate critical habitat. After a review of the petition, we determined that the petitioned action was warranted and published a 90–day finding (72 FR 51619; September 10, 2007) that formally initiated a status review of the stock and requested information and comment from the public. A Biological Review Team (BRT), composed of Federal scientists with expertise in Pacific herring biology and ecology, was convened to conduct the status review. The BRT reviewed existing research and information, including both published and unpublished literature and data on herring stocks throughout the eastern North Pacific.

Based on information contained in the status review produced by the BRT, we published our finding (73 FR 19824; April 11, 2008) that listing the Lynn Canal Pacific herring as threatened or endangered under the ESA was not warranted because the population does not constitute a species, subspecies, or distinct population segment (DPS) under the ESA. Rather, the status review concluded that the Lynn Canal Pacific herring stock is part of a larger Southeast Alaska DPS, extending to Dixon Entrance in the south, where the Southeast Alaska stock is genetically distinguished from the British Columbia stock; and to Cape Fairweather and Icy Point in the north, where the stock is limited by physical and ecological barriers. The status review further concluded that the DPS to which Lynn Canal Pacific herring belong should be considered a candidate species under the ESA. In the April 11, 2008, notice in the Federal Register, we therefore announced the initiation of a status review of the Southeast Alaska Pacific herring DPS. The status review for this stock will include an analysis of risk extinction, an assessment of the factors listed under section 4(a)(1) of the ESA, and an evaluation of conservation efforts for the DPS as a whole.

Information Solicited

With this notice, we request any information, data, or comments pertinent to the status review of the Southeast Alaska Pacific herring DPS, specifically concerning: (1) existing and historical population abundance; (2) existing and historical habitat location and condition; (3) population structure; (4) known and anticipated threats to Southeast Alaska Pacific herring, including destruction or modification of habitat, overutilization, disease or predation, inadequate regulatory
more information on how to submit these types of filings please go to the Commission’s Web site located at http://www.ferc.gov/filing-comments.asp. More information about this project can be viewed or printed on the “eLibrary” link of Commission’s Web site at http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/elibrary.asp. Enter the docket number (P–13203) in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, call toll-free 1–866–208–3372.

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary.

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 13164–000]

Bangor Water District; Notice of Conduit Exemption Application Accepted for Filing and Soliciting Comments, Motions To Intervene, and Competing Applications

October 30, 2008.


The proposed Veazie Energy Recovery Project consists of: (1) A proposed powerhouse containing one generating unit having an installed capacity of 75 kilowatts, and (2) appurtenant facilities. Bangor Water District estimates the project would have an average annual generation of 590 megawatt-hours, which would be sold to a local utility.

Applicant Contact: Mrs. Kathy Moriarty, General Manager, Bangor Water District, P.O. Box 1129, Bangor, ME 04402–1129, phone (207) 947–4516. FERC Contact: Robert Bell, (202) 502–6062.

Deadline for filing comments, motions to intervene, competing applications (without notices of intent), or notices of intent to file competing applications: 60 days from the issuance of this notice. Comments, motions to intervene, notices of intent, and competing applications may be filed electronically via the Internet. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission’s Web site under the “eFiling” link. If unable to be filed electronically, documents may be paper-filed. To paper-file, an original and eight copies should be mailed to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426. For