

consults internally whenever we propose to authorize take for ESA-listed species, in this case with the NMFS Alaska Regional Office (AKRO).

There is one marine mammal species, the Western DPS Steller sea lion, with confirmed occurrence in the project area that is listed under the ESA. The NMFS AKRO issued a Biological Opinion on October 22, 2026, under section 7 of the ESA, on the issuance of an IHA modification to PM under section 101(a)(5)(D) of the MMPA by the NMFS Permits and Conservation Division. The Biological Opinion concluded that the proposed action is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of the Western DPS stock of Steller sea lion.

Authorization

Accordingly, consistent with the requirements of section 101(a)(5)(D) of the MMPA, NMFS has issued an IHA to PM for authorization to take marine mammals incidental to the JNU Rock Dump Fuel Terminal Reconstruction Project in Juneau, AK.

Dated: October 27, 2026.

Kimberly Damon-Randall,

*Director, Office of Protected Resources,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XG136]

Endangered and Threatened Species; Take of Anadromous Fish

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

ACTION: Notification; availability of an evaluation and recommended determination.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that NMFS received three Hatchery and Genetic Management Plans (HGMPs) for hatchery programs rearing and releasing fall-run chum salmon in the Skagit River basin. The plans describe hatchery programs operated by the Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe, Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, Upper Skagit Indian Tribe, and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), as co-managers. Following the public comment period, and consistent with the rule for salmon and steelhead, this document serves to notify the public of the availability of an Evaluation and Recommended

Determination document (ERD) on implementing the proposed hatchery programs the associated HGMPs, which concludes that it will not appreciably reduce the likelihood of survival and recovery nor modify or destroy critical habitat of Puget Sound Chinook salmon or Puget Sound steelhead.

ADDRESSES: The document is available on the internet at: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/resource/document/three-hatchery-and-genetic-management-plans-skagit-river-watershed-chum-salmon>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Morgan Robinson, (253) 307–2670, morgan.robinson@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

ESA-Listed Species Covered in This Notice

- Puget Sound Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*): threatened, naturally and artificially propagated;
- Puget Sound Steelhead (*O. mykiss*): threatened, naturally and artificially propagated.

Background

The term “take” is defined under the ESA to mean harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct. The ESA prohibits the take of endangered salmonids and, pursuant to ESA section 4(d), ESA regulations can be extended to prohibit the take of threatened salmonids. However, NMFS may make exceptions to the take prohibitions for hatchery programs that are approved by NMFS under the limits on the prohibitions outlined in 50 CFR 223.203(b). The operators, the Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe, Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, Upper Skagit Indian Tribe, and WDFW, have submitted three HGMPs to NMFS pursuant to NMFS’ limit 6 of the 4(d) rule of the ESA for hatchery activities in the Skagit River basin, Washington. As required in the Endangered Species Act (ESA) rule for salmon and steelhead, the Secretary of Commerce published notice of NMFS’ proposed evaluation and pending determination (PEPD) together with a discussion of the biological analysis underlying that determination. NMFS received one public comment on that PEPD. The ERD is NMFS’ determination for how the HGMPs address the criteria in 50 CFR 223.203(b)(5).

The hatchery programs are designed to contribute to tribal and non-tribal fisheries. These hatchery programs are intended to contribute to fulfilling Federal trust responsibilities toward

Tribes with rights guaranteed through treaties, as affirmed in *United States v. Washington* (1974), by contributing to salmon harvests. Included in the HGMPs is monitoring activities to evaluate the effectiveness of the programs in meeting their goals while limiting impacts to Puget Sound Chinook salmon and Puget Sound steelhead.

Classification

Under section 4 of the ESA, the Secretary of Commerce may issue regulations for the conservation of listed threatened species. The ESA salmon and steelhead 4(d) rule (50 CFR 223.203(b)) specifies categories of activities that contribute to the conservation of listed salmonids and sets out the criteria for such activities. The rule further provides that the prohibitions of paragraph (a) of the rule do not apply to actions undertaken in compliance with a plan developed jointly by a state and a tribe and determined by NMFS to be in accordance with the salmon and steelhead 4(d) rule (65 FR 42422, July 10, 2000).

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*; 16 U.S.C. 742a *et seq.*

Dated: October 26, 2026.

Jennifer Leigh Quan,

*Regional Administrator, West Coast Region,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Appointment of Individuals To Serve as Members of the Performance Review Board

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Appointment of individuals to serve as members of the Performance Review Board.

DATES: *Applicable Date:* These appointments are effective on November 17, 2025.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Amy B. Jensen, Deputy Executive Director, U.S. AbilityOne Commission; ajensen@abilityone.gov; 703–593–9411.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Chairperson of the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, operating as the U.S. AbilityOne Commission, has appointed the following individuals to serve on the Commission’s Performance Review Board (PRB):