Corp. (RMT Technologies); Western Atlas (Unova Inc.).

Dated: June 4, 1998.

Morton Schnabel,

Director, Office of Export Trading Company Affairs.

[FR Doc. 98–15386 Filed 6–9–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DR–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce (DOC) has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Agency: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Title: Pacific Billfish Angler Survey.

Agency Form Number: NOAA Form 88–10.

OMB Approval Number: 0648–0020.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Burden: 175 hours.

Needs and Uses: The ''Migratory Game Fish Study Act'' directs the Secretary to undertake a comprehensive continuing study of migratory marine fish of interest to recreational fisherpersons. This is a voluntary survey of recreational angler fishing catch and effort for billfish throughout the Pacific area. The data is used for fishery management.

Affected Public: Individuals.

Frequency: Annually.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

OMB Desk Officer: David Rostker, (202) 395–3897.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Linda Engelmeier, DOC Forms Clearance Officer, (202) 482–3272, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to David Rostker, OMB Desk Officer, Room 10202, New Executive Office Building, 725 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: June 4, 1998.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.

[FR Doc. 98–15376 Filed 6–9–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 060498A]

Endangered Species; Permits

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

ACTION: Receipt of application for scientific research permit (1151) and for modifications to scientific research permits (899, 901, 902, 903, 908, 1057, 1116).

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the following actions regarding permits for takes of endangered and threatened species for the purposes of scientific research and/or enhancement: NMFS has received a permit application from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife at Portland, OR (ODFW) (1151); and NMFS has received applications for modifications to existing permits from: ODFW (899), Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife at Olympia, WA (WDFW) (901, 902), Idaho Department of Fish and Game at Boise, ID (IDFG) (903, 908), Umpqua National Forest of the U.S. Forest Service at Tiller, OR (UNF-USFS) (1057), and the Public Utility District No. 1 of Douglas County at East Wenatchee, WA (PUD DC) (1116).

DATES: Written comments or requests for a public hearing on any of the applications must be received on or before July 10, 1998.

ADDRESSES: The applications and related documents are available for review in the following office, by appointment: Protected Resources Division (PRD), F/NWO3, 525 NE Oregon Street, Suite 500, Portland, OR 97232–4169 (503–230–5400).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For permits 899, 901, 902, 903, and 908: Robert Koch, Portland, OR (503–230–5424).

For permits 1057 and 1116: Tom Lichatowich, Portland, OR (503–230–5438).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority

Permits and modifications are requested under the authority of section 10 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (16 U.S.C. 1531–1543) and the NMFS regulations governing ESA-listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR parts 217–227).

Those individuals requesting a hearing on these requests for permits should set out the specific reasons why a hearing would be appropriate (see **ADDRESSES**). The holding of such a hearing is at the discretion of the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA. All statements and opinions contained in the below application summaries are those of the applicant and do not necessarily reflect the views of NMFS.

Species Covered in this Notice

The following species are covered in this notice: Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), Cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarki clarki*), Sockeye salmon (*Oncorhynchus nerka*), and Steelhead trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*).

To date, protective regulations for threatened Snake River steelhead and threatened lower Columbia River (LCR) steelhead under section 4(d) of the ESA have not been promulgated by NMFS. This notice of receipt of applications requesting takes of these species is issued as a precaution in the event that NMFS issues protective regulations that prohibit takes of Snake River steelhead and LCR steelhead. The initiation of a 30 day public comment period on the applications, including their proposed takes of Snake River steelhead and LCR, does not presuppose the contents of the eventual protective regulations.

New Application Received

ODFW requests a 5 year permit (1151) that would authorize an annual incidental take of adult and juvenile, endangered, Umpqua River cutthroat trout associated with non-listed fish hatchery operations in the Umpqua River Basin. ODFW hatchery operations in the basin include: one state-operated coho and chinook salmon hatchery (Rock Creek); one state-supervised Salmon Trout Enhancement Program hatchery (Gardiner); nineteen state-supervised volunteer projects operating 55 to 65 hatch boxes; salmon and steelhead broodstock collection at Winchester Dam, Galesville Dam, and Smith River fishway; and the volitional release or transfer of non-listed hatchery produced fish. Impacts on ESA-listed fish may include competition for food and habitat, disease transmission, predation by non-listed hatchery fish, and an increased vulnerability to predation by other predators. ODFW included a conservation plan in the

permit application that provides measures to monitor, minimize, and mitigate impacts to ESA-listed fish.

Modification Requests Received

ODFW requests modification 1 to incidental take permit 899. Permit 899 authorizes ODFW annual incidental takes of endangered Snake River sockeye salmon; threatened, naturally produced and artificially propagated, Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon; and threatened Snake River fall chinook salmon associated with six non-listed fish hatchery programs. The ODFW propagation programs (Wallowa, Round Butte, Roaring River, Oak Springs, Clatsop Economic Development Council Fisheries Project, and the Salmon Trout Enhancement Program) rear and release rainbow trout and anadromous salmonids that could potentially interact with ESA-listed fish. Impacts on ESA-listed fish may include competition for food and habitat, disease transmission, predation by non-listed hatchery fish, and an increased vulnerability to predation by other predators. Non-listed, hatchery-produced fish may also impact the ESA-listed species through interbreeding, which could result in a loss of genetic variability in the ESA-listed fish populations. For modification 1, ODFW requests annual incidental takes of endangered, naturally produced and artificially propagated, upper Columbia River (UCR) steelhead; threatened Snake River steelhead; and threatened LCR steelhead associated with hatchery operations and non-listed fish releases. ODFW has submitted a revised conservation plan in the permit modification request that provides measures to monitor, minimize, and mitigate impacts to ESA-listed steelhead. Modification 1 is requested to be valid for the duration of the permit. Permit 899 expires on December 31, 1998.

On October 15, 1997 (62 FR 53596), NMFS announced the receipt of an application from WDFW for modification 1 to incidental take permits 901 and 902 for authorization for incidental takes of endangered, naturally produced and artificially propagated, UCR steelhead and threatened Snake River steelhead. Permits 901 and 902 authorize WDFW annual incidental takes of endangered Snake River sockeye salmon; threatened, naturally produced and artificially propagated, Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon; and threatened Snake River fall chinook salmon associated with numerous non-listed fish hatchery complexes and educational projects throughout the state of WA. For modification 1 to both permits, WDFW also requests annual incidental takes of LCR steelhead, which was listed as threatened by NMFS on March 18, 1998. For modification 1 to permit 902, NMFS received a supplemental application from WDFW requesting an annual incidental take of adult and juvenile, endangered, naturally produced and artificially propagated, UCR steelhead associated with non-listed summer/fall chinook salmon spawning ground surveys in tributaries upstream of Wells Dam on the Columbia River. Activities that may result in an incidental take of ESA-listed fish include foot and/or float surveys. ESA-listed fish are proposed to be observed and/or harassed. The modifications to permits 901 and 902 are requested to be valid for the duration of the permits. Permits 901 and 902 expire on December 31, 1998.

IDFG requests modification 1 to incidental take permit 903. Permit 903 authorizes IDFG annual incidental takes of endangered Snake River sockeye salmon; threatened, naturally produced and artificially propagated, Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon; and threatened Snake River fall chinook salmon associated with four non-listed fish hatcheries that are part of the Idaho Power Company hatchery mitigation program. The IDFG propagation facilities (Rapid River, Niagra, Pahsimeroi, and Oxbow Fish Hatchery/Hells Canyon trap) rear and release chinook salmon and steelhead that could potentially interact with ESA-listed fish. Impacts on ESA-listed fish may include competition for food and habitat, disease transmission, predation by non-listed hatchery fish, and an increased vulnerability to predation by other predators. Non-listed, hatchery produced fish may also impact the ESA-listed species through interbreeding, which could result in a loss of genetic variability in the ESA-listed fish populations. For modification 1, IDFG requests annual incidental takes of endangered, naturally produced and artificially propagated, UCR steelhead; threatened Snake River steelhead; and threatened LCR steelhead associated with hatchery operations and non-listed fish releases. Also for modification 1, IDFG requests an annual incidental take of adult, threatened, Snake River steelhead associated with the trapping and release of adult steelhead at Pahsimeroi and Hells Canyon traps. IDFG has submitted a revised conservation plan in the permit modification request that provides measures to monitor, minimize, and mitigate impacts to ESA-listed steelhead. Modification 1 is requested to be valid for the duration of the permit. Permit 903 expires on December 31, 1998.

IDFG requests modification 2 to incidental take permit 908. Permit 908 authorizes IDFG annual incidental takes of endangered Snake River sockeye salmon and threatened, naturally produced and artificially propagated, Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon associated with IDFG's resident fish-stocking program, designed to increase the supply of fish in the Salmon River and its tributary streams and lakes for sport-angling. For modification 2, IDFG requests: (1) An annual incidental take of threatened Snake River steelhead, (2) an increase in the number of catchable-sized hatchery rainbow trout to be stocked annually into the Salmon River and tributaries, (3) an increase in the number of sub-catchable hatchery rainbow trout to be stocked annually into the lower Salmon and Clearwater Rivers, and (4) an annual incidental take of ESA-listed species associated with the stocking of westslope cutthroat trout into native areas of the Salmon River and tributaries for population restoration purposes. Modification 2 is requested to be valid for the duration of the permit. Permit 908 expires on December 31, 1998.

UNF-USFS requests modification 1 to scientific research permit 1057. Permit 1057 authorizes takes of adult and juvenile, endangered, Umpqua River cutthroat trout associated with presence/absence surveys in the Umpqua River Basin. Data from the surveys is used to clarify the impact of projected timber harvests in the Fish Creek watershed. For modification 1, UNF-USFS requests authorization for takes of endangered Umpqua River cutthroat trout associated with presence/absence surveys in the headwaters of the South Umpqua River. UNF-USFS proposes to start electrofishing in upstream headwaters and proceed downstream, stopping when the first cutthroat trout is encountered. The information gathered will be used to establish fish distribution maps to clarify impacts of projected timber harvest in the South Umpqua River. Modification 1 is requested to be valid for the duration of the permit. Permit 1057 expires on December 31, 1998.

PUD GC requests modification 1 to scientific research permit 1116. Permit 1116 authorizes takes of juvenile, endangered, naturally produced and artificially propagated, UCR steelhead associated with a study designed to determine the survival and migration

differences of juvenile fish as they pass downstream through Lake Pateros and Wells Dam. For modification 1, PUD GC requests an increase in the take of juvenile, endangered, UCR steelhead associated with a study designed to inventory fish species in Wells reservoir on the Columbia River. ESA-listed fish are proposed to be observed by SCUBA divers or collected in beach seines, anesthetized, examined, allowed to recover, and released. Modification 1 is requested to be valid for the duration of the permit. Permit 1116 expires on December 31, 2002.

Dated: June 4, 1998.

Patricia A. Montanio,

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

[FR Doc. 98–15439 Filed 6–9–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Telecommunications and Information Administration

[Docket Number: 980212036–8146–02]

Management of Internet Names and Addresses

AGENCY: National Telecommunications and Information Administration, Commerce.

ACTION: Statement of policy.

SUMMARY: On July 1, 1997, as part of the Clinton Administration's *Framework for Global Electronic Commerce*,[1] the President directed the Secretary of Commerce to privatize the domain name system (DNS) in a manner that increases competition and facilitates international participation in its management.

Accordingly, on July 2, 1997, the Department of Commerce issued a Request for Comments (RFC) on DNS administration. The RFC solicited public input on issues relating to the overall framework of the DNS administration, the creation of new top-level domains, policies for domain name registrars, and trademark issues. During the comment period, more than 430 comments were received, amounting to some 1500 pages.[2]

On January 30, 1998, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), an agency of the Department of Commerce, issued for comment, *A Proposal to Improve the Technical Management of Internet Names and Addresses.* The proposed rulemaking, or ''Green Paper,'' was published in the **Federal Register** on February 20, 1998, providing opportunity for public comment. NTIA received more than 650 comments, as of March 23, 1998, when the comment period closed.[3]

The Green Paper proposed certain actions designed to privatize the management of Internet names and addresses in a manner that allows for the development of robust competition and facilitates global participation in Internet management. The Green Paper proposed for discussion a variety of issues relating to DNS management including private sector creation of a new not-for-profit corporation (the ''new corporation'') managed by a globally and functionally representative Board of Directors.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This general statement of policy is not subject to the delay in effective date required of substantive rules under 5 U.S.C. § 553(d). It does not contain mandatory provisions and does not itself have the force and effect of law.[4] Therefore, the effective date of this policy statement is June 10, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karen Rose, Office of International Affairs (OIA), Rm 4701, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th and Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC., 20230. Telephone: (202) 482–0365. E-mail: *dnspolicy@ntia.doc.gov*

Authority: 15 U.S.C. 1512; 15 U.S.C. 1525; 47 U.S.C. 902(b)(2)(H); 47 U.S.C. 902(b)(2)(I); 47 U.S.C. 902(b)(2)(M); 47 U.S.C. 904(c)(1).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Domain names are the familiar and easy-to-remember names for Internet computers (e.g., ''www.ecommerce.gov''). They map to unique Internet Protocol (IP) numbers (e.g., 98.37.241.30) that serve as routing addresses on the Internet. The domain name system (DNS) translates Internet names into the IP numbers needed for transmission of information across the network.

U.S. Role in DNS Development

More than 25 years ago, the U.S. Government began funding research necessary to develop packet-switching technology and communications networks, starting with the ''ARPANET'' network established by the Department of Defense's Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) in the 1960s. ARPANET was later linked to other networks established by other government agencies, universities and research facilities. During the 1970s, DARPA also funded the development of a ''network of networks;'' this became known as the Internet, and the protocols that allowed the networks to intercommunicate became known as Internet protocols (IP).

As part of the ARPANET development work contracted to the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA), Dr. Jon Postel, then a graduate student at the university, undertook the maintenance of a list of host names and addresses and also a list of documents prepared by ARPANET researchers, called Requests for Comments (RFCs). The lists and the RFCs were made available to the network community through the auspices of SRI International, under contract to DARPA and later the Defense Communication Agency (DCA) (now the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA)) for performing the functions of the Network Information Center (the NIC).

After Dr. Postel moved from UCLA to the Information Sciences Institute (ISI) at the University of Southern California (USC), he continued to maintain the list of assigned Internet numbers and names under contracts with DARPA. SRI International continued to publish the lists. As the lists grew, DARPA permitted Dr. Postel to delegate additional administrative aspects of the list maintenance to SRI, under continuing technical oversight. Dr. Postel, under the DARPA contracts, also published a list of technical parameters that had been assigned for use by protocol developers. Eventually these functions collectively became known as the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA).

Until the early 1980s, the Internet was managed by DARPA, and used primarily for research purposes. Nonetheless, the task of maintaining the name list became onerous, and the Domain Name System (DNS) was developed to improve the process. Dr. Postel and SRI participated in DARPA's development and establishment of the technology and practices used by the DNS. By 1990, ARPANET was completely phased out.

[1] Available at <*http://www.ecommerce.gov*>.

[2] July 2, 1997 RFC and public comments are located at: <*http://www.ntia.doc.gov/ntiahome/domainname/index.html*>.

[3] The RFC, the Green Paper, and comments received in response to both documents are available on the Internet at the following address: <*http://www.ntia.doc.gov*>. Additional comments were submitted after March 23, 1998. These comments have been considered and treated as part of the official record and have been separately posted at the same site, although the comments were not received by the deadline established in the February 20, 1998 **Federal Register** Notice.

[4] See Administrative Law Requirements at p. 19.