

comment. Persons wanting acknowledgment of receipt of comments should enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope.

The Coast Guard will consider all comments received during the comment period. It may change this proposal in view of the comments. The Coast Guard plans no public hearing. Persons may request a public hearing by writing to the Project Manager at the address under ADDRESSES. If it is determined that the opportunity for oral presentations will aid this rulemaking, the Coast Guard will hold a public hearing at a time and place announced by a later notice in the *Federal Register*.

Drafting Information

The drafters of this notice are LT J.C. Wong, Project Manager, Coast Guard Marine Safety Field Office New Bedford and LCDR J. Stieb, Project Attorney, First Coast Guard District, Legal Office.

Background and Purpose

The Bristol Fourth of July Committee submitted a request to hold a fireworks program in the Bristol Harbor on July 4, 1994. The proposed regulations would establish a safety zone in Bristol Harbor in order to protect boaters from the hazards associated with the exploding of pyrotechnics in the area. No vessel would be permitted to enter or move within this area unless permitted to do so by Captain of the Port, Providence. Due to the approaching date of the event, good cause exists for allowing a comment period of only 30 days. Delaying the event to allow for a longer comment period would be contrary to the public's interest since the event is for the purpose of celebrating the Fourth of July Holiday.

Discussion of Proposed Amendments

The Coast Guard proposes to establish a safety zone in Bristol Harbor, Bristol, Rhode Island. This safety zone will be in effect from 9:30 p.m. until 10 p.m. on July 4, 1994. This closure is needed to protect boaters from the hazards associated with the exploding of pyrotechnics in the area. This safety zone will temporarily close the primary and secondary channel leading into Bristol Harbor, in the vicinity of the Bristol Harbor Middle Ground Buoy (light list no. 18175).

Regulatory Evaluation

This proposal is not a significant regulatory action under section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866 and does not require an assessment of potential costs and benefits under section 6(a)(3) of that order. It has been exempted from review by the Office of Management and

Budgets under that order. It is not significant under the regulatory policies and procedures of the Department of Transportation (DOT) (44 FR 11040; February 26, 1979). The Coast Guard expects the economic impact of this proposal to be so minimal that a full Regulatory Evaluation under paragraph 10e of the regulatory policies and procedures of DOT is unnecessary.

Small Entities

Under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 et seq.), the Coast Guard must consider whether this proposal will have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. "Small entities" include independently owned and operated small businesses that are not dominant in their field and that otherwise qualify as "small business concerns" under Section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632).

For reasons set forth in the above Regulatory Evaluation, the Coast Guard certifies under 5 U.S.C. 605(b) that this proposal, if adopted, will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

Collection of Information

This proposal contains no collection of information requirements under the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501).

Federalism

The Coast Guard has analyzed this action in accordance with the principles and criteria contained in Executive Order 12612 and has determined that this proposal does not raise sufficient federalism implications to warrant the preparation of a Federalism Assessment.

Environment

The Coast Guard considered the environmental impact of this regulation and concluded that under section 2.B.2.c. of Commandant Instruction M16475.1B, it is an action under the Coast Guard's statutory authority to protect public safety, and thus is categorically excluded from further environmental documentation. A categorical exclusion determination is available in the docket.

List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 165

Harbors, Marine safety, Navigation (water), Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Security measures, Waterways.

Proposed Regulations

For reasons set out in the preamble, the Coast Guard proposes to amend 33 CFR part 165 as follows:

PART 165—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for part 165 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 33 U.S.C. 1231; 50 U.S.C. 191; 33 CFR 1.05-1(g), 6.04-1, 6.04-6, and 160.5, 49 CFR 1.46.

2. A temporary section, 165.T01-026 is added to read as follows:

§ 165.T01-026 Bristol's Fourth of July Fireworks, Bristol Harbor, Bristol Rhode Island.

(a) *Location.* The safety zone includes all waters within a 350 yard radius around the fireworks barge. The barge will be anchored 200 yards north of the Bristol Harbor Middle Ground Buoy (light list no. 18175).

(b) *Effective period.* This section will be effective from 9:30 p.m. until 10 p.m. on July 4, 1994.

(c) *Regulations.* (1) No person or vessel may enter, transit, or remain in this safety zone during the effective period of regulation unless participating in the event as authorized by the sponsor or the Coast Guard Captain of the Port, Providence.

(2) All persons and vessels shall comply with the instructions of the COTP or the designated on scene personnel. U.S. Coast Guard patrol personnel include commissioned, warrant, and petty officers of the Coast Guard. Upon hearing five or more blasts from a U.S. Coast Guard Vessel, the operator of a vessel shall proceed as directed.

Dated: May 5, 1994.

H.D. Robinson,

Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Captain of the Port, Providence.

[FR Doc. 94-12407 Filed 5-19-94; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

50 CFR Part 17

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; 90-Day Finding and Commencement of Status Review for a Petition To List the Alexander Archipelago Wolf

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of petition finding and status review.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announces a 90-day finding for a petition to add the Alexander Archipelago wolf (*Canis lupus ligoni*) to the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife. The Service

finds that the petition presents substantial information indicating the requested action may be warranted. Through issuance of this notice, the Service is commencing a formal review of the status of this species. Information regarding this species is requested.

DATES: The finding announced in this notice was made May 13, 1994.

Comments and materials related to this petition finding may be submitted to the Field Supervisor at the address below and must be received by July 19, 1994.

ADDRESSES: Data, information, comments or questions concerning the status of the petitioned species described below should be submitted to the Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services, 3000 Vintage Blvd., suite 201, Juneau, Alaska 99801. The petition, findings, and supporting data are available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Lindell, Endangered Species Biologist (see **ADDRESSES** above) (907/586-7240).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Section 4(b)(3)(A) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531-1544) (Act), requires that the Service make a finding on whether a petition to list, delist, or reclassify a species presents substantial scientific or commercial information indicating that the petitioned action may be warranted. To the maximum extent practicable, this finding is to be made within 90 days of the receipt of the petition, and the finding is to be published promptly in the **Federal Register**. If the Service finds that a petition presents substantial information indicating that the requested action may be warranted, then the Service initiates a status review on that species. Section 4(b)(3)(B) of the Act requires the Service to make a finding as to whether or not the petitioned action is warranted within one year of receipt of a petition that presents substantial information.

On December 13, 1993, the Biodiversity Legal Foundation, Eric Holle and Martin J. Bergoffen submitted a petition to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife

Service to list the Alexander Archipelago wolf as threatened pursuant to the Endangered Species Act. The petition was received on December 17, 1993.

This finding is based on various documents, including published and unpublished studies and reports, agency files, field survey records, and consultations with Service, other Federal agencies, and State personnel. All documents are on file in the Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services Office in Juneau, Alaska.

The petitioners contend that the Alexander Archipelago wolf should be listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1553(a)(1)) because of the following factors:

1. Present and threatened destruction, modification, and curtailment of habitat because of the reduction, and long-term degradation of habitat for Sitka black-tailed deer, the wolf's primary prey, by clearcut logging;

2. Inadequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms because of increased human access through an extensive road system that will facilitate increased shooting and trapping of wolves;

3. Other factors, including inbreeding within insular populations that may reduce genetic fitness, adaptability, and long-term viability.

With this notice, the Service announces a positive 90-day finding on the petition to list the Alexander Archipelago wolf (*Canis lupus ligoni*) as threatened and hereby initiates a review of the species' status.

As a part of the status review, the Service will further evaluate the taxonomic status of the Alexander Archipelago wolf as a subspecies or population segment, the issue of genetic differentiation of groups within the Alexander Archipelago, and determine if listing is warranted for either the subspecies rangewide or certain distinct population segments.

The Service would appreciate any additional data, comments and suggestions from the public, other concerned governmental agencies, the scientific community, industry, or any other parties concerning the status of the Alexander Archipelago wolf, *Canis lupus ligoni*.

The following issues are of particular interest to the Service:

1. The genetic, morphologic, and ecological differences of the wolves occupying southeast Alaska from those found in adjacent areas; variation within and between groups of wolves occupying southeast Alaska; and the occurrence or effects of genetic isolation and small breeding groups on long-term persistence of wolves.

2. The occurrence or extent of genetic exchange between wolves within southeast Alaska and wolves from adjacent areas.

3. Additional historic and current population data which may assist in determining long-term population trends.

4. The interrelationship between the wolf and prey base populations, particularly during periods of reduced primary prey abundance.

5. The effects of long-term habitat conversion and fragmentation of mature forest habitat on Sitka black-tailed deer and wolf populations in southeast Alaska.

6. The effects of increased road construction on wolf populations in southeast Alaska.

References Cited

A complete list of all references cited in the 90-day finding is available upon request (see **Addresses** section).

Authors

The authors of this notice are John Lindell and Ed Grossman, of the Juneau, Alaska, Ecological Services Office. (see **Addresses** section).

List of Subjects in 50 CFR Part 17

Endangered and threatened species, Exports, Imports, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, and Transportation.

Authority: The authority for this action is the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531-1544; unless otherwise noted.

Dated: May 13, 1994.

Mollie H. Beattie,

Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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