

## Pre-Application Guide

### **What species do you expect to encounter?**

Pacific Marine/Anadromous Fish and Invertebrates listed under the ESA: California - SONCC Coho Salmon

Marine Mammals N/A

Coral (including species proposed for listing under the ESA) N/A

Other (e.g. sea turtles, shortnose sturgeon, smalltooth sawfish; species proposed for listing; listed species without take prohibitions; listed species found in foreign waters)  
N/A

Any fish and invertebrates (freshwater and marine) in Oregon: N/A SONCC Coho Salmon ESU includes Oregon

### **Where will your activities occur?**

U.S. Locations, including offshore waters U.S. Waters (see below)

The Big Springs Ranch Wildlife Area (BSRWA) is located within the Shasta River basin (tributary to the Klamath River), along E Louie Road and Road A-12 in central Siskiyou County, CA. BSRWA includes two ranches covering a total of 6,000+ acres. Approximately five miles of the Shasta River and 1.5 miles of Big Springs Creek are included within the BSRWA property boundaries.

International waters (including antartica and high seas) N/A

Foreign countries, including territorial waters of those countries N/A

### **For Pacific Marine/Anadromous Fish and Invertebrates, applications (or Oregon applications) select appropriate states:**

California (including offshore waters) Yes, Shasta River (tributary to the Klamath River Siskiyou County, CA)

Oregon (including the Columbia River and offshore waters) N/A

Washington (including the Columbia River and offshore waters) N/A

Idaho N/A

### **Is the proposed permit holder a US Citizen? Y/N Yes**

Are you looking for a permit from NOAA Fisheries to harvest fish, manage a fishery program, or monitor a fishery? **Y/N Yes** incidental take of SONCC coho salmon associated with routine and beneficial management activities and monitoring.

Are you looking for a permit from NOAA Fisheries to operate an artificial propagation (hatchery) program or for any other activity associated with artificial propagation? **Y/N No**

### **Which species will you be taking? SONCC Coho Salmon**

Do you work for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)? **Y/N Yes**

Do you have or will you be obtaining a Scientific Collecting Permit from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for your research activities? **Y/N No**

Will you be conducting boat electrofishing in areas known or suspected to contain any Pacific marine or anadromous fish under NMFS jurisdiction? **Y/N No**

### **The following two answers should be NO -**

Is the proposed work covered under an existing section 7 consultation, biological opinion, section 4(d) research approval or section 10 permit? Note: you can request modifications to or renew existing 4(d) or Section 10 research approvals from your Portfolio. **Y/N No**

Will you be conducting activities that are not part of a bona fide scientific research or monitoring program (i.e., incidental take from construction, power plant operation, etc.)? Make sure you have selected all the species in the list above that you may affect. **Y/N Yes**

## Project Information

\***Project Title:** Big Springs Ranch Wildlife Area Section 10 Permit for Safe Harbor Agreement

**Project Status:** New or Renewal New

**Previous Federal or state permit #:** N/A

\***Permits Requested:** ESA Section 10(a)(1)(A) permit (Pacific fish/invertebrate enhancement) SONCC Coho Salmon

\***Where will the activities occur?** Shasta River, Siskiyou County, CA

**State department of fish and game/wildlife:** *(NOTE: This only applies to projects that are being carried out by a state department of fish and game or department of fish and wildlife.)*

**Research Timeframe:**

\***Desired Start:** January 2020

\***End Date:** December 2045

**Sampling Season/Project Duration (Number of years or seasons):**

\***Abstract:**

## Project Description

\***Project Purpose:** *Hypothesis/Objectives and Justification*

Enhancement of survival of SONCC coho salmon through implementation of management activities that will result in a Net Conservation Benefit to the species.

\***Project Description:**

The BSRWA (Applicant) is requesting an enhancement of survival permit and approval of the associated proposed Agreement that was developed by NMFS, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), the Shasta Watershed Conservation Group (SWCG) and the Applicants. The BSRWA developed a site plan for their Ranch (enrolled property) that describes management activities that will be implemented including beneficial activities for SONCC coho salmon (the covered species). The site plan, Agreement and enhancement of survival permit are expected to promote the recovery of the covered species on non-federal property within the Shasta River on the BSRWA. The Shasta River is a tributary to the Klamath River and is in Siskiyou County, California. The proposed duration of the Agreement and the associated enhancement of survival permit is 20 years. The proposed enhancement of survival permit would authorize the incidental taking of SONCC coho salmon that may be associated with covered activities, including beneficial management activities, routine ranch management activities, and the potential future return of the enrolled property to baseline conditions at the end of the Agreement, as defined in the Agreement. The BSRWA site plan and Agreement specifies the beneficial management activities to be carried out on the enrolled property and a schedule for implementing those activities. The site plan and Agreement are expected to promote the recovery of SONCC coho salmon within the BSRWA and Shasta River.

## Project Supplemental Information

(Some of these may not be applicable please fill in N/A)

\***Status of the Affected Species:** Threatened

\***Methods:** see attached site plan

\***Intentional Lethal Take:** N/A

\***Anticipated Effects on Animals:** Indirect take incidental to management activities

\***Measures to minimize negative effects:** see attached avoidance and minimization measures in attached Site Plan

\***Resources Needed to Accomplish Objectives:** N/A

\***Disposition of Tissue Samples:** N/A

**Public availability of product/publications:** Federal Register Notice

## State Permit Information if Applicable

**Department of Fish and Wildlife Scientific Collecting Permit # for your research activities:**  
Scientific Collecting Permit #SC- N/A

**Please provide the expiration date of your Department of Fish and Wildlife Scientific Collecting Permit for your research activities:** (mm/dd/yyyy) N/A

## Federal Information

Enter information about any Federal authorizations (***other than the ones you are applying for here***). Enter information about Federal agencies who fund the work, issue permits to allow the work, cooperate with the work, or provide any other authorizations so the research can be done.

- *Permits may include Corps 404 permits or NOAA Fisheries section 10 permits.*
- *Authorizations may include USFWS section 6 agreements, USFWS or NOAA Fisheries section 7 consultations.*
- *Funding may be from BPA or other funding agencies.*

**Federal Agency:**

**Type:**

**Number and Title**

**Date Signed:**

**Expiration Date:**

**Listing Units/Stocks Covered:**

**Comments:** None

## Project Location

**Research Area:** The Big Springs Ranch Wildlife Area (BSRWA) is located within the Shasta River basin (tributary to the Klamath River), along E Louie Road and Road A-12 in central Siskiyou County, CA. BSRWA includes two ranches covering a total of 6,000± acres. Approximately five miles of the Shasta River and 1.5 miles of Big Springs Creek are included within the BSRWA property boundaries.

**State:** CA

**Basin:** Klamath River

**Estuary:** N/A

**Waterbody:** Shasta River tributary to the Klamath River

**Location Description:** The Big Springs Ranch Wildlife Area (BSRWA) is located within the Shasta River basin (tributary to the Klamath River), along E Louie Road and Road A-12 in central Siskiyou County, CA. BSRWA includes two ranches covering a total of 6,000± acres. Approximately five miles of the Shasta River and 1.5 miles of Big Springs Creek are included within the BSRWA property boundaries.

## Take Information (Non-bold - fill in if known)

**Species:** SONCC Coho Salmon Listing Unit/Stock: threatened coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*): Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast (SONCC) Evolutionary Significant Unit (ESU)

**Production/Origin:** (Natural, listed Hatchery Adipose Clip, listed Hatchery Intact Adipose, Unlisted Hatchery) Natural

**Life Stage:** All

**Sex:** N/A

Expected Take: None

Take Action: None

Observe/Collect Method: N/A

Run: N/A

Begin Date  
End Date  
Details:

### National Environmental Policy Act Considerations

(If this information is available it should be in the system. If not we can leave blank for now as you will be completing the proper NEPA documents)

1. If your activities will involve equipment (e.g., scientific instruments) or techniques that are new, untested, or otherwise have unknown or uncertain impacts on the biological or physical environment, please discuss the degree to which they are likely to be adopted by others for similar activities or applied more broadly. (1200 characters max.)
2. If your activities involve collecting, handling, or transporting potentially infectious agents or pathogens (e.g., biological specimens such as live animals or blood), or using or transporting hazardous substances (e.g., toxic chemicals), provide a description of the protocols you will use to ensure public health and human safety are not adversely affected, such as by spread of zoonotic diseases or contamination of food or water supplies. (1200 characters max.)
3. Describe the physical characteristics of your project location, including whether you will be working in or near unique geographic areas such as state or National Marine Sanctuaries, Marine Protected Areas, Parks or Wilderness Areas, Wildlife Refuges, Wild and Scenic Rivers, designated Critical Habitat for endangered or threatened species, Essential Fish Habitat, etc. Discuss how your activities could impact the physical environment, such as by direct alteration of substrate during use of bottom trawls, setting nets, anchoring vessels or buoys, erecting blinds or other structures, or ingress and egress of researchers, and measures you will take to minimize these impacts. (1200 characters max.)
4. Briefly describe important scientific, cultural, or historic resources (e.g., archeological resources, animals used for subsistence, sites listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places) in your project area and discuss measures you will take to ensure your work does not cause loss or destruction of such resources. If your activity will target marine mammals in Alaska or Washington, discuss measures you will take to ensure your project does not adversely affect the availability (e.g., distribution, abundance) or suitability (e.g., food safety) of these animals for subsistence uses. (1200 characters max.)
5. Discuss whether your project involves activities known or suspected of introducing or spreading invasive species, intentionally or not, (e.g., transporting animals or tissues, discharging ballast water, use of equipment at multiple sites). Describe measures you would take to prevent the possible introduction or spread of non-indigenous or invasive species, including plants, animals, microbes, or other biological agents. (1200 characters max.)

### Project Contacts

\*Applicant/Holder

**Name: California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Northern Region**

**Affiliation/Organization: California Department of Fish and Wildlife**

**City, State, Zip: Redding, CA 96001**

**Country: United States**

**Phone Number: 530-225-2300**

**Email Address:**

Responsible Party, \*Primary Contact, and \*Principal Investigator

**Name: Joseph Rightmier**

**Affiliation/Organization: California Department of Fish and Wildlife**

**City, State, Zip: Yreka, CA 96097**

**Country: United States**

**Phone Number: 530-841-2553**

**Email Address: Joseph.Rightmier@wildlife.ca.gov**

**[Project Status \(Please update me as necessary\)](#)**

**FR Notice of Receipt: in progress**

**Date Published:**

**Notice Number:**

**Comment Period Closed: (mm/dd/yyyy)**

**Comments Received: Y/N**

**Comments Addressed: Y/N**

**Date Withdrawn or Returned, if applicable:**

**Date Issued:**

**Section 7 Consultation Required:** (Formal, Informal, N/A, No effect, Programmatic)

**NEPA Analysis:** (CE, EA, EIS, N/A)

**GCF Clearance date:**

**Log Number:**

**FR Notice of Issuance/Denial:**

**Date Published:**

**Notice Number:**

**Expiration Date:**