



State of Idaho
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

1301 North Orchard Street, P.O. Box 83720, Boise, Idaho 83720-0098
Phone: (208) 327-7900 FAX: (208) 327-7866

DIRK KEMPTHORNE
GOVERNOR

KARL J. DREHER
DIRECTOR

May 19, 2000

RECREATIONAL DREDGER:

The National Marine Fisheries Service, the Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) and the US Fish and Wildlife Service has requested review of the following streams by the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and Fish and Game fisheries biologists. Base upon their recommendations we believe it will now be possible to issue an expedited 3804-B, (the long form) permit in these waters that would include additional Best Management Practices (BMP). They have determined that the potential for a taking of a listed would be low to minimal.

The site specific review and specific conditioning of each proposal will serve to further limit the possible taking or damage to habitat. However, IDWR reserves the right to terminate dredging at any time that an endangered species is present or if it is determined that any impacts resulting from dredging are having a detrimental effect on habitat.

Streams or stream reaches qualifying for expedited review for the year 2000 are:

Main Clear Water River, mouth to Kooskia	OPEN:	July 1 to Oct 31
South Fk. Clear Water to confluence with Red and American Rivers	OPEN:	July 1 to Aug 15
Main Salmon River Hammer Cr. To Long Tom Bar	OPEN:	May 31 to Oct 1
Main Salmon River N. Fk. to Pahsimeroi	OPEN:	April 1 to Sept. 1
Pahsimeroi to East Fk.	OPEN:	April 1 to Sept. 1

If you are interested dredging in these waters you will need to obtain the Joint Application for a Permit to Alter a Stream Channel from any of the Idaho Department of Water Resources offices listed in the attachments to the Recreational Dredging Application. The application must identify the specific area and total length of stream channel you wish to dredge this year.

Your application must be received by IDWR **NO LATER THAN JUNE 15, 2000** to be considered for review this year. Applications received after the closing date will not be considered and will be returned without action.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Northwest Region
7600 Sand Point Way, N.E.
Bin C15700, Bldg. 1
Seattle, Washington 98115-0070

MAY 17 2000

Ervin Ballou
State Coordinator, Stream Protection Unit
State of Idaho Department of Water Resources
2735 Airport Way
Boise, Idaho 83705-5082

RE: 2000 Recreational Dredging Permit

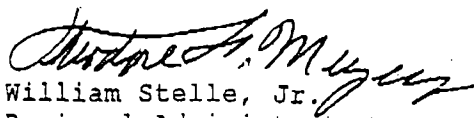
Dear Mr. Ballou:

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) recommended in our January 28, 2000, letter that because of new Endangered Species Act (ESA) listings and critical habitat considerations, the Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) 3804-B "long form" permit process replace the Individual Recreational Dredging Application "One Stop" permit process in certain areas. Since then, the IDWR, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and NMFS have been working to reduce the processing time associated with the existing long form. This letter addresses those discussions regarding the 2000 long form dredging permit.

The NMFS believes an expedited long form review process is achievable and useful for permits on portions of the mainstem Salmon, Clearwater, and South Fork Clearwater Rivers. Successful application of modified best management practices (BMPs), an on-site review, and stringent conservation criteria, would result in a low likelihood of "take" of ESA listed species. A critical part of the process is the site-specific review and opportunity for adjustments of each proposed mining action by local biologists with knowledge of anadromous fish life histories and habitat requirements. Adjustment of the BMPs and conservation criteria with site-specific information will also help to reduce or avoid adverse impacts.

If you have any questions please contact Ed Murrell at (208) 378-5696.

Sincerely,

for 
William Stelle, Jr.
Regional Administrator

cc: R. Ruesink - USFWS
M. Harm - LWF

