Finding of No Significant Impact for NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service Determination that the Yurok Tribe's Tribal Resource Management Plan Meets the Requirements of the Endangered Species Act Tribal 4(d) Rule
EAXX-006-48-1WC-1744998720

The National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. § 4321 et seq.) requires the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for any proposal for a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment (42 U.S.C. § 4332(C)). Agencies may issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) if they determine that a proposed agency action will not have a significant effect on the human environment and therefore does not require the issuance of an EIS (Id. § 4336e(7)).

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) completed an Environmental Assessment (EA) to analyze the impacts of a NMFS determination on Tribal Resource Management Plan (TRMP) submitted by the Yurok Tribe. This FONSI incorporates by reference the Final EA on the NMFS Determination. The details of the EA are as follows:

> Title: Final Environmental Assessment to Analyze Impacts of NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service Determination that the Yurok Tribe's Tribal Resource Management Plan Meets the Requirements of the Endangered Species Act Tribal 4(d) Rule.
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> Proposed Action: The proposed action is a determination by NMFS as to whether the Yurok Tribe's TRMP meets the requirements of the Tribal 4(d) rule, including whether the implementation of the TRMP would appreciably reduce the likelihood of survival and recovery of the Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast (SONCC) Coho Salmon Evolutionary Significant Unit (ESU). The Yurok Tribe has submitted a TRMP for consultation under the Tribal rule. The TRMP describes the management of tribal fisheries with direct and incidental take of Endangered Species Act (ESA)-listed SONCC Coho in the Klamath River where it flows through the Yurok Tribe's reservation.
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> Purpose and Need: As detailed in the EA, the purpose of the proposed action is to determine whether the TRMP complies with the requirement of the ESA Tribal 4(d) Rule, consistent with the Tribe's fishing rights under federal law and NMFS' tribal trust responsibilities. The need for the proposed action is to provide for meaningful exercise of tribal fishing rights while also implementing the requirements of the ESA.

Based on the Final EA, NMFS has determined in this FONSI that preparation of an EIS is not required for this project because the proposed action will not have significant effects.

As further described in the Final EA, the Proposed Action is not expected to cause beneficial or adverse impacts that would result in a significant effect. The proposed action is a determination on the Yurok Tribe's TRMP. The fisheries and associated harvest levels resulting from implementation of the TRMP will be similar to and within the range of those occurring over the last 20 years and will not have significant effects. In the EA, we analyzed the effects of the proposed action on fish species (including ESA-listed species), pinnipeds, cultural resources and socioeconomics. Through the analysis in the EA, we determined that impacts on these resources

would not be significant. Additionally, the proposed action is not expected to significantly affect public health and safety, unique geographic characteristics, historic resources, biodiversity, or marine/coastal ecosystems. It is not expected to be highly controversial, uncertain, or establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects. The action is not likely to violate environmental laws, introduce nonindigenous species, or have significant adverse impacts on ESA-listed species, critical habitat, managed fish species, or essential fish habitat.

DETERMINATION

Based on the Final Environmental Assessment to Analyze Impacts of NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service Determination that the Yurok Tribe's Tribal Resource Management Plan Meets the Requirements of the Endangered Species Act Tribal 4(d) Rule, the NMFS has determined in this FONSI that preparation of an EIS is not required because the proposed action will not have significant effects. All adverse impacts of the proposed action have been evaluated to reach this conclusion of no significant impacts.

5/7/2026

Jennifer Quan
Regional Administrator
West Coast Region
National Marine Fisheries Service

Date