

ALL METHODS AND PROCEDURES INCLUDING THOSE DESCRIBED ABOVE WHICH ARE NECESSARY TO BRING ANY ENDANGERED OR THREATENED SPECIES TO THE POINT AT WHICH THE MEASURES PROVIDED FOR THESE SPECIES PURSUANT TO THIS SUBTITLE ARE NO LONGER NECESSARY EXCEPT THAT REGULATED TAKING AS A METHOD AND PROCEDURE SHALL BE LIMITED TO THE EXTRAORDINARY CASE WHERE POPULATION PRESSURES WITHIN A GIVEN ECOSYSTEM CANNOT BE OTHERWISE RELIEVED.

(C) "ECOSYSTEM" MEANS A SYSTEM OF LIVING ORGANISMS AND THEIR ENVIRONMENT, EACH INFLUENCING THE EXISTENCE OF THE OTHER AND [[BOTH]] NECESSARY FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF LIFE.

(D) "ENDANGERED SPECIES" MEANS ANY SPECIES WHOSE CONTINUED EXISTENCE AS A VIABLE COMPONENT OF THE STATE'S FISH RESOURCES IS DETERMINED TO BE IN JEOPARDY INCLUDING ANY SPECIES OF FISH DETERMINED TO BE AN "ENDANGERED SPECIES" PURSUANT TO THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT.

(E) "ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT" MEANS THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT OF 1973, 87 STAT. 884.

(F) "OPTIMUM CARRYING CAPACITY" MEANS THAT POINT AT WHICH A GIVEN HABITAT CAN SUPPORT HEALTHY POPULATIONS OF FISH SPECIES, HAVING REGARD TO [[HE]] THE TOTAL ECOSYSTEM, WITHOUT DIMINSHING THE ABILITY OF THE HABITAT TO CONTINUE THAT FUNCTION.

(G) "SPECIES" INCLUDES ANY SUBSPECIES OF FISH AND ANY OTHER GROUP OF FISH OF THE SAME SPECIES OR SMALLER TAXA IN COMMON SPATIAL ARRANGEMENT THAT INTERBREED WHEN MATURE.

(H) "TAKE" MEANS TO HARASS, HARM, PURSUE, HUNT, SHOOT, WOUND, KILL, TRAP, CAPTURE, OR COLLECT, OR TO ATTEMPT TO ENGAGE IN ANY SUCH CONDUCT.

(I) "THREATENED SPECIES" MEANS ANY SPECIES OF FISH WHICH APPEARS LIKELY, WITHIN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE, TO BECOME ENDANGERED INCLUDING ANY SPECIES OF FISH DETERMINED TO BE A "THREATENED SPECIES" PURSUANT TO THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT.

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THE GENERAL [[ASEMBLY]] ASSEMBLY FINDS THAT: (1) IT IS THE POLICY OF THIS STATE TO CONSERVE SPECIES OF FISH FOR HUMAN ENJOYMENT, FOR SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES, AND TO INSURE THEIR PERPETUATION AS VIABLE COMPONENTS OF THEIR ECOSYSTEMS; (2) SPECIES OF FISH NORMALLY OCCURRING WITHIN THE STATE WHICH MAY BE FOUND TO BE THREATENED OR ENDANGERED WITHIN THE STATE SHOULD BE ACCORDED THE PROTECTION NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN AND ENHANCE THEIR