

Dated: December 19, 2002.

Laurie K. Allen,

Acting Deputy Director, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 02-32846 Filed 12-27-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 122302C]

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling a public meeting of its Research Steering Committee, Groundfish Oversight Committee and Social Science Advisory Committee in January, 2003 to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Recommendations from these groups will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

DATES: The meetings will be held between January 14–24, 2003. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held in Wakefield, Mansfield, and Weston, MA. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific locations.

Council address: New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council (978) 465-0492.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Meeting Dates and Agendas

Tuesday, January 14, 2003, 9:30 a.m. Research Steering Committee Meeting.

Location: Sheraton Colonial, One Audubon Road, Wakefield, MA 01880; telephone: (781) 245-9300.

The committee will receive an update on the status of current projects, recent contract awards and funding for the NOAA Fisheries Cooperative Research Partners Initiative, including progress on the development of a Request for Proposals concerning fisheries habitat research. They will discuss the development of procedures for tracking

cooperative research projects, evaluation of final reports, and particularly the integration of results into the management process. There will be discussion of the status of the experimental fishing permit program, if time allows.

Wednesday, January 22, 2003, 9:30 a.m. Groundfish Oversight Committee Meeting.

Location: Holiday Inn, 31 Hampshire Street, Mansfield, MA 02048; telephone: (508) 339-2200.

The Groundfish Oversight Committee will meet to consider a number of issues related to the development of Amendment 13 to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan (FMP). They will review timelines for continued development of the amendment and will plan the actions that must be taken in order to meet a May 1, 2004 implementation date. This review will include a discussion of the analysis of different rebuilding time periods and the alternatives that will be considered under each alternative. This discussion may include development of recommendations to the Council to eliminate management alternatives from further consideration. The Committee will also work on additional details for the total allowable catch alternatives and the implementation of a resource sharing understanding with Canada for transboundary stocks of cod, haddock, and yellowtail. The Committee will review information on bycatch of groundfish in a proposed whiting grate fishery and will develop a recommendation to the Council for Framework 38, the action that will implement that fishery. Finally, the Committee may develop suggestions for a days at sea (DAS) leasing program that the Council may ask the NMFS to implement in advance of the adoption of Amendment 13.

Friday, January 24, 2003, 10 a.m. Social Science Advisory Committee Meeting.

Location: Weston Public Library, 87 School Street, Weston, MA 02493; telephone: (781) 893-3312.

The committee will meet to discuss how to assist the Council in the development of amendments to the Monkfish and Groundfish FMPs. They will also discuss and possibly develop comments on the Scallop Draft Supplementary Environmental Impact Statement; elect a Chair, Vice Chair and discuss organizational issues.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in these agendas may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. Action will be restricted to those issues

specifically listed in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Paul J. Howard (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 days prior to the meeting dates.

Dated: December 24, 2002.

John H. Dunnigan,

Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 02-32951 Filed 12-27-02; 9:30 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 120902B]

Marine Mammals; File No. 848-1335

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Issuance of permit amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that The Honolulu Laboratory, Southwest Fisheries Science Center, 2570 Dole Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822-2396 (Dr. George Antonelis, Jr., Principal Investigator), has been issued an amendment to scientific research Permit No. 848-1335-09 to extend the expiration date through May 31, 2003.

ADDRESSES: The amendment and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s):

Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301)713-2289; fax (301)713-0376;

Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213; phone (562)980-4001; fax (562)980-4018; and

Protected Species Program Coordinator, Pacific Islands Area Office, NMFS, 1601 Kapiolani Blvd., Rm. 1110, Honolulu, HI 96814-4700; phone (808)973-2935; fax (808)973-2941).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Amy Sloan or Ruth Johnson, (301)713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The requested amendment has been granted under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the provisions of § 216.39 of the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216), the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), the provisions of § 222.306 of the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222–226).

Issuance of this amendment, as required by the ESA was based on a finding that such permit: (1) Was applied for in good faith; (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of the endangered species which is the subject of this permit; and (3) is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

Dated: December 23, 2002.

Jill Lewandowski,

Acting Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 02–32847 Filed 12–27–02; 8:45 am]

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COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Establishment of an Import Limit and a Sublimit for Certain Man-Made Fiber Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in Belarus

December 23, 2002.

AGENCY: Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA).

ACTION: Issuing a directive to the commissioner of customs establishing a limit and a sublimit.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Naomi Freeman, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482–4212. For information on the quota status of these limits, refer to the Quota Status Reports posted on the bulletin boards of each Customs port, call (202) 927–5850, or refer to the U.S. Customs Web site at <http://www.customs.gov>. For information on embargoes and quota re-openings, refer to the Office of Textiles and Apparel website at <http://otexa.ita.doc.gov>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854);

Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended.

The Bilateral Textile Memorandum of Understanding dated February 17, 2000, as extended on December 20, 2002, between the Governments of the United States and Belarus establishes a limit and a sublimit for Category 622 and Sub-Category 622–L, respectively, for the period January 1, 2003 through January 31, 2003.

This limit and sublimit may be revised if Belarus becomes a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the United States applies the WTO agreement to Belarus.

In the letter published below, the Chairman of CITA directs the Commissioner of Customs to establish the limit and sublimit. A description of the textile and apparel categories in terms of HTS numbers is available in the CORRELATION: Textile and Apparel Categories with the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (see **Federal Register** notice 66 FR 65178, published on December 18, 2001). Information regarding the availability of the 2003 CORRELATION will be published in the **Federal Register** at a later date.

Philip J. Martello,

Acting Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

December 23, 2002.

Commissioner of Customs, Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC 20229.

Dear Commissioner: Pursuant to section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854); Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended; you are directed to prohibit, effective on January 1, 2003, entry into the United States for consumption and withdrawal from warehouse for consumption of glass fiber fabric products in Category 622, produced or manufactured in Belarus and exported during the one-month period beginning on January 1, 2003 and extending through January 31, 2003, in excess of 1,163,280 square meters of which not more than 101,155 square meters shall be in Category 622–L.¹

Products in the above category and sub-category exported during 2002 shall be charged to the applicable category limit and sublimit for that year (see directive dated October 19, 2001) to the extent of any unfilled balance. In the event the limit and sublimit established for that period have been exhausted by previous entries, such products shall be charged to the limit and sublimit set forth in this directive.

The limit and sublimit set forth above are subject to adjustment pursuant to the current

¹ Category 622–L: only HTS numbers 7019.51.9010, 7019.52.4010, 7019.52.9010, 7019.59.4010, and 7019.59.9010.

bilateral agreement between the Governments of the United States and Belarus.

This limit and sublimit may be revised if Belarus becomes a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the United States applies the WTO agreement to Belarus.

In carrying out the above directions, the Commissioner of Customs should construe entry into the United States for consumption to include entry for consumption into the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements has determined that this action falls within the foreign affairs exception of the rulemaking provisions of 5 U.S.C. 553(a)(1).

Sincerely,

Philip J. Martello,

Acting Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

[FR Doc. 02–32820 Filed 12–27–02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DR–P

COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Denial of Participation in the Special Access Program

AGENCY: Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA).

ACTION: Issuing a directive to the Commissioner of Customs suspending participation in the Special Access Program.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard Stetson, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482–3400.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854); Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended.

The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA) has determined that Fieldston Clothes, Inc. has violated the requirements for participation in the Special Access Program and has suspended Fieldston Clothes, Inc. from participation in the Program for the one-year period, January 1, 2003 through December 31, 2003.

Through the letter to the Commissioner of Customs published below, CITA directs the Commissioner to prohibit entry of products under the Special Access Program by or on behalf of Fieldston Clothes, Inc. during the period from January 1, 2003 through December 31, 2003, and to prohibit entry by or on behalf of Fieldston Clothes, Inc. under the Special Access