

this invention may be obtained by writing to: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Office of Technology Partnerships, Building 820, Room 213, Gaithersburg, MD 20899; Fax 301-869-2751. Any request for information should include the NIST Docket No. and Title for the relevant invention as indicated below.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NIST may enter into a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement ("CRADA") with the licensee to perform further research on the inventions for purposes of commercialization. The invention available for licensing is:

NIST Docket Number: 98-025US.

Title: High Nitrogen Stainless Steel.

Abstract: The invention is jointly owned by the U.S. Government, as represented by the Secretary of Commerce, and Crucible Research. Disclosed is a high nitrogen stainless steel alloy and alloy powder comprising chromium (Cr), molybdenum (Mo), manganese (Mn), nickel (Ni), nitrogen (N) and iron (Fe). The composition of the stainless steel alloy and powder comprises between about 27 and about 30% by weight Cr, between about 1.5 and about 4.0% by weight Mo, an amount up to 15% by weight Mn, at least about 8% by weight Ni, and about 0.8 to about 0.97% by weight N, with the balance being Fe. It has been discovered that forming an alloy of this chemistry using nitrogen gas atomization process, followed by a consolidation process, the alloy is less likely to form detrimental ferrite, stable nitride and sigma phases, without the need for further processing, such as solution treating and quenching. This allows for the formation of stainless steel articles having a thicker cross-section with reduced processing cost.

Dated: February 7, 2000.

Karen H. Brown,

Deputy Director.

[FR Doc. 00-3578 Filed 2-15-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-13-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

Visiting Committee on Advanced Technology

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of partially closed meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app.

2, notice is hereby given that the Visiting Committee on Advanced Technology, National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), will meet Tuesday, March 7, 2000 from 8:15 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Wednesday, March 8, 2000 from 8:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. the Visiting Committee on Advanced Technology is composed of fifteen members appointed by the Director of NIST; who are eminent in such fields as business, research, new product development, engineering, labor, education, management consulting, environment, and international relations. The purpose of this meeting is to review and make recommendations regarding general policy for the Institute, its organization, its budget, and its programs within the framework of applicable national policies as set forth by the President and the Congress. The agenda will include an update on NIST programs; a presentation by one of the Visiting Committee members on HRL Laboratories—S&T Investment Strategies; an indepth review of the Advanced Technology Program; an indepth review of Administration and Chief Financial Officer; an indepth review of the Building and Fire Research Laboratory; and a laboratory tour of the Virtual Cybernetic Building Testbed Demonstration. Discussions scheduled to begin at 8:15 a.m. and to end at 12:15 p.m. on March 8, 2000, on staffing of management positions at NIST and the NIST budget, including funding levels of the Advanced Technology Program and the Manufacturing Extension Partnership will be closed.

DATES: The meeting will convene March 7, 2000 at 8:15 a.m. and will adjourn at 12:15 p.m. on March 8, 2000.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in the Employees' Lounge (seating capacity 80, includes 38 participants), Administration Building, at NIST, Gaithersburg, Maryland.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Brian C. Belanger, Executive Director, Visiting Committee on Advanced Technology, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-1004, telephone number (301) 975-4720.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Assistant Secretary for Administration, with the concurrence of the General Counsel, formally determined on July 15, 1999, that portions of the meeting of the Visiting Committee on Advanced Technology which involve discussion of proposed funding of the Advanced Technology Program and the Manufacturing Extension Partnership

Program may be closed in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(9)(B), because those portions of the meetings will divulge matters the premature disclosure of which would be likely to significantly frustrate implementation of proposed agency actions; and that portions of meetings which involve discussion of the staffing issues of management and other positions at NIST may be closed in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552(c)(6), because divulging information discussed in those portions of the meetings is likely to reveal information of a personal nature where disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Dated: February 11, 2000.

Raymond G. Kammer,

Director.

[FR Doc. 00-3666 Filed 2-15-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-13-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 021100D]

Bluefin Tuna Recreational Landings Reports; Proposed Information Collection; Request for Comments

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

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before April 17, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5027, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW, Washington DC 20230 (or via Internet at LEngelme@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Christopher Rogers,

Highly Migratory Species Management Division (F/SF1), Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910; 301-713-2347.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

Under the provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*), NOAA is responsible for management of the Nation's marine fisheries. In addition, NOAA must comply with the United States' obligations under the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act of 1975 (16 U.S.C. 971 *et seq.*). The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) collects information via angler landings reports to monitor the U.S. recreational catch of bluefin tuna in relation to the quota, thereby ensuring that the United States complies with its international obligations to the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT). Provisions of the domestic regulations are also monitored through this collection of information, such as compliance with area closures, fishing seasons, and regional subquotas. This information provides the catch data necessary to assess the status of bluefin tuna resources. Assessments are conducted and presented to ICCAT annually. The data provide, in part, the basis for ICCAT management recommendations which become binding on member nations. In addition, angler landings reports provide essential information for domestic management policy and rulemaking.

II. Method of Collection

Recreational anglers who land any size class Atlantic bluefin tuna are required to report those landings to NMFS via an automated landings reporting system (ALRS) accessible toll-free by touch-tone telephone. The ALRS collects certain information for each Atlantic bluefin tuna that is landed. NMFS' regulations allow for cooperative efforts with the states and

in recent years, North Carolina and Maryland have implemented a catch card and landing tag system to census landings of bluefin tuna. In such cases of an equivalent state program, anglers are exempted from the requirement to use the ALRS.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0328.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Individuals (recreational fishermen), business and other for-profit (charter boat operators).

Estimated Number of Respondents: 3,000.

Estimated Time Per Response: 5 minutes for automated telephone reports, 10 minutes for landing cards.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 850.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$0.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and /or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: February 10, 2000.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 00-3721 Filed 2-15-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 012100D]

Endangered Species; Permits

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

ACTION: Receipt of an application for a scientific research permit (#1234).

SUMMARY: NMFS has received a scientific research permit application from Mr. Joseph Hightower, of North Carolina Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, North Carolina State University at Raleigh, NC.

DATES: Comments or requests for a public hearing on this application must

be received no later than 5:00pm eastern standard time on March 17, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on the application should be sent to Office of Protected Resources, Endangered Species Division, F/PR3, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Comments may also be sent via fax to 301-713-0376. Comments will not be accepted if submitted via e-mail or the internet. The applications and related documents are available for review by appointment in the Office of Protected Resources, Endangered Species Division, F/PR3, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (ph: 301-713-1401).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Terri Jordan, Silver Spring, MD (ph: 301-713-1401, fax: 301-713-0376, e-mail: Terri.Jordan@noaa.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority

Issuance of permits and permit modifications, as required by the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543) (ESA), is based on a finding that such permits/modifications: (1) Are applied for in good faith; (2) would not operate to the disadvantage of the listed species which are the subject of the permits; and (3) are consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA. Authority to take listed species is subject to conditions set forth in the permits. Permits and modifications are issued in accordance with and are subject to the ESA and NMFS regulations governing listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR parts 222-226).

Those individuals requesting a hearing on the application listed in this notice should set out the specific reasons why a hearing on the application would be appropriate (see **ADDRESSES**). The holding of such hearings is at the discretion of the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA. All statements and opinions contained in the permit action summary are those of the applicant and do not necessarily reflect the views of NMFS.

New Application Received

NCCFWRU (#1234) has requested a 5-month permit to capture, sample, tag and release up to 10 shortnose sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*) in the Roanoke River, North Carolina. The purpose of the project is to answer questions regarding impacts of the Roanoke and Gaston dams on anadromous fishes, information which is required by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission relicensing process. No shortnose sturgeon have been recorded as being