http://trade.gov/press/press_releases/2007/brazilceo_01.asp

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On March 23, 2007, the International Trade Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce published a **Federal Register** notice soliciting applications from U.S. persons interested in serving as members of the U.S. Section of the U.S.-Brazil CEO Forum. *See* 72 FR 13747. The International Trade Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce is amending the previous notice due to the level of interest in the Forum. The amendment to the eligibility criteria changes ''each candidate also must be a U.S. citizen residing in the United States and able to travel to Brazil or locations in the United States to attend official Forum meetings as well as independent U.S. Section and Committee meetings,'' to ''each candidate also must be a U.S. citizen or otherwise legally authorized to work in the United States and able to travel to Brazil and locations in the United States to attend official Forum meetings as well as independent U.S. Section and Committee meetings.'' Applicants must meet all other requirements put forward in the previous notice. *See* 72 FR 13747.

Dated: March 29, 2007.

Anne Driscoll,

Acting Director for the Office of Latin America and the Caribbean.

[FR Doc. E7–6160 Filed 4–2–07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DA–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

[Docket No.: 0612242610–7036–01]

Establishment of and Availability of Applications for the Laboratory Accreditation Program for Radiation Detection Instruments Under the National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Under the National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP) the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) announces the establishment of a laboratory accreditation program and the availability of applications for accreditation for laboratories that perform testing of radiation detection instruments using standards developed by the American National Standards Institute, Homeland Security Instrumentation and Radiation Protection Instrumentation groups.

DATES: Laboratories interested in seeking accreditation are required to submit an application to NVLAP and pay required fees. Applications will be considered as received.

ADDRESSES: Laboratories may obtain requirement documents and an application for accreditation for this program by calling (301) 975–4016, by writing to Radiation Detection Instrument Testing Program Manager, National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program, 100 Bureau Drive/MS 2140, Gaithersburg, MD 20899–2140, or by sending e-mail to *nvlap@nist.gov.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Betty Ann Sandoval, Senior Program Manager, NIST/NVLAP, 100 Bureau Drive/MS 2140, Gaithersburg, MD 20899–2140, Phone: (301) 975–8446 or e-mail: *betty.sandoval@nist.gov.* Information regarding NVLAP and the accreditation process can be viewed at *http://www.nist.gov/nvlap.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS) requested that NIST establish a laboratory accreditation program for laboratories that test radiation detection instruments used in homeland security applications. In response to the request from DHS, and after consultation with interested parties through public workshops and other means, the National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP) has established an accreditation program for laboratories that test radiation detection instruments.

This notice is issued in accordance with NVLAP procedures and general requirements, found in Title 15 Part 285 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

Technical Requirements for the Accreditation Process

NVLAP accreditation criteria are established in accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR, Title 15, Part 285), NVLAP Procedures and General Requirements. NVLAP accreditation is in full conformance with the standards of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), including ISO/IEC 17025.

Accreditation is granted to a laboratory following successful completion of a process, which includes submission of an application and payment of fees by the laboratory, an on-site assessment by technical experts, resolution of any non-conformities identified during the on-site assessment, and participation in proficiency testing. The accreditation is formalized through issuance of a Certificate of Accreditation and Scope of Accreditation.

General requirements for accreditation are given in *NIST Handbook 150, NVLAP Procedures and General Requirements.* The specific technical and administrative requirements for the program for accreditation of laboratories that test radiation detection instruments are given in *NIST Handbook 150–23, Homeland Security Applications—Radiation Detection Instruments.* Laboratories must meet all NVLAP criteria and requirements in order to become accredited. To be considered for accreditation, the applicant laboratory must provide a completed application to NVLAP, pay all required fees, agree to conditions for accreditation, and provide a quality manual to NVLAP (or a designated NVLAP assessor) prior to the beginning of the assessment process.

Application Requirements

(1) Legal Name and full address of the laboratory;

(2) Ownership of the laboratory;

(3) Authorized Representative's name and contact information;

(4) Names, titles and contact information for laboratory staff nominated to serve as Approved Signatories of test or calibration reports that reference NVLAP accreditation;

(5) Organization chart defining relationships that are relevant to performing testing and calibrations covered in the accreditation request;

(6) General description of the laboratory, including its facilities and scope of operations; and

(7) Requested scope of accreditation.

In addition, the laboratory shall provide a copy of its quality manual and related documentation, where appropriate, prior to the on-site assessment. NVLAP will review the quality management documentation and discuss any noted nonconformities with the Authorized Representative before the on-site visit. Laboratories that apply for accreditation will be required to pay for NVLAP fees and undergo on-site assessment and shall meet proficiency testing requirements before initial accreditation can be granted.

PRA Clearance

This action contains a collection of information requirements subject to review and approval by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under

the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995. Collection activities for NVLAP are currently approved by OMB under control number 0693–0003. Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

Dated: March 27, 2007.

James E. Hill,

Acting Deputy Director.

[FR Doc. E7–6177 Filed 4–2–07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–13–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 032207D]

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Notice of Availability of the Status Review Report for Atlantic Sturgeon in the United States

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

ACTION: Notice of Availability of the Status Review Report for Atlantic Sturgeon in the United States.

SUMMARY: We, NMFS, convened a Status Review Team (SRT) consisting of Federal biologists from NMFS, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). The SRT has completed a Status Review Report of Atlantic sturgeon in the United States. This notice makes this report available to the public in the **Federal Register**.

ADDRESSES: Requests for a copy of the Status Review Report should be addressed to Marcia Hobbs, NMFS, Northeast Regional Office, Protected Resources Division, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930. A copy of the Status Review Report can also be downloaded from the following web address: *http://www.nero.noaa.gov/prot_res/CandidateSpeciesProgram/csr.htm*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kim Damon-Randall, NMFS Northeast Region, 978–281–9300 ext. 6535, or Dr. Stephania Bolden, NMFS Southeast Region,727–824–5312.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On June 2, 1997, we and FWS (jointly, the Services) received a petition from the Biodiversity Legal Foundation requesting us to list Atlantic sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus oxyrinchus*), in the United States where it continues to exist, as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and to designate critical habitat within a reasonable period of time following the listing. A notice was published in the **Federal Register** on October 17, 1997, stating the Services had determined substantial information existed indicating the petitioned action may be warranted (62 FR 54018). The ESA requires the Services to make listing determinations based on the best scientific and commercial information available after conducting a review of the status of species and after taking into account efforts to protect the species.

On September 21, 1998, after completing a comprehensive status review, the Services published a 12–month determination in the **Federal Register** announcing that listing was not warranted at that time (63 FR 50187). On the same date, Atlantic sturgeon were retained on the NMFS candidate species list (63 FR 50211; subsequently changed to the Species of Concern List (69 FR 19975; April 15, 2004)). Concurrently, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) completed Amendment 1 to the 1990 Atlantic Sturgeon Fishery Management Plan that imposed a 20–40 year moratorium on all U.S. Atlantic sturgeon fisheries until the Atlantic Coast spawning stocks could be restored to a level where 20 subsequent year classes of adult females were protected (ASMFC, 1998). In 1999, pursuant to section 804(b) of the Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Cooperative Management Act (16 U.S.C. 5101 *et seq.*), we followed this action by closing the Exclusive Economic Zone to Atlantic sturgeon retention.

In 2003, we sponsored a workshop with ASMFC and FWS on the ''Status and Management of Atlantic Sturgeon'' in Raleigh, North Carolina, to discuss the current status of sturgeon along the Atlantic Coast and determine what obstacles, if any, were impeding the recovery of Atlantic sturgeon (Kahnle *et al.*, 2005). The results of the workshop reported ''mixed'' reviews where some populations seemed to be recovering while others were declining. Bycatch and habitat degradation were noted as possible causes for some population declines.Based on the information gathered by the participants during the 2003 workshop on Atlantic sturgeon, we decided that a second review of Atlantic sturgeon status was needed to determine if listing as threatened or endangered under the ESA was warranted. In 2006, we convened a SRT to conduct a thorough review of the status of the species.

The 2007 Status Review Report

On February 23, 2007, the SRT finalized its report on the status of Atlantic sturgeon (Status Review for Atlantic Sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus oxyrinchus*)). The status review report was also reviewed and supplemented by eight state and regional experts who provided individual expert opinions on the information contained in the status review report and provided additional information to ensure the report provided the best available data. Lastly, the report was peer reviewed by six experts from academia and received favorable reviews. The final report incorporates edits and information in light of this peer review and the expert reviews. Consistent with the February 7, 1996, joint FWS and NMFS Distinct Vertebrate Population Segment Policy (61 FR 4722), the SRT concluded that Atlantic sturgeon populations should be divided into five distinct population segments (DPSs). The five DPSs were named: (1) Gulf of Maine, (2) New York Bight, (3) Chesapeake Bay, (4) Carolina, and (5) South Atlantic. These Atlantic sturgeon DPSs were discrete because they were markedly separated from each other based on physical, genetic, and physiological factors. They were also significant to the species because they: (1) were located in a unique ecological setting; (2) had unique genetic characteristics; and (3) would represent a significant gap in the range of the taxon if any one of them were to become extirpated. Canadian populations were considered to be discrete from the Gulf of Maine DPS because there were significant differences in control of exploitation and regulatory mechanism for the populations (i.e., still support a commercial fishery). Further support for discreteness between Canadian populations and the Gulf of Maine DPS was the marked separation between them based on genetic, physiological, and habitat features. Therefore, Canadian populations were not included in the Gulf of Maine DPS, and they were not considered further in the status review report.

The SRT evaluated the status of Atlantic sturgeon DPSs by analyzing the impacts of the factors listed in section 4(a)(1) of the ESA on each subpopulation within each DPS and considering whether the subpopulations constituted significant portions of the range of each DPS. The SRT identified 15 stressors within these factors and