

Gaithersburg, MD 20899-2140, phone: (301) 975-4016 or e-mail [nvlap.voting@nist.gov](mailto:nvlap.voting@nist.gov). Information regarding NVLAP and the accreditation process can also be viewed at <http://www.nist.gov/nvlap>.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

The Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002 (Pub. L. 107-252) was signed into law by President Bush on October 29, 2002. Section 231 of the HAVA requires the Director of NIST to provide for the accreditation of laboratories that conduct testing on the hardware and software of voting systems. In response to the HAVA, the National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP) is establishing a program for laboratories that test voting systems.

NVLAP accreditation criteria is established in accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR, Title 15, Part 285), NVLAP Procedures and General Requirements. Laboratories conducting this testing will be required to meet ISO/IEC International Standard 17025, General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories, the 2002 Voting System Standards, and any other criteria deemed necessary by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC). For each new laboratory accreditation program (LAP), NVLAP works with the affected testing community to develop program-specific technical requirements. These requirements tailor the general accreditation criteria referenced in Sections 4 and 5 of NIST Handbook 150 to the tests and services in the new LAP. Program-specific requirements include the details of the Scope of Accreditation, test and measurement equipment, personnel requirements, validation of test methods, and reporting of test results.

##### 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 the National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program are currently approved by the Office of Management and Budget 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.

##### Executive Order 12866

This action has been determined to be not significant under Executive Order 12866.

Dated: July 22, 2004.

**Hratch G. Semerjian,**

*Deputy Director.*

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#### DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

##### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 032404G]

##### Endangered Species; File No. 1444

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

**ACTION:** Issuance of permit.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Maryland Fisheries Resource Office, 177 Admiral Cochrane Drive, Annapolis, Maryland 21401 (Michael Mangold, principal investigator) has been issued a permit to take shortnose sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*) for purposes of scientific research.

**ADDRESSES:** The permit 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; and, Northeast Region, NMFS, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930-2298; phone (978)281-9200; fax (978)281-9371.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jennifer Jefferies or Tammy Adams, (301)713-2289.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On September 9, 2003, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (68 FR 53140) that a request for a scientific research permit to take shortnose sturgeon had been submitted by the above-named organization. The requested permit has been issued under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222-226).

USFWS will be authorized to sample and track shortnose sturgeon in the Potomac River. Annually, up to 50 fish

will be taken via gill nets, measured, weighed, PIT tagged, tissue sampled, and the fish subsequently released. A subset of 20 fish annually will also be T-bar and CART tagged and have a temperature/depth datalogger attached. Additionally, the researchers will use D-traps to collect up to 2500 shortnose sturgeon eggs annually. This permit will be authorized for five years.

Issuance of this permit, 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: July 22, 2004.

**Stephen L. Leathery,**

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

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#### COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

##### Adjustment of Import Limits for Certain Cotton, Wool and Man-Made Fiber Textiles and Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam

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

**ACTION:** Issuing a directive to the Commissioner, Bureau of Customs and Border Protection adjusting limits.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** July 28, 2004.

**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 Bureau of Customs and Border Protection Web site at <http://www.cbp.gov>. For information on embargoes and quota re-openings, refer to the Office of Textiles and Apparel Web site 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 current limits for certain categories are being increased for the