

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****[I.D. 102604C]****North Pacific 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 North Pacific Fishery Management Council's Gulf of Alaska (GOA) and Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands (BS/AI) groundfish plan teams will meet in Seattle, WA.

DATES: The meetings will be held on November 15–19, 2004.

ADDRESSES:

The meetings will be held at the Alaska Fisheries Science Center, 7600 Sand Point Way N.E., Bldg. 4, Room 2039 (BS/AI Plan Team) and Room 2076 (GOA Plan Team), Seattle, WA.

Council address: North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 605 W. 4th Ave., Suite 306, Anchorage, AK 99501–2252.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jane DiCosimo, Diana Stram, NPFMC, telephone: 907–271–2809.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meetings will begin at 1 p.m. on Monday, November 15, and continue through Friday November 19.

Agenda: The Teams will prepare the final Economic Stock Assessment Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) report, Ecosystem chapter, GOA and BSAI Groundfish SAFE reports and recommend proposed Specifications for 2005 fisheries.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before these groups for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management 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 Gail Bendixen,

907–271–2809, at least 5 working days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: October 27, 2004.

Alan D. Risenhoover,
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E4–2934 Filed 10–29–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****[I.D. 102604E]****Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting**

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Ad Hoc Groundfish Trawl Individual Quota Analytical Team (TIQ Analytical Team) will hold a working meeting which is open to the public.

DATES: The TIQ Analytical Team working meeting will begin Wednesday, November 17, 2004 at 9:30 a.m. and may go into the evening if necessary to complete business for the day. The meeting will reconvene from 8 a.m. and continue until business for the day is complete on Tuesday, November 18, 2004.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the National Marine Fisheries Service in the Regional Director's Conference Room, Building 1, 7600 Sand Point Way, Seattle, WA 98115; telephone: (206) 526–6150.

Council address: Pacific Fishery Management Council, 7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 200, Portland, OR 97220–1384.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Jim Seger, Staff Officer (Economist), telephone: 503–820–2280.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the TIQ Analytical Team meeting is to review the Council action from the November 2004 Council meeting and plan the next analytical tasks.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in the TIQ Analytical Team meeting agenda may come before the group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal committee action during these meetings. TIQ Analytical Team action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice and to any issues

arising after publication of this notice requiring emergency action under Section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of the group's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Entry to the NMFS facilities requires identification with a photograph (such as a student ID, state driver's license, etc.). A security guard will review the identification an issue a Visitor's Badge valid only for the date of the meeting.

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Ms. Carolyn Porter at 503–820–2280 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: October 27, 2004.

Alan D. Risenhoover,
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E4–2932 Filed 10–29–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–S

COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS**Announcement of Request for Bilateral Textile Consultations with the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Establishment of an Import Limit for Cotton, Wool, and Man-Made Fiber Socks in Category 332/432 and 632 Part, Produced or Manufactured in the People's Republic of China**

October 28, 2004.

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

ACTION: Notice

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 29, 2004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ross Arnold, 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 Bureau of Customs and Border Protection website (<http://www.cbp.gov>), or call (202) 344–2650. 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.

On October 29, 2004, as provided for under paragraph 242 of the Report of the Working Party on the Accession of China to the World Trade Organization (Accession Agreement), the United States requested consultations with the Government of the People's Republic of China with respect to imports of Chinese origin cotton, wool, and man-made fiber socks in Category 332/432 and 632 part ("socks"). In accordance with paragraph 242 of the Accession Agreement and the procedures set forth by the Committee on May 21, 2003 (68 FR 27787), as clarified on August 18, 2003 (68 FR 49440), the United States is establishing a twelve-month limit on socks from China, beginning on October 29, 2004, and extending through October 28, 2005 at a level of 42,433,990 dozen pairs.

Paragraph 242 of the Accession Agreement allows World Trade Organization Members that believe imports of Chinese origin textile and apparel products are, due to market disruption, threatening to impede the orderly development of trade in these products to request consultations with the People's Republic of China with a view to easing or avoiding such market disruption. Upon receipt of the request, the People's Republic of China has agreed to hold its shipments to a level no greater than 7.5 percent (6 percent for wool product categories) above the amount entered during the first 12 months of the most recent 14 months preceding the request for consultations. The Member requesting consultations may implement such a limit. Consistent with paragraph 242, consultations with the People's Republic of China will be held within 30 days of receipt of the request for consultations, and every effort will be made to reach agreement on a mutually satisfactory solution within 90 days of receipt of the request for consultations. If agreement on a different limit is reached, the Committee will issue a Federal Register Notice containing a directive to the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection to implement the negotiated limit.

On June 28, 2004, the Committee received a request from the Domestic Manufacturers Committee of The Hosiery Association, the American Manufacturing Trade Action Coalition, the National Council of Textile Organizations, and the National Textile Association alleging that imports from the People's Republic of China of socks are, due to market disruption, threatening to impede the orderly development of trade in this product, and requesting that an Accession Agreement textile and apparel safeguard action be taken on imports of socks. The

Committee determined that this request provided the information necessary for the Committee to consider the request, and, on July 22, 2004, the Committee solicited public comments on the request (69 FR 43807). This public comment period ended on August 23, 2004. The Committee determined that imports of Chinese origin socks are, due to market disruption and the threat of market disruption, threatening to impede the orderly development of trade in socks, and that imports of socks from China play a significant role in the existence of and threat of market disruption. A summary statement of the reasons and justifications for the U.S. request for consultations concerning imports of socks from the People's Republic of China follows this notice.

Paragraph 2.B. of the U.S.-China Textile Visa Arrangement provides that if additional categories become subject to import quotas, those categories shall be automatically included in the coverage of the Visa Arrangement. This Visa Arrangement was notified to the World Trade Organization Textiles Monitoring Body as an agreed administrative arrangement on May 21, 2002. Consequently, the United States will require that shipments of Chinese socks be accompanied by an export visa and Electronic Visa Information System (ELVIS) transmission issued by the Government of the People's Republic of China. The United States considers that implementation of the visa/ELVIS requirement is in the mutual interest of both countries. Goods in Category 332 shall remain subject to the Group II limit, and will continue to be subject to export visa and ELVIS requirements. If exported on or after January 1, 2005, goods in Category 332 shall be subject only to the limit established in the directive that accompanies this notice. In order to provide a period for adjustment, the United States will allow shipments of goods in Categories 432 and 632 part that are not accompanied by an export visa and an ELVIS transmission to enter the United States if exported prior to November 28, 2004. However, shipments exported from China on or after November 28, 2004 must be accompanied by an export visa and ELVIS transmission issued by the Government of the People's Republic of China, and shipments without an export visa and ELVIS transmission will be denied entry. Socks in Category 632 (632 part) are in HTS numbers 6115.93.6020, 6115.93.9020, 6115.99.1420 and 6115.99.1820. They may be visaed as "cat. 632" or "cat. 332/432/632.", but not at "632pt." Similarly, socks in Category 332 may be visaed as

"cat. 332" or "cat. 332/432/632," and socks in Category 432 may be visaed as "cat. 432" or "cat. 332/432/632."

A description of the textile and apparel categories in terms of Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States numbers is available in the CORRELATION: Textile and Apparel Category with the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (see Federal Register notice 69 FR 4926, published on February 2, 2004). Also see 68 FR 65445, published on November 20, 2003.

D. Michael Hutchinson,

Acting Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

October 28, 2004.

Commissioner,
*Bureau of Customs and Border Protection,
Washington, DC 20229.*

Dear Commissioner: Pursuant to Section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854); and Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended, you are directed to prohibit, effective on October 29, 2004, entry into the United States for consumption and withdrawal from warehouse for consumption of cotton, wool, and man-made fiber socks in Category 332/432/632pt., produced or manufactured in the People's Republic of China and exported during the twelve-month period beginning on October 29, 2004, and extending through October 28, 2005, in excess of 42,433,990 dozen pairs.

Paragraph 2.B. of the U.S.-China Textile Visa Arrangement provides that if additional categories become subject to import quotas, those categories shall be automatically included in the coverage of the Visa Arrangement. Shipments of Chinese origin cotton, wool, and man-made fiber socks in Category 332/432/632pt. ¹ must be accompanied by an export visa and Electronic Visa Information System (ELVIS) transmission issued by the Government of the People's Republic of China. Goods in Category 332 shall remain subject to the Group II limit, and will continue to be subject to export visa and ELVIS requirements. If exported on or after January 1, 2005, goods in Category 332 shall be subject only to the limit established in this directive. In order to provide a period for adjustment, the United States will allow shipments of goods in Categories 432 and 632pt. that are not accompanied by an export visa and an ELVIS transmission to enter the United States if exported prior to November 28, 2004. However, shipments exported from China on or after November 28, 2004 must be accompanied by an export visa and ELVIS transmission issued by the Government of the People's Republic of China, and shipments without an export visa and ELVIS transmission will be denied entry. Socks in Category 632 (632pt.) are in HTS numbers 6115.93.6020, 6115.93.9020, 6115.99.1420 and 6115.99.1820. They may be visaed as "cat. 632" or "cat. 332/432/632.", but not at

"632pt." Similarly, socks in Category 332 may be visaed as "cat. 332" or "cat. 332/432/632," and socks in Category 432 may be visaed as "cat. 432" or "cat. 332/432/632."

Products which have been exported to the United States prior to October 29, 2004, shall not be subject to the limit established in this directive.

In carrying out the above directions, the Commissioner 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,
D. Michael Hutchinson,
*Acting Chairman, Committee for the
Implementation of Textile Agreements.*

¹ Category 632pt. only HTS numbers
6115.93.6020, 6115.93.9020, 6115.99.1420
and 6115.99.1820.

SUMMARY OF THE REASONS AND JUSTIFICATIONS FOR U.S. REQUEST FOR CONSULTATIONS WITH CHINA PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 242 OF THE REPORT OF THE WORKING PARTY ON THE ACCESSION OF CHINA TO THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

Cotton, Man-made Fiber, and Wool Socks

Merged Category 332/432 and 632 Part

The United States believes that imports of Chinese origin cotton, man-made fiber and wool socks ("socks") are, due to market disruption, threatening to impede the orderly development of trade in socks, and that imports from China play a significant role in the existence of market disruption. Further, the United States believes that imports of Chinese origin socks are, due to the threat of market disruption, threatening to impede the orderly development of trade in socks, and that imports of socks from China play a significant role in the threat of market disruption. Either finding supports a request for consultations with the Government of the People's Republic of China under Paragraph 242 of the Report of the Working Party on the Accession of China to the World Trade Organization ("Paragraph 242"). The following facts, and others contained in this Statement, support these beliefs:

U.S. Imports from China Are Increasing Rapidly in Absolute Terms. U.S. imports of socks from China increased from 985,619 dozen pairs in 2001 to 21,877,024 dozen pairs in 2003 (an increase of over 2,100 percent), and to 42,491,164 dozen pairs in the twelve-month period ending August 2004 (an increase of over 4,200 percent from the 2001 level).

U.S. Imports from China Are Increasing Rapidly Relative to Other Imports. In 2001, China was the 12th largest exporter of socks to the United States. By the year ending August 2004 China became the largest supplier to the U.S. of socks.

Chinese Average Unit Values Are Well Below Values from Other Countries. In 2001, the average unit value of U.S. sock imports

from China was US\$11.54 per dozen pair, compared to a "rest of world" import average unit value of US\$8.68 per dozen pair. By 2003, the average unit value of imports of socks from China fell to \$5.11 per dozen pair, compared to \$7.51 per dozen pair for the rest of the world. In the year ending August 2004, the average unit value of imports of socks from China fell further to US\$4.92 per dozen pair, compared to US\$7.71 per dozen pair for "rest of world" imports.

U.S. Imports from the World Are Increasing Rapidly in Absolute Terms. U.S. imports of socks from all sources into the United States, excluding socks containing U.S. components that were imported under outward processing programs, increased from 51,014,517 dozen pairs in 2001 to 98,976,106 dozen pairs in 2003, (an increase of 94 percent), and to 119,805,665 dozen pairs in the year ending August (an increase of 135 percent from the 2001 level.)

The U.S. Socks Industry is Vulnerable to Increasing Imports. U.S. production plus outward processing of socks fell 13.2 percent from 2001 to 2003 (from 246,464,000 dozen pairs to 214,020,000 dozen pairs), while the share of the market held by U.S. producers fell by 14.5 percentage points (from 82.9 percent to 68.4 percent) during this period. The number of employees and the number of establishments in the sock industry also fell significantly during this period.

U.S. Imports from China Are Likely to Increase Further in the Near Future. China's capacity to produce apparel, including socks, and the low prices of imports of these products from China pose an imminent threat to disrupt the U.S. market for socks. Due to the vulnerability of the U.S. industry today, continued increases in low-priced sock imports from China could have a considerable impact on the market in the near future.

[FR Doc. 04-24432 Filed 10-29-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

[OMB Control Number 0704-0341]

Information Collection Requirement; Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Acquisition of Information Technology

AGENCY: Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Notice and request for comments regarding a proposed extension of an approved information collection requirement.

SUMMARY: In compliance with section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35), DoD announces the proposed extension of a public information collection requirement and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. DoD invites comments on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of DoD,

including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has approved this information collection requirement for use through October 31, 2004. DoD proposes that OMB extend its approval for use through October 31, 2007.

DATES: DoD will consider all comments received by January 3, 2005.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by OMB Control Number 0704-0341, using any of the following methods:

- *Defense Acquisition Regulations Web site:* <http://emissary.acq.osd.mil/dar/dfars.nsf/pubcomm>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- *E-mail:* dfars@osd.mil. Include OMB Control Number 0704-0341 in the subject line of the message.
- *Fax:* (703) 602-0350.
- *Mail:* Defense Acquisition Regulations Council, Attn: Ms. Amy Williams, OUSD (AT&L) DPAP (DAR), IMD 3C132, 3062 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-3062.
- *Hand Delivery/Courier:* Defense Acquisition Regulations Council, Crystal Square 4, Suite 200A, 241 18th Street, Arlington, VA 22202-3402.

All comments received will be posted to <http://emissary.acq.osd.mil/dar/dfars.nsf>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Amy Williams, (703) 602-0328. The information collection requirements addressed in this notice are available electronically on the Internet at: <http://www.acq.osd.mil/dpap/dfars/index.htm>. Paper copies are available from Ms. Amy Williams, OUSD (AT&L) DPAP (DAR), IMD 3C132, 3062 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-3062.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Title and OMB Number:* Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) Part 239, Acquisition of Information Technology, and the associated clauses at DFARS 252.239-7000 and 252.239-7006; OMB Control Number 0704-0341.

Needs and Uses: This requirement provides for the collection of information from contractors regarding security of information technology; tariffs pertaining to telecommunications services; and proposals from common carriers to perform special construction