

during the period from 1977 (the earliest point at which subsidies providing countervailable benefits in the period of investigation could have been bestowed) until the year before privatization. The subsidy-to-net worth ratio is intended to provide the Department with an estimate of the contribution subsidies have made to the value of a company.

Final Results of Review

In accordance with 19 CFR § 355.22(b)(1), an administrative review "normally will cover entries or exports of merchandise during the most recently completed reporting year of the government of the affected country." However, because this is the first administrative review of this countervailing duty order, in accordance with 19 CFR § 355.22(b)(2), it covers the period, and the corresponding entries, "from date of suspension of liquidation * * * to the end of the most recently completed reporting year of the government of the affected country." This period is December 7, 1992 through December 31, 1993.

The Department issued its preliminary affirmative countervailing duty determination in the investigation on December 7, 1992 (57 FR 57793). On March 8, 1993 in accordance with section 705(a)(1) of the Act, as amended, we aligned the final countervailing duty determinations with the final antidumping duty determinations on certain steel products from various countries (58 FR 12935; March 8, 1993). Under 19 CFR 355.20(c)(1)(ii), and pursuant to article 5.3 of the GATT Subsidies Code, the Department cannot require suspension of liquidation for more than 120 days without the issuance of a countervailing duty order. Accordingly, the Department instructed Customs to terminate the suspension of liquidation of the subject merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after April 6, 1993. The Department reinstated suspension of liquidation and the cash deposit requirement for entries made on or after August 17, 1993, the date of publication of the countervailing duty order. Thus, merchandise entered on or after April 6, 1993, and before August 17, 1993 is to be liquidated without regard to countervailing duties.

For the periods December 7, 1992 through April 5, 1993, and August 17, 1993 through December 31, 1993, we determine the net subsidy to be 2.98 percent *ad valorem*.

The Department will instruct the U.S. Customs Service to assess the following countervailing duties:

| Period | Manufacturer/exporter | Rate (per cent) |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| December 7, 1992–April 5, 1993. | All companies | 2.98 |
| April 6, 1993–August 16, 1993. | All companies | |
| August 17, 1993–December 31, 1993. | All companies | 2.98 |

The Department will also instruct the U.S. Customs Service to collect a cash deposit of estimated countervailing duties of 2.98 percent of the f.o.b. invoice price on all shipments of the subject merchandise from all manufacturers, producers, and exporters, entered or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of publication of the final results of this review.

This notice serves as a reminder to parties subject to administrative protective order (APO) of their responsibility concerning the disposition of proprietary information disclosed under APO in accordance with 19 C.F.R. 355.34(d). Timely written notification of return/destruction of APO materials or conversion to judicial protective order is hereby requested. Failure to comply with the regulations and the terms of an APO is a sanctionable violation.

This administrative review and notice are in accordance with section 751(a)(1) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1675(a)(1)) and 19 CFR 355.22.

Dated: January 31, 1996.

Susan G. Esserman,
Assistant Secretary for Import
Administration.

[FR Doc. 96-3068 Filed 2-9-96; 8:45 am]

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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 020696D]

Gulf of Maine Take Reduction Team Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Take Reduction Team (TRT) for the Gulf of Maine (GME) harbor porpoise/sink-gillnet fishery will hold a meeting to develop a Take Reduction Plan (TRP) as described in the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) focusing on reducing bycatch

in the sink-gillnet fisheries of the GME and the Bay of Fundy, Canada.

DATES: The meeting will be held on February 14 and 15, 1996, 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The TRT meeting will be held at the King's Grant Inn/Quality Inn, on Route 128, Danvers, MA 01923, (508) 774-6800.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kevin Chu, (508) 281-9254, or Michael Payne, (301) 713-2322

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On April 30, 1994, the 1994 Amendments to the MMPA were signed into law. Section 117 of the MMPA requires that NMFS complete stock assessment reports for all marine mammal stocks within U.S. waters. Each stock assessment report is required to categorize the status of the stock as one that either has a level of human-caused mortality and serious injury that is not likely to cause the stock to be reduced below its optimum sustainable population; or is a strategic stock, with a description of the reasons therefore; and estimate the potential biological removal (PBR) level for the stock, describing the information used to calculate it, including the recovery factor. The Stock Assessment Report and the calculated PBR was published by NMFS in July 1995.

The MMPA defines a "strategic stock" as a marine mammal stock for which the level of direct human-caused mortality exceeds the PBR level; which, based on the best available scientific information, is declining and is likely to be listed as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) within the foreseeable future; or which is listed as a threatened species or endangered species under the ESA, or is designated as depleted under the MMPA. The MMPA further defines the term "potential biological removal," or PBR, as "the maximum number of animals, not including natural mortalities, that may be removed from a marine mammal stock while allowing that stock to reach or maintain its optimum sustainable population." The GME harbor porpoise population was proposed as threatened under the ESA on January 7, 1993, and the bycatch of the GME population of harbor porpoise (approximately 1,300 per year in 1992 and 1993) is significantly greater (an order of magnitude greater) than the calculated PBR (approximately 400). The GME population of harbor porpoise, therefore, is considered "strategic" under the MMPA.

For a strategic stock, section 118(f) of the MMPA requires NMFS to appoint a TRT, and this TRT must develop a TRP designed to assist in the recovery or

prevent the depletion of each strategic stock of marine mammal and which interacts with a commercial fishery. Section 118(f)(6)(C) states that members of the TRTs shall have expertise regarding the conservation or biology of the marine mammal species that the take reduction plan will address, or the fishing practices that result in the incidental mortality and serious injury of such species.

The MMPA further specifies that members of the TRT shall include representatives of Federal agencies, each coastal state with fisheries that interact with the species or stock, appropriate Regional Fishery Management Councils, interstate fisheries commissions, academic and scientific organizations, environmental groups, all commercial and recreational fisheries groups and gear types that incidentally take the species or stock, Alaska Native organizations, or Indian tribal organizations, and others as the Secretary of Commerce deems appropriate.

As a result of draft stock assessment reviews developed under section 117 of the MMPA, and as a result of an extended interview process conducted by a NMFS-contracted facilitator, NMFS, through a letter dated November 1995, has asked the following individuals to be a member of a TRT focusing on reducing bycatch of harbor porpoise in the GME sink-gillnet fishery:

Erik Anderson, New Hampshire Commercial Fishermens Association; Janice Anderson-Comeau, Massachusetts Netter's Association; Jennifer Atkinson, Conservation Law Foundation; Tina Berger, Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission; Jeannette Bubar, Maine Gillnetter's Association; Kevin Chu, NMFS Regional Office; Paul Cohan, Cape Ann Gillnetter's Association; Jeremy Conway, Department of Fisheries and Oceans-Canada; Russell DeConti, Center for Coastal Studies; Chris Finlayson, Maine Department of Natural Resources; Patricia Fiorelli, New England Fishery Management Council; James Gilbert, University of Maine; Cathy Homstead, Maine Gillnetter's Association; Scott Kraus, New England Aquarium; David Laist, Marine Mammal Commission; Robert MacKinnon, Massachusetts Netter's Association; Michael Payne, NMFS Office of Protected Resources; David Pierce, Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries; Andrew Read, Duke University; Bruce Smith, New Hampshire Fish and Game; Ron Smolowitz, East Falmouth, MA; Terry Stockwell, Maine Gillnetter's Association; April Valliere, Rhode

Island Division of Fish and Wildlife; David Wiley, International Wildlife Coalition; John Williamson, New Hampshire Commercial Fishermen's Association; Nina Young, Center for Marine Conservation; Sharon Young, The Humane Society of the United States. The TRT will be facilitated by Abby Arnold, RESOLVE-Center for Environmental Dispute Resolution, Washington, D.C.

NMFS fully intends to convene a TRT process in a way that provides for national consistency yet accommodates the unique regional needs and characteristics of any one team. TRTs are not subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 App. U.S.C.). Meetings are open to the public.

Section 118 (6)(A)(ii) also requires NMFS to publish the range of the strategic marine mammal stock, and all commercial fisheries that cause incidental mortality and serious injury from such stock. The GME population (stock) of harbor porpoise ranges from the Bay of Fundy, Canada (summer distribution), south to at least North Carolina in the winter until late spring. The GME sink-gillnet fishery interacts with this stock throughout the year, but the estimated bycatch from this fishery is greatest during fall and spring. The interactions (estimated bycatch) by this fishery with harbor porpoise are greater than those of all other fisheries combined.

Harbor porpoise are also known to interact with a series of coastal gillnet fisheries that operate, primarily, in state waters from New Jersey south to North Carolina. The extent (number of takes) of these interactions is not known; however, the greatest number of interactions (based on strandings data) in these fisheries occurs from mid-March through May in North Carolina and Virginia. These interactions will not be considered by this TRT, because they occur in markedly different fisheries from the GME sink-gillnet fishery and primarily in state waters, which are under a different jurisdiction from the GME sink-gillnet fishery. Another TRT, or a different management process focusing on management of state fisheries, will address the bycatch of harbor porpoise in the mid-Atlantic coastal gillnet fisheries.

Dated: February 6, 1996.

Patricia A. Montanio,
Acting Deputy Director, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.
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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 020696C]

Pacific Offshore Fisheries Take Reduction Team Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Take Reduction Team (TRT) for the Pacific offshore cetacean/drift gillnet fishery will hold its first meeting to develop a Take Reduction Plan (TRP) as described in the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) focusing on reducing bycatch in the California/Oregon drift gillnet fishery for thresher shark and swordfish.

DATES: The meeting will be held on February 13 and 14, 1996, at 10 a.m. and 9 a.m., until 5:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The TRT meeting will be held at the Crown Sterling Suites Hotel at Los Angeles International Airport, 1440 East Imperial Avenue, El Segundo, CA 90245, (310) 640-3600.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Irma Lagomarsino, (310) 980-4016, or Victoria Cornish, (301) 713-2322.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On April 30, 1994, the 1994 Amendments to the MMPA were signed into law. Section 117 of the MMPA requires that NMFS complete stock assessment reports for all marine mammal stocks within U.S. waters. Each stock assessment report is required to categorize the status of the stock as one that either has a level of human-caused mortality and serious injury that is not likely to cause the stock to be reduced below its optimum sustainable population; or is a strategic stock, with a description of the reasons therefore; and estimate the potential biological removal (PBR) level for the stock, describing the information used to calculate it, including the recovery factor. Stock Assessment Reports and the calculated PBR were published by NMFS in July 1995.

The MMPA defines a "strategic stock" as a marine mammal stock for which the level of direct human-caused mortality exceeds the PBR level; which, based on the best available scientific information, is declining and is likely to be listed as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) within the foreseeable future; which is listed as a threatened species or endangered species under the ESA, or is designated as depleted under the MMPA. The MMPA further defines the term "potential biological removal," or