

of the Beaufort Sea will result, at worst, in a temporary modification in behavior by certain species of cetaceans. While behavioral modifications may be made by these species of cetaceans to avoid the resultant noise, this behavioral change is expected to have a negligible impact on the animals.

The number of potential incidental harassment takes will depend on the distribution and abundance of marine mammals (which vary annually due to variable ice conditions and other factors) in the area of seismic operations. Due to the distribution and abundance of marine mammals during the projected period of activity and the location of the proposed seismic activity in waters generally too shallow and distant from the edge of the pack ice for most marine mammals of concern, the number of potential harassment takings is estimated to be small. In addition, no take by injury and/or death is anticipated, and the potential for temporary or permanent hearing impairment will be avoided through incorporation of the mitigation measures described in the authorization.

Because bowhead whales are east of the seismic area in the Canadian Beaufort Sea until late August/early September, seismic activities are not expected to impact subsistence hunting of bowhead whales prior to that date. After September 1, 1996, BPXA will initiate aerial survey flights for bowhead whale assessments. Appropriate mitigation measures to avoid an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of bowhead whales for subsistence needs was the subject of consultation between BPXA and subsistence users. As a result of discussions between the two parties, a Plan of Cooperation has been concluded. This Plan consists of three main components: (1) Communications, (2) conflict avoidance, and (3) dispute resolution.

Summer seismic exploration in and near the Northstar Unit has a small potential to influence seal hunting activities by residents of Nuiqsut. However, NMFS believes that because (1) the peak sealing season is during the winter months, (2) the main summer sealing is off the Colville delta (west and inshore of Northstar), and (3) the zone of influence by seismic sources on beluga and seals is fairly small, the Northstar Unit seismic survey will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of these stocks for subsistence uses.

Since NMFS is assured that the taking will not result in more than the incidental harassment (as defined by the MMPA Amendments of 1994) of small

numbers of certain species of marine mammals, would have only a negligible impact on these stocks, will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of these stocks for subsistence uses, and would result in the least practicable impact on the stocks, NMFS has determined that the requirements of section 101(a)(5)(D) have been met and the authorization can be issued.

Authorization

Accordingly, NMFS has issued an incidental harassment authorization to BPXA for the above described seismic survey during the 1996 open water season provided the mitigation, monitoring and reporting requirements described in the authorization are undertaken.

Dated: July 18, 1996.

Patricia A. Montanio,
*Acting Director, Office of Protected Resources,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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[I.D. 071596D]

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) and their Coastal Migratory Committee with Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's (ASMFC) Bluefish Board, Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Committee (with Monitoring Committee and Advisors), and Law Enforcement Committee will hold public meetings.

DATES: The meetings will be held on August 6-8, 1996.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the Holiday Inn, 700 King Street, Wilmington, DE 19801; telephone: 302-655-0400 or 1-800-HOLIDAY.

Council address: Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 300 S. New Street, Dover, DE 19901; telephone: 302-674-2331.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David R. Keifer, Executive Director; telephone: 302-674-2331.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

August 6, 1996, from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., the Coastal Migratory Committee and ASMFC Bluefish Board will meet.

August 6, 1996, from 10:00 a.m. until noon, the Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and

Butterfish Monitoring Committee will meet. August 6, 1996, from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m., the Coastal Migratory Committee will meet as a Council Committee Of The Whole with the ASMFC Bluefish Board.

August 7, 1996, from 8:00 a.m. until 9:30 a.m., the Council will meet at which time there will be a Stock Assessment Workshop.

August 7, 1996, from 1:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m., the Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Committee will meet as a Council Committee Of The Whole with Advisors.

August 7, 1996, from 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m., the Law Enforcement Committee will meet.

August 8, 1996, from 8:00 a.m. until approximately 1:30 p.m., the Council will meet.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the Bluefish Fishery Management Plan (FMP) Amendment 1, the 1997 bluefish management measures, review comments and recommendations for adoption of Amendment 6 and discuss 1997 specifications to the Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish FMP, discuss filleting of fish at sea. Further, the Council will discuss and may adopt for public hearing purposes a regulatory amendment to the Scup FMP, and will consider and may adopt a resubmittal of the disapproved quota provision of the Black Sea Bass FMP.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Joanna Davis at the Council (see ADDRESSES) at least 5 days prior to the meeting dates.

Dated: July 19, 1996.

Richard W. Surdi,

*Acting Director, Office of Fisheries
Conservation and Management, National
Marine Fisheries Service.*

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COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Adjustment of Guaranteed Access Levels for Certain Cotton, Wool and Man-Made Fiber Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in the Dominican Republic

July 19, 1996.

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

ACTION: Issuing a directive to the Commissioner of Customs increasing guaranteed access levels.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 24, 1996.

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 or call (202) 927-5850. For information on embargoes and quota re-openings, call (202) 482-3715.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended; section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854); Uruguay Round Agreements Act.

On the request of the Government of the Dominican Republic, the U.S. Government agreed to increase the 1996 Guaranteed Access Levels for Categories 338/638 and 448.

A description of the textile and apparel categories in terms of HTS numbers is available in the CORRELATION: Textile and Apparel Categories with the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (see Federal Register notice 60 FR 65299, published on December 19, 1995). Also see 61 FR 1359, published on January 19, 1996.

The letter to the Commissioner of Customs and the actions taken pursuant to it are not designed to implement all of the provisions of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act and the Uruguay Round Agreement on Textiles and Clothing, but are designed to assist only in the implementation of certain of their provisions.

Troy H. Cribb,
Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements
July 19, 1996.

Commissioner of Customs,
Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC 20229.

Dear Commissioner: This directive amends, but does not cancel, the directive issued to you on January 11, 1996, by the Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements. That directive concerns imports of certain cotton, wool and man-made fiber textile products, produced or manufactured in the Dominican Republic and exported during the twelve-month period which began on January 1, 1996 and extends through December 31, 1996.

Effective on July 24, 1996, you are directed to increase the Guaranteed Access Levels for the following categories:

Category	Guaranteed Access Level
338/638	3,150,000 dozen.
448	60,000 dozen.

The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements has determined that these actions fall within the foreign affairs exception of the rulemaking provisions of 5 U.S.C. 553(a)(1).

Sincerely,
Troy H. Cribb,
Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Corps of Engineers

Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Proposed Master Plan Update at Jennings Randolph Lake, Maryland and West Virginia

AGENCY: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DOD.

ACTION: Notice of Intent.

SUMMARY: The Baltimore District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, proposes to update the Master Plan for Jennings Randolph Lake. The existing master plan was prepared in 1973 and does not address changes that have occurred since its development or since completion of the project. Since completion of the master plan, water quality in the lake and downstream of the dam has significantly improved, thereby increasing recreational opportunities. The purpose of the master planning process is to provide direction for project development and use as well as stewardship of project resources through the protection, conservation, and enhancement of natural, cultural, and constructed resources. The master plan update is authorized by the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act of 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions about the proposed action and DEIS can be addressed to Ms. Robyn Colosimo, Baltimore District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Attn: CENAB-PL-EP, P.O. Box 1715, Baltimore, Maryland 21203-1715, telephone (410) 962-4995.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: 1. The update of the Jennings Randolph Master Plan was initiated by the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act

of 1995, which states "[the] Corps is directed to use available funds to initiate work on a revised master plan for Jennings Randolph Lake to reflect changing demands. To the extent practical, the Corps should consult and work with all affected interest groups in developing the revised plan."

2. The project is located in Garrett County, Maryland, and Mineral County, West Virginia, on the North Branch Potomac River, approximately 8 miles upstream from Bloomington, Maryland. The project was authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1962 (Pub. L. 87-874) to provide water quality control in the North Branch, industrial and municipal water supply for the Potomac River basin, flood control protection for communities along the North Branch, and recreation. Construction of the dam was initiated in 1971 and completed in 1981. At full conservation pool, the lake, with a watershed of 263 square miles, extends upstream from the dam a distance of 6.6 miles and has a surface area of 952 acres. The total project, land and water, covers an area of 4,500 acres. Operation of the project has resulted in significant improvement to water quality in the North Branch Potomac River downstream of the dam, particularly during low flow conditions.

3. The Corps operates and maintains five recreation sites at Jennings Randolph including a campground, two overlooks, a picnic area, and a boat launch. The Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MD DNR) is presently constructing a boat launch facility in Maryland. Planned future development at this location will include a picnic area and campground. Since 1983, Maryland and West Virginia have stocked the lake with a variety of fish, including walleye; largemouth and smallmouth bass; channel catfish; and rainbow, lake, and brown trout. MD DNR raises trout in pens located in the stilling basin below the dam for stocking the Potomac River and other Maryland streams. The Mineral County Park and Recreation Commission operates and maintains an access area for whitewater rafting and fishing downstream of the dam near Barnum, West Virginia.

4. The master plan will determine the types and quantities of development the project can support environmentally and economically. The master plan will incorporate information from previous and ongoing studies, including the Jennings Randolph Lake Reallocation Study and the North Branch Potomac River Water Resources Reconnaissance Study, visitor needs, local and regional interests, and resource agency concerns. The master plan will identify alternatives for recreational