

977, Denver Federal Center, Denver, CO 80225. *Instrument:* Mass Spectrometer, Model Optima. *Manufacturer:* Micromass, United Kingdom. *Intended Use:* The instrument will be used to study the stable isotope variations that resulted during the formation and history of rocks, minerals and gases from a variety of geologic sites and contexts. Application accepted by Commissioner of Customs: December 30, 1996.

Docket Number: 96-148. *Applicant:* Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Bell House, MS 39, 221 Oyster Pond Road, Woods Hole, MA 02543-1531. *Instrument:* Mass Spectrometer, Model MAT ELEMENT. *Manufacturer:* Finnigan MAT, Germany. *Intended Use:* The instrument will be used for elemental and isotopic analyses of seawater, sediments, microfossils, plankton, corals and rocks. Applications will range from the study of natural and artificial radionuclides in the environment, the marine chemistry of trace metals, ecotoxicology, petrology of basaltic rocks, paleoceanographic studies, climate change studies, etc. In addition, the instrument will be used to instruct students in its use. Application accepted by Commissioner of Customs: December 31, 1996.

Docket Number: 96-149. *Applicant:* University of Vermont, Department of Physical Therapy, 305 Rowell Building, Burlington, VT 05405-0068. *Instrument:* Motion Analysis System and Telemg System, Model Elite Plus. *Manufacturer:* Bioengineering Technology & Systems, Italy. *Intended Use:* The instrument will be used for human movement studies focusing on human gait, posture and balance and upper extremity movement. These studies are aimed at quantifying and understanding normal and disordered human movement from neurological, physiologic, biomechanical and behavioral perspectives. *Application accepted by Commissioner of Customs:* December 31, 1996.

Frank W. Creel,

Director, Statutory Import Programs Staff.
[FR Doc. 97-3360 Filed 2-10-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

University of Wyoming; Notice of Decision on Application for Duty-Free Entry of Scientific Instrument

This decision is made pursuant to Section 6(c) of the Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Materials Importation Act of 1966 (Pub. L. 89-651, 80 Stat. 897; 15 CFR part 301). Related records can be viewed between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. in Room 4211,

U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Docket Number: 96-117. *Applicant:* University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY 82071-3006. *Instrument:* Electron Microprobe, Model JXA-8900/5CH. *Manufacturer:* JEOL Ltd., Japan. *Intended Use:* See notice at 61 FR 66017, December 16, 1996.

Comments: None received. *Decision:* Approved. No instrument of equivalent scientific value to the foreign instrument, for such purposes as it is intended to be used, is being manufactured in the United States.

Reasons: The foreign instrument provides high accuracy elemental analysis of surface microareas with a scanning image magnification of $\times 40$ to 300 000 (WD: 11 mm) and a secondary electron image resolution to 6 nm. The National Institute of Standards and Technology advises that (1) these capabilities are pertinent to the applicant's intended purpose and (2) it knows of no domestic instrument or apparatus of equivalent scientific value to the foreign instrument for the applicant's intended use.

We know of no other instrument or apparatus of equivalent scientific value to the foreign instrument which is being manufactured in the United States.

Frank W. Creel,

Director, Statutory Import Programs Staff.
[FR Doc. 97-3359 Filed 2-10-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Environmental Protection Agency

Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program: Proposed Findings Documents, Environmental Assessments, and Findings of No Significant Impact

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, and Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice of Availability of Proposed Findings Documents, Environmental Assessments, and Findings of No Significant Impact on Approval of Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Programs for New Hampshire, Mississippi, Alabama and Oregon.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the availability of the Proposed Findings Documents, Environmental Assessments (EA's), and Findings of No Significant Impact for New Hampshire, Mississippi, Alabama and Oregon. Coastal states and

territories were required to submit their coastal nonpoint programs to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for approval in July 1995. The Findings documents were prepared by NOAA and EPA to provide the rationale for the agencies' decision to approve each state and territory coastal nonpoint pollution control program. Section 6217 of the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments (CZARA), 16 U.S.C. section 1455b, requires states and territories with coastal zone management programs that have received approval under section 306 of the Coastal Zone Management Act to develop and implement coastal nonpoint pollution control programs. The EA's were prepared by NOAA, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. sections 4321 *et seq.*, to assess the environmental impacts associated with the approval of the coastal nonpoint pollution control programs submitted to NOAA and EPA by New Hampshire, Mississippi, Alabama and Oregon.

NOAA and EPA have proposed to approve, with conditions, the coastal nonpoint pollution control programs submitted by New Hampshire, Mississippi, Alabama and Oregon. The requirements of 40 CFR Parts 1500-1508 (Council of Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations to implement the National Environmental Policy Act) apply to the preparation of the Environmental Assessments. Specifically, 40 CFR section 1506.6 requires agencies to provide public notice of the availability of environmental documents. This notice is part of NOAA's action to comply with this requirement.

Copies of the Proposed Findings Documents, Environmental Assessments, and Findings of No Significant Impact may be obtained upon request from: Joseph P. Flanagan, Coastal Programs Division (N/ORM3), Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, NOS, NOAA, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland, 20910, tel. (301) 713-3121, x201.

DATES: Individuals or organizations wishing to submit comments on the proposed Findings or Environmental Assessments should do so by March 12, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be made to: Joseph A. Uravitch, Coastal Programs Division (N/ORM3), Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, NOS, NOAA, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland, 20910, tel. (301) 713-3155, x195.

(Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog 11.419 Coast Zone Management Program Administration)

Dated: February 6, 1997.

David L. Evans,

Acting Deputy Assistant, Administrator for Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Robert H. Wayland, III,

Director, Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds, Environmental Protection Agency.

[FR Doc. 97-3397 Filed 2-10-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-12-M

[I.D. 020497B]

Gulf of Mexico 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 Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) will convene a public meeting of the Standing and Special Reef Fish Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC).

DATES: The meeting will be held on March 3, 1997, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn Crown Plaza, 333 Poydras Street, New Orleans, LA; telephone 504-525-9444.

Council address: Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 3018 U.S. Highway 301 North, Suite 1000, Tampa, FL 33619.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Wayne E. Swingle, Executive Director, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; telephone: 813-228-2815.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Reef Fish SSC will review additional analyses of shrimp trawl bycatch of red snapper prepared by NMFS. These analyses may include revisions to the data base and to the methodology based on recommendations developed at the Reef Fish Stock Assessment Panel (RFSAP) meeting held February 12-14, 1997.

The SSC will also consider recommendations, if any, of the RFSAP for phasing in over a 3-year period levels of total allowable catch, bag limits, and quotas for vermilion snapper in the Gulf of Mexico. The SSC will develop their recommendations to the Council on these issues.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Anne Alford at the Council (see **ADDRESSES**) by February 24, 1997.

Dated: February 5, 1997.

Bruce Morehead,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 97-3259 Filed 2-10-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No. 970129014-7014-01]

RIN 0651-XX09

Interim Guidelines for the Examination of Claims Directed to Species of Chemical Compositions Based Upon a Single Prior Art Reference

AGENCY: Patent and Trademark Office, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) requests comments from any interested member of the public on interim guidelines to be used by office personnel in their review of patent applications which contain claims directed to a species or subgenus of chemical compositions for compliance with 35 U.S.C. 103 based upon a single prior art reference which discloses a genus embracing the claimed species or subgenus but does not expressly describe the particular claimed species or subgenus.

DATES: The interim guidelines are effective February 11, 1997.

Written comments on the interim guidelines will be accepted by the PTO until April 14, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to the attention of Linda Moncys Isacson, Office of the Solicitor, P.O. Box 15667, Arlington, Virginia 22215 or to Linda S. Therkorn, Box Comments, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC. 20231, or by facsimile transmission to (703) 305-9373 or by electronic mail to baird-comments@uspto.gov.

Written comments will be made available for public inspection at the Patent Search Room, Crystal Plaza 3, 2021 South Clark Place, Arlington, VA. In addition, comments provided in machine-readable format will be available through the PTO's Website at <http://www.uspto.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Linda Moncys Isacson, Office of the

Solicitor, P.O. Box 15667, Arlington, Virginia 22215 or Linda S. Therkorn, Box Comments, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC. 20231, or by facsimile transmission to (703) 305-9373 or by electronic mail to baird-comments@uspto.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks issued a Notice in the Official Gazette (O.G.) on April 17, 1995 (1174 O.G. 68), withdrawing the Office's March 22, 1994 O.G. Notice (1161 O.G. 314). Both notices were entitled "In re Baird." Pursuant to the April 17, 1995 O.G. Notice, the following interim examination guidelines are being published for public comment. The purpose of these guidelines is to assist PTO personnel in the examination of applications which contain claims directed to a species or subgenus of chemical compositions for compliance with 35 U.S.C. 103 based upon a single prior art reference which discloses a genus embracing the claimed species or subgenus but does not expressly describe the particular claimed species or subgenus. Thereof, these interim guidelines will be referred to as "Genus-Species Guidelines."

It has been determined that these interim guidelines are not a significant rule for purposes of Executive Order 12866. Because these guidelines govern internal practices, they are exempt from notice and comment rulemaking under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(A).

Members of the public may present written comments on these guidelines. Written comments should include the following information:

- Name and affiliation of the individual responding;
- An indication of whether the comments offered represent views of the respondent's organization or are the respondent's personal views; and
- If applicable, information on the respondent's organization, including the type of organization (e.g., business, trade group, university, nonprofit organization).

The PTO is particularly interested in comments relating to the accuracy of the emphasized prior art teachings, and comments identifying any additional teachings that should be emphasized in determining whether a prima facie case of obviousness exists in the types of cases covered by these interim guidelines. The PTO is also interested in comments relating to the effect these guidelines may have on future application submissions.