

Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive, St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432 (813/570-5301).

Dated: February 4, 1997.

Ann D. Terbush,
Chief, Permits and Documentation Division,
Office of Protected Resources, National
Marine Fisheries Service.

Dated: February 7, 1997.

Margaret Tieger,
Chief, Branch of Permits, Office of
Management Authority, U.S. Fish and
Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 97-3706 Filed 2-13-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 020797D]

Marine Mammals; Permit No. 873 (P773#63)

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

ACTION: Scientific research permit amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that a request for amendment of scientific research permit no. 873 submitted by the Southwest Fisheries Science Center, NMFS, P.O. Box 271, La Jolla, CA 92038-0271, has been granted.

ADDRESSES: The amendment and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following offices:

Permits Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS,
1315 East-West Highway, Suite 13130,
Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289); and

Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Boulevard, Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802, (310/980-4016).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On December 9, 1996, notice was published in the Federal Register (61 FR 64857) that an amendment of permit no. 873, issued July 28, 1993 (58 FR 34038), had been requested by the above-named organization. The requested amendment has been granted under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the provisions of § 216.39 of the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216), the Endangered Species Act of

1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and the provisions of § 222.25 of the Regulations Governing the Taking, Importing, and Exporting of Endangered Fish and Wildlife (50 CFR part 222.23).

Permit no. 873 authorized the permit holder to biopsy several species of cetaceans off the Pacific, Southern, and Indian Oceans, as well as U.S. territorial waters of the Pacific and Southern Oceans and the Gulf of Mexico; and to import biopsy tissues collected outside of U.S. waters. The permit has been amended to authorize the attachment of radio tags to up to 20 sperm whales (*Physeter macrocephalus*) per year in the eastern north Pacific Ocean.

Issuance of this amendment, as required by the ESA, was based on a finding that such amendment: (1) Was applied for in good faith; (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of the endangered species which are the subject of this permit; and (3) is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

Dated: February 10, 1997.

Ann D. Terbush,
Chief, Permits and Documentation Division,
Office of Protected Resources, National
Marine Fisheries Service.

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COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Establishment of Import Limits for Certain Cotton, Wool, Man-Made Fiber, Silk Blend and Other Vegetable Fiber Textiles and Textile Products and Silk Apparel Produced or Manufactured in the People's Republic of China

February 10, 1997.

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

ACTION: Issuing a directive to the Commissioner of Customs establishing limits

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 14, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jennifer Aldrich, 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) 927-6703. 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).

In a Memorandum of Understanding dated February 1, 1997, the Governments of the United States and the People's Republic of China agreed to effectuate a Bilateral Cotton, Wool, Man-Made Fiber, Silk Blend and Other Vegetable Fiber Textile Agreement and a Silk Apparel Agreement. The textile agreement is for a four-year period, through December 31, 2000; the silk apparel agreement is for a one-year period, through December 31, 1997.

In the letter published below from the Chairman of CITA, the Commissioner of Customs is directed to establish limits for the period beginning on January 1, 1997 and extending through December 31, 1997.

Should China become a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and should the United States apply the Agreement establishing the WTO to China, the limits set forth above may be subject to adjustment pursuant to the provisions of the Uruguay Round Agreement on Textiles and Clothing, the Uruguay Round Agreements Act and any administrative arrangements notified to the Textiles Monitoring Body.

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 59 FR 15381, published on April 1, 1994; and 61 FR 66263, published on December 17, 1996). Also see 62 FR 1875, published on January 14, 1997.

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 bilateral, but are designed to assist only in the implementation of its provisions.

Troy H. Cribb,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

February 10, 1997.

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

Dear Commissioner: This directive cancels and supersedes the directive issued to you on January 10, 1997, by the Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements. That directive concerns imports of certain cotton, wool, man-made fiber, silk blend and other vegetable fiber textiles and textile products and silk apparel, produced