

pinniped deterrence methods should be a research priority for addressing expanding pinniped populations on the West Coast.

3. *Selectively reinstate authority for the intentional lethal taking of California sea lions and Pacific harbor seals by commercial fishermen to protect gear and catch.* Prior to the 1994 Amendments to the MMPA, commercial fishermen were allowed to kill certain pinnipeds as a last resort in order to protect their gear or catch. Although the 1992 NMFS legislative proposal contained provisions to continue such authority, it was not included in the 1994 Amendments to the MMPA. A limited authorization, based on demonstrated need, should be provided to certain commercial fishermen at specified sites to use lethal means, as a last resort, to protect their gear and catch from depredation by California sea lions and Pacific harbor seals until such time that effective non-lethal methods are developed for their specific situation.

4. *Information needs.* An array of additional information is needed to better evaluate and monitor California sea lion and Pacific harbor seal impacts on salmonids and other components of the West Coast ecosystems. Details of such studies are described in the draft report to Congress.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1389(f)

Dated: March 24, 1997.

Hilda Diaz-Soltero,

Acting Director, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Amendment of Export Visa Requirements for Certain Man-Made Fiber Products Produced or Manufactured in the People's Republic of China

March 24, 1997.

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

ACTION: Issuing a directive to the Commissioner of Customs amending visa requirements.

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 1, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jennifer Aldrich, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-4212.

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).

Effective on April 1, 1997, for goods produced or manufactured in China and exported on and after April 1, 1997, a part-category visa will be required for textile products in Category 666-C. For textile products in Category 666, other than 666-C, a 666 visa will be required. During the period April 1, 1997 through April 30, 1997, U.S. Customs Service will accept either the new or the old visa. Goods exported on and after May 1, 1997 shall be denied entry if not visaed as 666 (other than 666-C) or 666-C.

See 60 FR 22567, published on May 8, 1995.

Troy H. Cribb,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

March 24, 1997.

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 May 3, 1995, by the Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements. That directive establishes an export visa arrangement for certain cotton, wool, man-made fiber, silk blend, and other vegetable fiber textiles and textile products, produced or manufactured in the People's Republic of China.

Effective on April 1, 1997, goods produced or manufactured in China and exported on and after April 1, 1997, in Category 666 shall require a 666 (other than 666-C)¹ or 666-C² visa. During the period April 1, 1997 through April 30, 1997, you are directed to accept either the new or old visa. Goods exported on and after May 1, 1997 shall be denied entry if not visaed as 666 (other than 666-C) or 666-C.

Shipments entered or withdrawn from warehouse according to this directive which are not accompanied by an appropriate export visa shall be denied entry and a new visa must be obtained.

The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements has determined that this action falls within the foreign affairs exception to 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 Air Force

Cost Comparison Studies

The Air Force is conducting the following cost comparisons in accordance with OMB Circular A-76, Performance of Commercial Activities.

Installation	State	USAF Project Title
Maxwell AFB	AL	General Library.
Maxwell AFB	AL	Grounds Maintenance.
Clear	AK	Power Production.
Eielson AFB	AK	Miscellaneous Services.
Eielson AFB	AK	Admin Telephone PBX.
Elmendorf AFB	AK	Power Production.
Elmendorf AFB	AK	Military Family Housing Management.
Edwards AFB	CA	Base Supply.
Los Angeles AFS	CA	Communication Functions.
Los Angeles AFS	CA	Publications Distribution Office.
Los Angeles AFS	CA	Education Services.
March AFB	CA	Airfield Operations & Weather.

¹ Category 666: all HTS numbers except 6303.92.2000 (Category 666-C).

² Category 666-C: only HTS number 6303.92.2000.