

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Assistant Secretary for Administration with the concurrence of the General Counsel formally determined on December 21, 1998, pursuant to Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, that these portions of the meeting may be properly closed because they are concerned with matters that are within the purview of 5 U.S.C. 522(c)(4), (6) and (9)(b). A copy of the determination is available for public inspection in the Central Reference and Records Inspection Facility, Room 6219, Main Commerce.

MEP's services to smaller manufacturers address the needs of the national market as well as the unique needs of each company. Since MEP is committed to providing this type of individualized service through its centers, the program requires the perspective of locally based experts to be incorporated into its national plans. The MEPNAB was established at the direction of the NIST Director to maintain MEP's focus on local and market-based needs. The MEPNAB was approved on October 24, 1996, in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app. 2., to provide advice on MEP programs, plans, and policies; to assess the soundness of MEP plans and strategies; to assess the current performance against MEP program plans, and to function in an advisory capacity. The Board will meet three times a year and reports to the Director of NIST. This will be the second meeting of the MEPNAB in 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Linda Acierto, Assistant to the Director for Policy, Manufacturing Extension Partnership, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD 20899, telephone number (301) 975-5033.

Dated: March 10, 2000.

Karen H. Brown,

Deputy Director, NIST.

[FR Doc. 00-6719 Filed 3-16-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program: Approval Decision on Rhode Island Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program

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

ACTION: Notice of intent to approve the Rhode Island Coastal Nonpoint Program.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the intent to fully approve the Rhode Island Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program (coastal nonpoint program) and of the availability of the draft Approval Decisions on conditions for the Rhode Island coastal nonpoint 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 programs. 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. NOAA and EPA conditionally approved the Rhode Island coastal nonpoint program on September 27, 1997. NOAA and EPA have drafted approval decisions describing how Rhode Island has satisfied the conditions placed on its program and therefore has a fully approved coastal nonpoint program.

NOAA and EPA are making the draft decisions for the Rhode Island coastal nonpoint program available for a 30-day public comment period. If no comments are received, the Rhode Island program will be approved. If comments are received, NOAA and EPA will consider whether such comments are significant enough to affect the decision to fully approve the program.

Copies of the draft Approval Decisions can be found on the NOAA website at <http://www.nos.noaa.gov/ocrm/czm/> or 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, extension 201, e-mail joseph.flanagan@noaa.gov.

DATES: Individuals or organizations wishing to submit comments on the draft Approval Decisions should do so by April 17, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be made to Joseph A. Uravitch, Chief, Coastal Programs Division (N/ORM3), Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, NOS, NOAA, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland, tel. 301-713-3155 extension 195, e-mail joseph.uravitch@noaa.gov or to Margherita Pryor, EPA Region, 1, 1 Congress Street, Suite 1100, Boston, MA, 02114-2023, tel. 617-918-1597, e-mail pryor.margherita@epamail.epa.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Helen Farr, Coastal Programs Division (N/ORM3), Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, NOS, NOAA, 1305 East-West, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910, tel. 301-713-3105, extension 150, e-mail helen.farr@noaa.gov.

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

Dated: March 14, 2000.

Captain Ted I. Lillestolen,

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

J. Charles Fox,

Assistant Administrator, Office of Water, Environmental Protection Agency.

[FR Doc. 00-6692 Filed 3-16-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 031000C]

Western Pacific 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 Western Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Pelagics Advisory Panel (PAP) members will hold a meeting.

DATES: The meeting will be held April 5-6, 2000, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., each day.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Ala Moana Hotel, Hibiscus Number 1 Ball Room, 410 Atkinson Drive, Honolulu, HI 96814.

Council address: Western Pacific Fishery Management Council, 1164 Bishop St., Suite 1405, Honolulu, HI 96813.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kitty M. Simonds, Executive Director; telephone: 808-522-8220.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The PAP meeting will discuss and may make recommendations to the Council on the following agenda items:

1. Review of recommendations arising from 1999 PAP;
2. Hawaii and American Samoa longline fishery reports;
3. Hawaii longline fishery issues;
4. Report of the Recreational Fisheries Data Task Force;
5. Recreational fishery issues;
6. Area closure for large pelagic fishing vessels around the islands of American Samoa;
7. Shark management in Hawaii;
8. Management of longline-protected species interactions;
9. Progress of the Multi-lateral High Level Conference process to implement a management convention for tunas in the Central-West Pacific;
10. Blue marlin research;
11. Council process; and
12. Other business as required.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Kitty M. Simonds, 808-522-8220 (voice) or 808-522-8226 (fax), at least 5 days prior to meeting date.

Dated: March 13, 2000.

Bruce C. Morehead,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 00-6716 Filed 3-16-00; 8:45 am]

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COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Establishment of an Import Limit for Certain Cotton Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in Pakistan

March 14, 2000.

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

ACTION: Issuing a directive to the Commissioner of Customs establishing a limit.

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 17, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ross Arnold, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-4212. For information on the quota status of this limit, refer to the Quota Status Reports posted on the bulletin boards of each Customs port, call (202) 927-5850, or refer to the U.S. Customs website at <http://www.customs.ustreas.gov>. For information on embargoes and quota reopenings, call (202) 482-3715. For information on categories on which consultations have been requested, call (202) 482-3740.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

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

A notice published in the Federal Register on December 31, 1998 (63 FR 72288) announced that the Government of the United States had requested consultations with the Government of Pakistan on December 24, 1998 with respect to combed cotton yarn in Category 301, produced or manufactured in Pakistan and that, if no solution was agreed upon in consultations with the Government of Pakistan, the Government of the United States reserved its right to establish a twelve-month limit of not less than 5,262,665 kilograms for the entry for consumption and withdrawal from warehouse for consumption of combed cotton yarn in Category 301, produced or manufactured in Pakistan. A restraint limit was established at that level for the March 17, 1999 through March 16, 2000 period.

The Government of the United States has decided to establish a limit of not less than 5,578,425 kilograms for the entry for consumption and withdrawal from warehouse for consumption of combed cotton yarn in Category 301, produced or manufactured in Pakistan for a second twelve-month period,

beginning on March 17, 2000 and extending through March 16, 2001.

The United States remains committed to finding a mutually agreed solution concerning Category 301. Should such a solution be reached in consultations with the Government of Pakistan, further notice will be published in the **Federal Register**.

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 64 FR 71982, published on December 22, 1999). Also see 64 FR 12290, published on March 12, 1999.

D. Michael Hutchinson,

Acting Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

March 14, 2000.

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

Dear Commissioner: Pursuant to section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854); Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended; and the Uruguay Round Agreement on Textiles and Clothing (ATC), you are directed to prohibit, effective on March 17, 2000, entry into the United States for consumption and withdrawal from warehouse for consumption of combed cotton yarn in Category 301, produced or manufactured in Pakistan and exported during the twelve-month period beginning on March 17, 2000 and extending through March 16, 2001, in excess of 5,578,425 kilograms.

The limit set forth above is subject to adjustment pursuant to the provisions of the ATC.

Products in the above category exported during the March 17, 1999 through March 16, 2000 period shall be charged to the limit for that year (see directive dated March 5, 1999) to the extent of any unfilled balances. In the event the limit established for that period has been exhausted by previous entries, such products shall be charged to the limit set forth in this directive.

In carrying out the above directions, the Commissioner of Customs should construe entry into the United States for consumption to include entry for consumption into the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

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

Sincerely,

D. Michael Hutchinson,
Acting Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

[FR Doc. 00-6762 Filed 3-16-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DR-F