

required documentary evidence directly to the Assistant Administrator.

As a part of the annual review process set forth in 50 CFR 216.24(f), the Assistant Administrator considered documentary evidence submitted by the Government of Mexico or obtained from the IATTC and the Department of State and determined that Mexico has met the MMPA's requirements to receive an affirmative finding.

After consultation with the Department of State, NMFS renewed the Government of Mexico's affirmative finding allowing the continued importation into the United States of yellowfin tuna and products derived from yellowfin tuna harvested in the ETP by Mexican-flag purse seine vessels or purse seine vessels operating under Mexican jurisdiction.

The Government of Mexico must submit a new application in early 2005 for an affirmative finding to be effective for the period April 1, 2005, through March 31, 2006, and the subsequent 4 years.

Dated: July 30, 2004.

John Oliver,

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Operation, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 04-18053 Filed 8-5-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 080304A]

Draft NOAA Shrimp Issues and Options Paper Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: The National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) is hosting public meetings to present the results of an analysis of different options and alternatives that may help resolve current financial and market industry challenges. The analysis was developed at the request of the shrimp industry and other interested parties. The options will be presented in their entirety and the results from those that could be analyzed will be presented. Public comment on the analysis will be taken at the meetings. See **DATES** and **ADDRESSES** for specific dates, times and locations of the meetings.

DATES: The meetings held on Monday August 23-24, are scheduled to start at

11:30 a.m. on the 23rd and end at noon on the 24th. The meeting held on August 25th is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. and end at 10 p.m. The meeting held on August 27th is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. and end at 4 p.m. The meeting held on August 28th is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. and end at 4 p.m. Another meeting will be scheduled for September in New Orleans, LA.

ADDRESSES: The meetings August 23-24 will be held at the Holiday Inn Houston Intercontinental Airport, 15222 John F. Kennedy Blvd. Houston, TX 77032; 281-449-2311; the meeting August 25th will be held at the Sheraton Suites Tampa Airport, 4400 West Cypress Street, Tampa, FL; 813-873-8675; the meeting August 27th will be held at the Embassy Suites Airport-Convention Center, 5055 International Boulevard, North Charleston, SC 29418; 843-747-1882; the meeting August 28th will be held at the New Bern Sheraton, 100 Middle Street, New Bern, NC 28560; 252-638-3585.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Gordon J. Helm, Deputy Director, Office of Constituent Services. Telephone (301) 713-2379.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The primary goal of the meeting is to present the analysis and collect public input on the DRAFT shrimp industry issues and options included in the paper. Copies of the DRAFT paper will be available at the meetings and will also be available online beginning 11 a.m. EST August 23, 2004, at: www.nmfs.noaa.gov/mediacenter. Those interested in obtaining a copy after the meetings may contact Dr. John Ward, Economist. Telephone (301) 713-2379.

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Dr. John Ward at (301) 713-2379 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: August 3, 2004.

Gordon J. Helm,

Deputy Director, Office of Constituent Services, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 04-18052 Filed 8-5-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 072904C]

Marine Mammals; File No. 1054-1731

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

ACTION: Issuance of permit.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the University of Florida, Aquatic Animal Program, College of Veterinary Medicine, 2015 SW 16th Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32610 (Dr. Ruth Frances-Floyd, Principal Investigator), has been issued a permit to import and export marine mammal specimens for purposes of scientific research.

ADDRESSES: The permit and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s):

Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301)713-2289; fax (301)713-0376; and Southeast Region, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive North, St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432; phone (727)570-5301; fax (727)570-5320.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Amy Sloan or Jennifer Skidmore, (301)713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On April 30, 2004, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (69 FR 25374) that a request for a scientific research permit to import and export marine mammal species under NMFS jurisdiction had been submitted by the above-named organization. The requested permit has been issued under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), 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.*), the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222-226), and the Fur Seal Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1151 *et seq.*).

The Holder is authorized to receive, import, and export marine mammal specimens for research on diseases in marine mammals. Infectious disease investigations include viral pathogens such as West Nile virus, St. Louis Encephalitis virus, herpes virus, and pox viruses. Other projects include

development of a marine mammal histology database and atlas, research on the effects of boat strikes on cetacean bone, and investigation into acute phase proteins in cetaceans. Cell lines may be developed from marine mammal tissues. The permit has been issued for five years.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), a final determination has been made that the activity proposed is categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

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

Dated: August 3, 2004.

Jennifer Skidmore,

Acting Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 04-18051 Filed 8-5-04; 8:45 am]

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COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Request for Public Comments on Commercial Availability Petition under the United States - Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act (CBTPA)

August 3, 2004.

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

ACTION: Request for public comments concerning three petitions for determinations that certain woven, 100 percent cotton, flannel fabrics cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner under the CBTPA.

SUMMARY: On July 30, 2004, the Chairman of CITA received three petitions from Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, P.A., on behalf of Picacho, S.A., alleging that certain woven, 100 percent cotton, flannel fabrics, of the specifications detailed below, classified in the indicated subheadings of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS), cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner. The petitions request that shirts, trousers, nightwear, robes,

and dresses, gowns and woven underwear of such fabrics assembled in one or more CBTPA beneficiary countries be eligible for preferential treatment under the CBTPA. CITA hereby solicits public comments on these petitions, in particular with regard to whether these fabrics can be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner. Comments must be submitted by August 23, 2004, to the Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements, Room 3001, United States Department of Commerce, 14th and Constitution, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Janet E. Heinzen, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-3400.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Section 213(b)(2)(A)(v)(II) of the CBERA, as added by Section 211(a) of the CBTPA; Section 6 of Executive Order No. 13191 of January 17, 2001.

Background:

The CBTPA provides for quota- and duty-free treatment for qualifying textile and apparel products. Such treatment is generally limited to products manufactured from yarns or fabrics formed in the United States. The CBTPA also provides for quota- and duty-free treatment for apparel articles that are both cut (or knit-to-shape) and sewn or otherwise assembled in one or more CBTPA beneficiary countries from fabric or yarn that is not formed in the United States, if it has been determined that such fabric or yarn cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner. In Executive Order No. 13191, the President delegated to CITA the authority to determine whether yarns or fabrics cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner under the CBTPA and directed CITA to establish procedures to ensure appropriate public participation in any such determination. On March 6, 2001, CITA published procedures that it will follow in considering requests. (66 FR 13502).

On July 30, 2004, the Chairman of CITA received a petition on behalf of Picacho, S.A., alleging that certain woven, 100 percent cotton, flannel fabrics, of the specifications detailed below, classified in the indicated HTSUS subheadings, cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner and requesting quota- and duty-free treatment under the CBTPA for

apparel articles that are cut and sewn in one or more CBTPA beneficiary countries from such fabrics.

Specifications:

Fabric 1	
Petitioner Style No:	4835
HTS Subheading:	5208.42.30.00
Fiber Content:	100% Cotton
Weight:	152.6 g/m ²
Width:	150 centimeters cuttable
Thread Count:	24.4 warp ends per centimeter; 15.7 filling picks per centimeter; total: 40.1 threads per square centimeter
Yarn Number:	Warp: 40.6 metric, ring spun; filling: 20.3 metric, open end spun; overall average yarn number: 39.4 metric
Finish:	Of yarns of different colors; napped on both sides, sanforized
Fabric 2	
Petitioner Style No:	0443B
HTS Subheading:	5209.41.60.40
Fiber Content:	100% Cotton
Weight:	251 g/m ²
Width:	160 centimeters cuttable
Thread Count:	22.8 warp ends per centimeter; 17.3 filling picks per centimeter; total: 40.1 threads per square centimeter
Yarn Number:	Warp: 40.6 metric, ring spun; filling: 8.46 metric, open end spun; overall average yarn number: 24.1 metric
Finish:	Of yarns of different colors; napped on both sides, sanforized
Fabric 3	
Petitioner Style No:	4335
HTS Subheading:	5209.41.60.40
Fiber Content:	100% Cotton
Weight:	251 g/m ²
Width:	160 centimeters cuttable
Thread Count:	20.1 warp ends per centimeter; 16.5 filling picks per centimeter; total: 36.6 threads per square centimeter
Yarn Number:	Warp: 27.07 metric, ring spun; filling: 10.16 metric, open end spun; overall average yarn number: 23.3 metric
Finish:	Of yarns of different colors; napped on both sides, sanforized

The petitioner emphasizes that the fabrics must be napped on both sides, that the yarn sizes and thread count, and consequently, the weight of the fabrics must be exactly or nearly exactly as specified or the fabrics will not be suitable for their intended uses. The warp yarns must be ring spun in order to provide the additional tensile strength required to offset the degrading effects of heavy napping on both sides. The filling yarns must be open end spun to provide required loft and softness. The filling yarns must be spun from fibers that have been stock dyed prior to carding and the warp yarns must be