

submit information regarding their chartering arrangements. The information collected from chartering permit applications will be used to ensure that vessels entering into chartering agreements comply with ICCAT conservation and management measures. The NMFS would use information submitted in applications for chartering arrangements, and other applicable notifications (such as termination notifications from the applicant indicating a desire to terminate their chartering agreement), to monitor the activities and durations of such arrangements targeting HMS in the Atlantic Ocean. NMFS would report this information annually to the Executive Secretary of ICCAT as a means of demonstrating compliance with ICCAT's conservation and management recommendations.

II. Method of Collection

Information is submitted on forms or other written format, and may be submitted electronically by e-mail.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0495.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Business and other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 10.

Estimated Time Per Response: 40 minutes for a Chartering permit application; and 5 minutes for a termination notification.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 8.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$8.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: December 22, 2006.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

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BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 122106C]

Marine Mammals; File No. 555-1870

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

ACTION: Notice; receipt of application.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that James T. Harvey, Ph.D., Moss Landing Marine Laboratories, 8272 Moss Landing Road, Moss Landing, CA 95039, has applied in due form for a permit to conduct scientific research on harbor seals (*Phoca vitulina*).

DATES: Written, telefaxed, or e-mail comments must be received on or before January 29, 2007.

ADDRESSES: The application and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment (See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**).

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on this application should be mailed to the Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, F/PR1, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this particular request would be appropriate.

Comments may also be submitted by facsimile at (301)427-2521, provided the facsimile is confirmed by hard copy submitted by mail and postmarked no later than the closing date of the comment period.

Comments may also be submitted by e-mail. The mailbox address for providing e-mail comments is NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov. Include in the subject line of the e-mail comment the following document identifier: File No. 555-1870.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Amy Sloan or Dr. Tammy Adams, (301)713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject permit is requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (MMPA; 16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), and the

regulations governing the taking and importing of marine mammals (50 CFR part 216).

The applicant proposes to examine the biology and ecology of harbor seals and monitor health and condition of coastal populations of harbor seals in California, Oregon, Washington, and Alaska over a 5-year period. The primary hypotheses are: (1) actual abundance can be determined using aerial surveys and a correction factor, and distinct stocks exist latitudinally; (2) seals are a major (>5%) source of natural mortality for nearshore fishes and cephalopods; (3) pollutants and anthropogenic inputs are compromising seal health; (4) human disturbance causes increased energetic costs and seals can have significant effects on fisheries; (5) dispersal of juvenile harbor seals increases survival; and (6) male harbor seals establish underwater territories and maintain hierarchies using underwater vocalizations and aggression. To test these hypotheses researchers will capture a maximum of 670 harbor seals annually. An additional 2,910 individuals may be taken annually via Level B harassment by incidental disturbance during capture or scat collection and exposure to playback of vocalizations. Animals captured would have some or all of the following procedures done: mass and morphometrics, blubber depth and biopsy, lavage/enema, flipper tagging and instrument application, blood sample, swabs, and skin and hair sampling. The applicant requests up to two incidental mortalities per year.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, NMFS is forwarding copies of this application to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Documents may be reviewed in the following locations:

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) 427-2521; and

Northwest Region, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, BIN C15700, Bldg. 1, Seattle, WA 98115-0700; phone (206) 526-6150; fax (206) 526-6426;

Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668; phone (907) 586-7221; fax (907) 586-7249; and

Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213; phone (562) 980-4001; fax (562)980-4018.

Dated: December 20, 2006.

P. Michael Payne,

*Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education
Division, Office of Protected Resources,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. E6-22332 Filed 12-28-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Determination under the African Growth and Opportunity Act

December 22, 2006.

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

ACTION: Directive to the Commissioner
of Customs and Border Protection.

SUMMARY: The Committee for the
Implementation of Textile Agreements
(CITA) has determined that certain
textile and apparel goods from Mali
shall be treated as “handloomed,
handmade, folklore articles, or ethnic
printed fabrics” and qualify for
preferential treatment under the African
Growth and Opportunity Act. Imports of
eligible products from Mali with an
appropriate visa will qualify for duty-
free treatment.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 16, 2007.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Anna Flaaten, International Trade
Specialist, Office of Textiles and
Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce,
(202) 482-3400.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Sections 112(a) and 112(b)(6) of
the African Growth and Opportunity Act
(Title I of the Trade and Development Act of
2000, Pub. L. No. 106-200) (“AGOA”), as
amended by Section 7(c) of the AGOA
Acceleration Act of 2004 (Pub. L. 108-274)
 (“AGOA Acceleration Act”) (19 U.S.C. §§
3721(a) and (b)(6)); Sections 2 and 5 of
Executive Order No. 13191 of January 17,
2001; Sections 25-27 and Paras. 13-14 of
Presidential Proclamation 7912 of June 29,
2005.

AGOA provides preferential tariff
treatment for imports of certain textile
and apparel products of beneficiary sub-
Saharan African countries, including
hand-loomed, handmade, or folklore
articles of a beneficiary country that are
certified as such by the competent
authority in the beneficiary country.
The AGOA Acceleration Act further
expanded AGOA by adding ethnic
printed fabrics to the list of textile and
apparel products made in the
beneficiary sub-Saharan African
countries that may be eligible for the
preferential treatment described in

section 112(a) of the AGOA. In
Executive Order 13191 (January 17,
2001) and Presidential Proclamation
7912 (June 29, 2005), the President
authorized CITA to consult with
beneficiary sub-Saharan African
countries and to determine which, if
any, particular textile and apparel goods
shall be treated as being hand-loomed,
handmade, folklore articles, or ethnic
printed fabrics. (66 FR 7271-72 and 70
FR 37959, 37961 & 63)

In a letter to the Commissioner of
Customs dated January 18, 2001, the
United States Trade Representative
directed Customs to require that
importers provide an appropriate export
visa from a beneficiary sub-Saharan
African country to obtain preferential
treatment under section 112(a) of the
AGOA (66 FR 7837). The first digit of
the visa number corresponds to one of
nine groupings of textile and apparel
products that are eligible for preferential
tariff treatment. Grouping “9” is
reserved for handmade, hand-loomed,
folklore articles, or ethnic printed
fabrics.

CITA has consulted with Malian
authorities and has determined that
hand-loomed fabrics, hand-loomed
articles (e.g., hand-loomed rugs, scarves,
place mats, and tablecloths), handmade
articles made from hand-loomed fabrics,
the folklore articles described in Annex
A, and ethnic printed fabrics described
in Annex B to this notice, if produced
in and exported from Mali, are eligible
for preferential tariff treatment under
section 112(a) of the AGOA, as
amended. After further consultations
with Malian authorities, CITA may
determine that additional textile and
apparel goods shall be treated as
folklore articles or ethnic printed
fabrics. In the letter published below,
CITA directs the Commissioner of
Customs and Border Protection to allow
duty-free entry of such products under
U.S. Harmonized Tariff Schedule
subheading 9819.11.27 if accompanied
by an appropriate AGOA visa in
grouping “9”.

Philip J. Martello,

*Acting Chairman, Committee for the
Implementation of Textile Agreements.*

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

December 22, 2006.

Commissioner,
*Bureau of Customs and Border Protection,
Washington, DC 20229.*

Dear Commissioner: The Committee for the
Implementation of Textiles Agreements
 (“CITA”), pursuant to Sections 112(a) and
(b)(6) of the African Growth and Opportunity
Act (Title I of the Trade and Development
Act of 2000, Pub. L. No. 106-200) (“AGOA”),

as amended by Section 7(c) of the AGOA
Acceleration Act of 2004 (Pub. L. 108-274)
 (“AGOA Acceleration Act”) (19 U.S.C. §§
3721(a) and (b)(6)), Executive Order No.
13191 of January 17, 2001, and Presidential
Proclamation 7912 of June 29, 2005, has
determined, effective on January 16, 2007,
that the following articles shall be treated as
“handloomed, handmade, folklore articles,
and ethnic printed fabrics” under the AGOA:
(a) handloomed fabrics, handloomed articles
(e.g., handloomed rugs, scarves, placemats,
and tablecloths), and hand-made articles
made from handloomed fabrics, if made in
Mali from fabric handloomed in Mali; (b) the
folklore articles described in Annex A; and
(c) ethnic printed fabrics described in Annex
B, if made in Mali. Such articles are eligible
for duty-free treatment only if entered under
subheading 9819.11.27 and accompanied by
a properly completed visa for product
grouping “9”, in accordance with the
provisions of the Visa Arrangement between
the Government of Mali and the Government
of the United States Concerning Textile and
Apparel Articles Claiming Preferential Tariff
Treatment under Section 112 of the Trade
and Development Act of 2000. After further
consultations with Malian authorities, CITA
may determine that additional textile and
apparel goods shall be treated as folklore
articles or ethnic printed fabrics.

Sincerely,
Philip J. Martello,
*Acting Chairman, Committee for the
Implementation of Textile Agreements.*

ANNEX A: Malian Folklore Products

CITA has determined that the following
textile and apparel goods shall be treated as
folklore articles for purposes of the AGOA if
made in Mali. Articles must be ornamented
in characteristic Malian or regional folk style.
An article may not include modern features
such as zippers, elastic, elasticized fabrics,
snaps, or hook-and-pile fasteners (such as
velcro or similar holding fabric). An article
may not incorporate patterns that are not
traditional or historical to Mali, such as
airplanes, buses, cowboys, or cartoon
characters and may not incorporate designs
referencing holidays or festivals not common
to traditional Malian culture, such as
Halloween and Thanksgiving.

Eligible folklore articles:

- (a) **Hand-woven Blanket/Tapestry:** Strips of
handloomed cotton or wool or wool-
cotton blend fabric, 3-10 inches wide,
hand or machine sewn together to make
a larger piece of fabric. Dimensions and
designs depend on use. Uses include
scarves, body wrap, blankets,
bedspreads, and interior room decoration
accessory. Designs are woven into the
fabric using dyed yarns or painted,
stenciled or printed after assembly.
- (b) **Women's Boubou:** A loose-fitting garment
with large open armholes made of bright
solid colored machine-made African
brocade (also called basin) or hand-
woven fabric. It is accompanied by a
matching wrap skirt and head wrap. The
garment is decorated with hand or
machine-sewn embroidery around a
round or U-shaped neckline.