

(*Megaptera novaeangliae*), finback whale (*Balaenoptera physalus*), and minke whale (*Galeorhinus galeus*) for purposes of scientific research.

DATES: Written or telefaxed comments must be received on or before May 15, 2000.

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

Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13130,

Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289); and

Northeast Region, NMFS, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930, (978/281-9250).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ruth Johnson, 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.*), 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 regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR 222-226).

The applicant proposes to continue and extend photo-identification and biopsy sampling program of large whales. The following table outlines the animals to be taken and types of take requested annually primarily in the Gulf of Maine and occasionally from the New York Bight to the U.S./Canada border.

Species	# Photo-ID	#Animals Biopsy Sampled	#Takes per animal	#Incidental harassment of target species	#Biopsy samples Import/ Canada
Humpback whale	200	50	5	300	50
Finback whale	200	50	5	400	50
Minke whale	50	15	5	75	50

Non-Target Species	# Non-Target Animals Incidentally harassed
Harbor porpoise	Unlimited
Atlantic white-sided dolphin	"
Harbor seal	"
Gray seal	"

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

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on this application should be mailed to the Chief, Permits and Documentation 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) 713-0376, provided the facsimile is confirmed by hard copy submitted by mail and postmarked no later than the closing date of the comment period. Please note that comments will not be accepted by e-mail or by other electronic media.

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.

Dated: April 4, 2000.

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

[FR Doc. 00-9124 Filed 4-12-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 040300D]

Marine Mammals; File No. 522-1569

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

ACTION: Receipt of application.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Randall S. Wells, Ph.D., Sarasota Dolphin Research Program, c/o Mote Marine Laboratory, 1600 Ken Thompson Parkway, Sarasota, Florida 34236, has applied in due form for a permit to take bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops*

truncatus) for purposes of scientific research.

DATES: Written or telefaxed comments must be received on or before May 15, 2000.

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

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

Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive, St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432 (727/570-5312).

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on this application should be mailed to the Chief, Permits and Documentation 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) 713-0376, provided the facsimile is confirmed by hard copy

submitted by mail and postmarked no later than the closing date of the comment period. Please note that comments will not be accepted by e-mail or by other electronic media.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jeannie Drevenak, 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 seeks authorization to harass up to 120 bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) annually during the conduct of capture, examination, sampling, marking, and release activities. The research will take place over a five year period in the shallow coastal waters of central west Florida. Individual animals may be recaptured and released up to three times annually.

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

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.

Dated: April 5, 2000.

Ann D. Terbush,

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

[FR Doc. 00-9229 Filed 4-12-00; 8:45 am]

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COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Implementation of an Import Sublimit for Certain Man-Made Fiber Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in Belarus

April 7, 2000.

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

ACTION: Issuing a directive to the Commissioner of Customs implementing a sublimit.

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 14, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Naomi Freeman, 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.gov>. For information on embargoes and quota re-openings, call (202) 482-3715.

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.

Pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Governments of the United States and Belarus, dated February 17, 2000, a notice published in the **Federal Register** on March 22, 2000 (65 FR 15315) established a new limit for Category 622 of 11,500,000 square meters, effective for the period January 1, 2000 through December 31, 2000. This notice cancelled and superseded the limit set forth in **Federal Register** notice 64 FR 71982, published on December 22, 1999.

In addition, both governments agreed to establish a sublimit of 1,000,000 square meters for the entry for consumption and withdrawal from warehouse for consumption of glass fiber fabric in Category 622-L weighing 185 grams or less per square meter. This directive implements the Category 622-L sublimit for the period that began on January 1, 2000 and extends through December 31, 2000.

This sublimit may be revised if Belarus becomes a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the United States applies the WTO agreement to Belarus.

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).

Troy H. Cribb,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

April 7, 2000.

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 March 16, 2000. That directive concerns imports of certain man-made fiber textile products in Category 622,

produced or manufactured in Belarus and exported during the twelve-month period which began on January 1, 2000 and extends through December 30, 2000.

Pursuant to section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854); Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, effective on April 14, 2000, you are directed to prohibit entry into the United States for consumption and withdrawal from warehouse for consumption of glass fiber fabric products in Category 622-L, produced or manufactured in Belarus and exported during the twelve-month period which began on January 1, 2000 and extends through December 31, 2000, in excess of 1,000,000 square meters¹.

Textile products in Category 622-L which have been exported to the United States prior to January 1, 2000 shall not be subject to the sublimit established in this directive.

This sublimit may be revised if Belarus becomes a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the United States applies the WTO agreement to Belarus.

Import charges to the sublimit will be provided at a later date.

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,

Troy H. Cribb,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

[FR Doc.00-9179 Filed 4-12-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Navy

Meeting of the Ocean Research Advisory Panel

AGENCY: Department of the Navy, DOD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Ocean Research Advisory Panel (ORAP) will meet to discuss National Oceanographic Partnership Program (NOPP) activities. All sessions of the meeting will remain open to the public.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Wednesday, 26 April, 2000 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at The Brookings Institution, Somers Room, 1775 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC.

¹ Category 622-L (within Category 622): only HTS numbers 7019.51.9010, 7019.52.4010, 7019.52.9010, 7019.59.4010, and 7019.59.9010. The sublimit has not been adjusted to account for any imports exported after December 31, 1999.