

vessels due to the attainment of the YT bycatch TAC. Since there will be no additional observer bycatch data for the NLCA due to this closure, the final bycatch rate will be applied to NLCA RSA Program compensation trips. For example, with a YT bycatch rate of 0.65 percent (i.e., for every 100 lb (45.4 kg) of scallops caught, 0.65 lb (0.29 kg) of yellowtail are caught), approximately 43 percent, or 100,000 lb (45,359 kg), of the NLCA set-aside scallops can be harvested before the 644 lb (292 kg) YT bycatch TAC is caught. About 57 percent, or 130,000 lb (58,967 kg), of the scallops that have been preliminarily allocated to RSA projects to fund research will not be available.

As of August 8, 2006, the CAII commercial YT bycatch TAC had not been caught. Although the current CAII YT bycatch rate does not indicate the 9,127-lb (4,140 kg) CAII RSA YT bycatch TAC will be caught, the bycatch rate could increase, and CAII could close to RSA compensation trips before all of the set-aside scallops are harvested. There is an additional 130,201 lb (59,058 kg) of scallops available from CAII that were not allocated to any RSA project.

If a project is unable to harvest its allocated scallop compensation due to a YT bycatch TAC closure, project coordinators would have the option to take unused compensation from either CAII, if available, or open scallop areas. Since scallop catch rates are greater in CAII (approximately 2,600 lb (1,179 kg) per day fished) than open areas (approximately 1,880 lb (853 kg) per day fished), it is likely project coordinators will request scallops from CAII before open areas. However, if the CAII YT bycatch rate increases enough to trigger a closure before sufficient scallop compensation can be harvested, researchers would need to harvest scallops from open areas to offset the costs of research. If scallops need to be harvested from open areas, vessels will need an EFP to exempt them from scallop open area DAS as specified at § 648.53(b)(2). Vessels authorized to take an open area trip will have a scallop possession limit consistent with the amount of compensation authorized in the access area(s).

Regulations under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act require publication of this notification to provide interested parties the opportunity to comment on proposed EFPs. EFP modifications and extensions may be granted without further notice if they are deemed essential to facilitate completion of the proposed research and minimal so as

not to change the scope or impact of the initially approved EFP request.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: August 11, 2006.

James P. Burgess,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E6-13550 Filed 8-16-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 081106B]

Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; General Provisions for Domestic Fisheries; Application for Exempted Fishing Permits (EFPs)

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

ACTION: Notification of a proposal for an EFP to conduct experimental fishing; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Administrator, Northeast Region, NMFS (Regional Administrator) has made a preliminary determination that the subject Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) application contains all the required information and warrants further consideration. The Regional Administrator has also made a preliminary determination that the activities authorized under the EFP would be consistent with the goals and objectives of the Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery Management Plan (FMP). However, further review and consultation may be necessary before a final determination is made to issue the EFP. Therefore, NMFS announces that the Regional Administrator proposes to issue an EFP that would allow one or more vessels to conduct fishing operations that are otherwise restricted by the regulations governing the fisheries of the northeastern United States. The EFP would allow for exemptions from certain Atlantic sea scallop possession and landings restrictions.

DATES: Comments on this document must be received on or before September 1, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be submitted by any of the following methods:

- Mail: Patricia A. Kurkul, Regional Administrator, NMFS, Northeast Regional Office, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930. Mark the outside of the envelope, "Comments on

Coonamesett Farm Inc. EFP Proposal (DA6-187);"

- E-mail: DA6-187@noaa.gov, include "Comments on Coonamesett Farm Inc. EFP Proposal" in the subject line of the e-mail;

- Fax: (978) 281-9135.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ryan Silva, Fishery Management Specialist, phone: 978-281-9326, fax: 978-281-9135.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This project would attempt to observe, using video surveillance, how sea turtles interact with two scallop dredge designs. The control dredge would be a standard 13-ft (3.9-m) New Bedford-style scallop dredge. The experimental dredge will be a 13-ft (3.9-m) New Bedford-style scallop dredge with modifications to the cutting bar and bale strengthening bars to reduce the likelihood of turtle entrapment in the area between the depressor plate and the cutting bar.

The proposed research activity would occur between August 1, 2006, and July 31, 2007. The exempted vessel(s) would fish in areas open to general category vessels on the continental shelf off the coasts of New Jersey, Maryland, and Virginia. The vessel would be allowed to fish a maximum of 20 days under this EFP, with a total scallop catch not to exceed 8000 lb (3,629 kg) (400 lb/day) / (181 kg/day)). The vessel would conduct approximately 150 tows ranging from 15 - 49 minutes each, at speeds around 4 knots. Previous research in this area has shown bycatch to be limited. It is expected that fish bycatch may consist of 5,000 lb (2,268 kg) of little skate, less than 50 lb (22.7 kg) of monkfish, and approximately 300 lb (136 kg) of flatfish. All marketable scallops, and allowed retention of multispecies and monkfish, would be sold. Vessels will not be allowed to exceed the possession limit for any species other than sea scallops. All other incidental catch would be returned to the sea.

Regulations under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act require publication of this notification to provide interested parties the opportunity to comment on applications for proposed EFPs. The applicant may place requests for minor modifications and extensions to the EFP throughout the year. EFP modifications and extensions may be granted without further notice if they are deemed essential to facilitate completion of the proposed research and minimal so as not to change the scope or impact of the initially approved EFP request.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: August 11, 2006.

James P. Burgess,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E6-13551 Filed 8-16-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No. PTO-C-2006-0044]

Notice of Roundtable on the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Treaty on the Protection of the Rights of Broadcasting Organizations

AGENCY: United States Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice announcing public forum.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) and United States Copyright Office (USCO) announce a public roundtable discussion concerning the work at the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR) on a proposed Treaty On the Protection of the Rights of Broadcasting Organizations. Members of the public are invited to attend the roundtable, or to participate in the roundtable discussion, on the topics outlined in the supplementary information section of this notice.

DATES: The roundtable will be held on Tuesday, September 5, 2006, beginning at 1 p.m. and ending at 3 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The roundtable will be held in the Atrium Conference Room at the USPTO, 600 Dulany Street, Madison West, 10th Floor, Alexandria, VA 22313. Requests for participation as a member of the roundtable are required and should be directed to the USPTO, 600 Dulany Street, Madison West, 10th Floor, Alexandria, VA 22313, marked to the attention of Jill Taylor. You may also submit requests by facsimile at 571-273-0085 or by electronic mail through the Internet to jill.taylor@USPTO.gov. Requests for participation as a member of the roundtable should indicate the following information:

1. The name of the person desiring to participate;
2. The organization or organizations represented by that person, if any;
3. Contact information (address, telephone, and e-mail);
4. Information on the specific focus or interest of the participant (or his or her organization) and any questions or

issues the participant would like to raise.

The deadline for receipt of requests to participate in the roundtable is 5 p.m. on Thursday, August 31, 2006. Attendance is limited to the first 40 respondents.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jill Taylor by telephone at 571-272-8083, by facsimile at 571-273-0085, by electronic mail at jill.taylor@USPTO.gov, or by mail addressed to the USPTO, 600 Dulany Street, Madison West, 10th Floor, Alexandria, VA 22313, marked to the attention of Jill Taylor.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

For the past eight years and since the first meeting of the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights in November 1998, WIPO has been addressing the topic of updating the protection of the rights of broadcasting organizations. Although broadcasters rights are protected under some existing international agreements, such as under the 1961 Convention for the Protection of Performers, Producers of Phonograms and Broadcasting Organizations and the World Trade Organization's Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights, there has been increasing concern that changes in technology and the opening up of much of the world to commercial broadcasting, have made the protection provided in those agreements ineffective to protect broadcast signals against piracy.

At the September 2005 WIPO General Assembly, the decision was taken to hold additional meetings of the SCCR to permit further discussion of the possible treaty and to invite the 2006 WIPO General Assembly to convene a Diplomatic Conference in December 2006 or at an appropriate time in 2007.

WIPO posts various documents from their meetings, such as reports, member state submissions, meeting agendas, and [official] texts prepared by the Chair of the SCCR. The most recent text available from July 31, 2006—"Revised Draft Basic Proposal for The WIPO Treaty on the Protection of Broadcasting Organizations" can be found at http://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/doc_details.jsp?doc_id=64712. On August 1, 2006, the United States made a submission to WIPO addressing the issue of "netcasting" which is available at <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/dcom/olia/> and will shortly be available on the WIPO Web site.

Throughout this process in WIPO, many points of view have been

represented, including those of developed and developing countries, and many non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and numerous industry, creator and content owner groups. The USPTO and USCO have participated in several informal meetings with interested parties such as broadcasters, netcasters, telecom companies, Internet service providers, content industries, creators and other NGOs, in order to obtain views and information relevant to the deliberations in the SCCR on this proposed treaty.

In order to allow further opportunity for interested parties to comment, USPTO and USCO are convening this roundtable to provide another forum for such parties to provide their views of and additional information related to the proposed treaty. In particular, the participants should be prepared to identify and discuss more fully the issues and problems associated with the recent text available from July 31, 2006, the "Revised Draft Basic Proposal for The WIPO Treaty on the Protection of Broadcasting Organizations."

Dated: August 15, 2006.

Stephen M. Pinkos,

Acting Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Acting Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[FR Doc. E6-13680 Filed 8-16-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[DOD-2006-OS-0177]

Manual for Courts-Martial; Proposed Amendments

AGENCY: Joint Service Committee on Military Justice (JSC), DoD.

ACTION: Notice of Proposed Amendments to the Manual for Courts-Martial, United States (2005 ed.) and Notice of Public Meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice extends the comments period and changes the address to send the comment on the Manual for Courts-Martial; Proposed Amendments notice which was published on August 10, 2006 (71 FR 45780).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lieutenant Colonel L. Peter Yob, 703-588-6744.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On August 10, 2006 (71 FR 45780), the Department of Defense published a notice on Proposed Amendments to the Manual for Courts-Martial, United States (205