

mortalities associated with the research are also requested.

FWS (1068) requests a five-year permit for takes of juvenile and adult, threatened, southern Oregon/northern California coast (SONNC) coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*) associated with monitoring projects in the Klamath and Trinity River watersheds within the Evolutionarily Significant Unit (ESU). The studies consist of juvenile coho salmon distribution and abundance surveys, and spawner surveys for adults, for which ESA-listed fish are proposed to be taken. ESA-listed juveniles will be captured, anesthetized, handled (identified and measured), allowed to recover from the anesthetic, and released. ESA-listed adults will be observed, and carcasses will be handled. ESA-listed juvenile indirect mortalities associated with the research are also requested.

RRC (1069) requests a five-year permit for takes of juvenile, threatened, SONNC coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*) associated with fish population and habitat studies on RRC ownership properties in the Smith River Basin within the ESU. The studies consist of coho salmon distribution and abundance surveys for which ESA-listed fish are proposed to be taken. ESA-listed fish will be captured, anesthetized, handled (identified and measured), allowed to recover from the anesthetic, and released. ESA-listed salmon indirect mortalities associated with the research are also requested.

Dr. Isaac Wirgin (1107) requests authorization to conduct research on shortnose sturgeon using tissue samples (fin clips, barbels, blood) to isolate DNA. The purpose of the research is to determine if genetic differences exist among populations of shortnose sturgeon that span the species' entire range along the Atlantic coast.

Those individuals requesting a hearing on these requests for permits should set out the specific reasons why a hearing would be appropriate (see ADDRESSES). The holding of such a hearing is at the discretion of the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA. All statements and opinions contained in the above application summaries are those of the applicant and do not necessarily reflect the views of NMFS.

Dated: December 11, 1997.

Joseph Blum,

*Acting Chief, Endangered Species Division,
Office of Protected Resources, National
Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 97-32947 Filed 12-16-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 120897C]

Marine Mammals; Scientific Research Permit (PHF# 350-1434)

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

ACTION: Receipt of application.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Dr. Brendan Kelly, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Juneau, Alaska 99801, has applied in due form for a permit to take ringed seals (*Phoca hispida*) for purposes of scientific research.

DATES: Written or telefaxed comments must be received on or before January 16, 1998.

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 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289); and

Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668 (907/586-7721).

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 email or 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.

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 purpose of the proposed research is to investigate the behavioral responses of ringed seals to noise disturbances, the role of sound in ringed seal navigation, the under-ice foraging behavior of ringed seals, and improvements to methods for enumerating ringed seals. The study will take place between 15 January and 1 July each year in 1998-2002 in U.S. waters of the Bering, Chukchi, and/or Beaufort Sea, depending on ice conditions and appropriate overlap with aerial surveys conducted by other agencies.

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.

Dated: December 9, 1997.

Ann D. Terbush,

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

[FR Doc. 97-32866 Filed 12-16-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Announcement of Import Restraint Limits for Certain Cotton, Wool, Man-Made Fiber, Silk Blend and Other Vegetable Fiber Textiles and Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in Macau

December 9, 1997.

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

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

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Helen L. LeGrande, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-4212. For information on the quota status of these limits, refer to the Quota Status Reports posted on the bulletin boards of each Customs port or call (202) 927-5850. 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.

The import restraint limits for textile products, produced or manufactured in Macau and exported during the period January 1, 1998 through December 31, 1998 are based on limits notified to the Textiles Monitoring Body pursuant to the Uruguay Round Agreement on Textiles and Clothing (ATC).

Pursuant to the provisions of the ATC, the second stage of the integration commences on January 1, 1998 (see 60 FR 21075, published on May 1, 1995). Accordingly, certain previously restrained categories may have been modified or eliminated. Integrated products will no longer be subject to quota. CITA has informed Macau of its intent to continue the bilateral visa arrangement for those products.

In the letter published below, the Chairman of CITA directs the Commissioner of Customs to establish the 1998 limits. The limits for certain categories have been reduced for carryforward applied to the 1997 limits.

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 61 FR 66263, published on December 17, 1996). Also see 62 FR 51832, published on October 3, 1997. Information regarding the 1998 CORRELATION will be published in the **Federal Register** at a later date.

Troy H. Cribb,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

December 9, 1997.

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 January 1, 1998, entry into the United States for consumption and withdrawal from warehouse for consumption of cotton, wool, man-made fiber, silk blend and other vegetable fiber textiles and textile products in the following categories, produced or manufactured in Macau and exported during the twelve-month period beginning on January 1, 1998 and extending through December 31, 1998, in excess of the following levels of restraint:

Category	Twelve-month restraint limit
Levels in Group I	
219	2,954,722 square meters.

Category	Twelve-month restraint limit
225	10,341,527 square meters.
313	7,386,805 square meters.
314	1,231,134 square meters.
315	3,693,403 square meters.
317	7,386,805 square meters.
326	2,954,722 square meters.
333/334/335/833/834/835.	290,585 dozen of which not more than 153,070 dozen shall be in Categories 333/335/833/835.
336/836	66,619 dozen.
338	353,663 dozen.
339	1,481,367 dozen.
340	336,030 dozen.
341	215,902 dozen.
342	97,673 dozen.
345	59,725 dozen.
347/348/847	837,111 dozen.
350/850	68,874 dozen.
351/851	78,140 dozen.
359-C/659-C ¹	390,694 kilograms.
359-V ²	130,232 kilograms.
611	2,954,722 square meters.
625/626/627/628/629	7,386,805 square meters.
633/634/635	581,749 dozen.
638/639/838	1,811,583 dozen.
640	136,242 dozen.
641/840	234,164 dozen.
642/842	136,426 dozen.
645/646	319,364 dozen.
647/648	644,254 dozen.
659-S ³	137,250 kilograms.
Group II	
400-431, 433-438, 440-448, 459pt. ⁴ and 469pt. ⁵ , as a group.	1,477,266 square meters equivalent.
Sublevel in Group II	
445/446	78,669 dozen.

¹Category 359-C: only HTS numbers 6103.42.2025, 6103.49.8034, 6104.62.1020, 6104.69.8010, 6114.20.0048, 6114.20.0052, 6203.42.2010, 6203.42.2090, 6204.62.2010, 6211.32.0010, 6211.32.0025 and 6211.42.0010; Category 659-C: only HTS numbers 6103.23.0055, 6103.43.2020, 6103.43.2025, 6103.49.2000, 6103.49.8038, 6104.63.1020, 6104.63.1030, 6104.69.1000, 6104.69.8014, 6114.30.3044, 6114.30.3054, 6203.43.2010, 6203.43.2090, 6203.49.1010, 6204.63.1510, 6204.69.1010, 6210.10.9010, 6211.33.0010, 6211.33.0017 and 6211.43.0010.

²Category 359-V: only HTS numbers 6103.19.2030, 6103.19.9030, 6104.12.0040, 6104.19.8040, 6110.20.1022, 6110.20.1024, 6110.20.2030, 6110.20.2035, 6110.90.9044, 6110.90.9046, 6201.92.2010, 6202.92.2020, 6203.19.1030, 6203.19.9030, 6204.12.0040, 6204.19.8040, 6211.32.0070 and 6211.42.0070.

³Category 659-S: only HTS numbers 6112.31.0010, 6112.31.0020, 6112.41.0010, 6112.41.0020, 6112.41.0030, 6112.41.0040, 6211.11.1010, 6211.11.1020, 6211.12.1010 and 6211.12.1020.

⁴Category 459pt.: all HTS numbers except 6405.20.6030, 6405.20.6060, 6405.20.6090, 6406.99.1505 and 6406.99.1560.

⁵Category 469pt.: all HTS numbers except 5601.29.0020, 5603.94.1010 and 6406.10.9020.

The limits set forth above are subject to adjustment pursuant to the provisions of the ATC and administrative arrangements notified to the Textiles Monitoring Body.

Products in the above categories exported during 1997 shall be charged to the applicable category limits for that year (see directive dated December 20, 1996) to the extent of any unfilled balances. In the event the limits established for that period have been exhausted by previous entries, such products shall be charged to the limits set forth in this directive.

Products for integration in 1998 listed in the **Federal Register** notice published on May 1, 1995 (60 FR 21075) which are exported during 1997 shall be charged to the applicable limits to the extent of any unfilled balances. After January 1, 1998, should those unfilled balances be exhausted, such products shall no longer be charged to any limit, due to integration of these products into GATT 1994.

CITA has informed Macau of its intent to continue the bilateral visa arrangement for those products. An export visa will continue to be required, if applicable, for products integrated on and after January 1, 1998, before entry is permitted into the United States.

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 these actions fall 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. 97-32893 Filed 12-16-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DR-F

COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Increase of an Import Restraint Level for Certain Cotton and Man-Made Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in Mexico

December 12, 1997

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

ACTION: Issuing a directive to the Commissioner of Customs increasing a level.

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 17, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Roy Unger, International Trade Specialist,