

National Coalition for Marine Conservation report on prey/predator interactions and management implications, development of a draft research plan for Gray's Reef State National Marine Sanctuary, Sargassum management status, status of Oculina Bank research efforts, updated Southeast Area Monitoring and Assessment Program (SEAMAP) and Minerals Management Service (MMS) bottom mapping efforts, status of deepwater habitat mapping initiative, NOAA initiatives (Islands in the Stream, Sustainable Seas, and Ocean and Coastal Exploration), and expansion of the Council's Habitat Homepage.

A joint meeting of the Marine Protected Areas Advisory Panel, Habitat AP, Coral AP, Snapper Grouper AP, Law Enforcement AP, Wreckfish AP, will be held August 29–30, 2001. Advisory panel members will hear a presentation on current data collection methods and analysis in regards to marine protected areas (MPAs). Following the presentation, AP members will discuss proposed MPAs in the south Atlantic based on location, species composition, habitat composition, enforcement issues, and social and economic importance. Based on these discussions, the AP members will develop recommendations on which sites will be forwarded to the Marine Protected Areas Committee.

The Council's Marine Protected Areas Committee will meet August 31, 2001, to review recommendations regarding MPA sites from the joint AP meeting and develop Committee recommendations to forward to the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before these groups for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305 (c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to the Council office (see **ADDRESSES**) by August 24, 2001.

Dated: August 2, 2001.

Richard W. Surdi,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 01–19903 Filed 8–7–01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–S

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING:
Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

TIME AND DATE: 11 a.m., Friday, August 10, 2001.

PLACE: 1155 21st St., NW., Washington, DC, 9th Floor Conference Room.

STATUS: Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: Surveillance Matters.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Jean A. Webb, 202–418–5100.

Jean A. Webb,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 01–20052 Filed 8–6–01; 3:49 pm]

BILLING CODE 6351–01–M

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING:
Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

TIME AND DATE: 11 a.m., Friday, August 17, 2001.

PLACE: 1155 21st St., NW., Washington, DC, 9th Floor Conference Room.

STATUS: Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: Surveillance Matters.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Jean A. Webb, 202–418–5100.

Jean A. Webb,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 01–20053 Filed 8–6–01; 3:49 pm]

BILLING CODE 6351–01–M

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING:
Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

TIME AND DATE: 11 a.m., Friday, August 24, 2001.

PLACE: 1155 21st St., NW., Washington, DC, 9th Floor Conference Room.

STATUS: Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: Surveillance Matters.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Jean A. Webb, 202–418–5100.

Jean A. Webb,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 01–20054 Filed 8–6–01; 3:49 pm]

BILLING CODE 6351–01–M

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING:
Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

TIME AND DATE: 11 a.m., Friday, August 31, 2001.

PLACE: 1155 21st St., NW., Washington, DC, 9th Floor Conference Room.

STATUS: Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: Surveillance Matters.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Jean A. Webb, 202–418–5100.

Jean A. Webb,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 01–20055 Filed 8–6–01; 3:49 pm]

BILLING CODE 6351–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Proposed Buy American Act Exemption for Commercial U.S.-Made End Products

AGENCY: Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Request for public comments.

SUMMARY: The Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics) is seeking information that will assist it in evaluating a proposed public interest exception to the Buy American Act (BAA) in procurements subject to the Trade Agreements Act (TAA) for commercial U.S.-made end products, substantially transformed in the United States, that do not qualify as domestic end products under the BAA. A similar exception was issued for U.S.-made information technology products on May 16, 1997. Interested parties are invited to submit written comments or recommendations relative to this proposed public interest exception.

DATES: Comments must be received no later than September 24, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Send all comments to Domenico C. Cipicchio, Deputy Director, Defense Procurement, Contract

Policy & Administration, OUSD (AT&L), 3060 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-3060.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Susan M. Hildner, Procurement Analyst, Defense Procurement, Defense Systems Procurement Strategies, OUSD (AT&L), 3060 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-3060, (703) 695-4258, or e-mail to Susan.Hildner@osd.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The BAA requires the Government to purchase for public use only domestic end products. For a manufactured end product, this means a product that has been manufactured in the United States substantially all from articles, materials, or supplies in mind, produced, or manufactured in the United States. DoD considers a product to be "substantially all from articles, materials, or supplies mined, produced, manufactured in the United States" if the cost of its qualifying country components and its components that are mined, produced, or manufactured in the United States exceeds 50 percent of the cost of all its components. Under the TAA, the BAA is waived for eligible products from certain designated countries. The country of origin for eligible products is the country in which the articles/components (wherever the origin) have been substantially transformed into an article of commerce with a name, character, or use distinct from that of the articles from which it was transformed. Since the TAA applies only to products of foreign countries, the BAA is not waived for products substantially transformed in the United States from mostly foreign components, *i.e.*, U.S.-made end products that do not qualify as domestic end products. This results in treating such U.S.-made end

products less favorably than designated country end products, which might encourage companies to manufacture products or locate manufacturing facilities in a designated foreign country rather than in the United States. Because of the different rules of origin, U.S.-made end products that do not qualify as domestic end products are at a competitive disadvantage against designated foreign countries when competing for DoD procurements (because of the application of the 50 percent evaluation factor to U.S.-made end products that do not qualify as domestic end products). Additionally, the different rules of origin result in a disproportionately burdensome record-keeping requirement on firms offering both domestic and U.S.-made end products. Because of the component content requirement of the BAA, vendors must determine, control, and track the source of components. In today's global economy, this has become an extremely difficult, if not impossible, task and create a disincentive for commercial companies to sell to DoD. On the other hand, this burden does not apply to vendors from designated countries, because the TAA substantial transformation rule of origin does not require tracking the origin of components. This is especially true for commercial items. Given the impact of the different rules of origin, it seems appropriate to determine that application of the BAA to commercial U.S.-made end products is inconsistent with the public interest in procurements subject to the TAA. The proposed exception will eliminate the burdensome record-keeping requirements for U.S. companies, allow DoD to procure U.S.-made commercial

items if they are lower in cost, allow DoD access to state-of-the-art commercial technology, and reduce the incentive to move end product manufacturing facilities to a designated foreign country.

Michele P. Peterson,

Executive Editor, Defense Acquisition Regulations Council.

[FR Doc. 01-19915 Filed 8-7-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5000-04-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[Transmittal No. 01-19]

36(b)(1) Arms Sales Notification

AGENCY: Department of Defense, Defense Security Cooperation Agency.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Defense is publishing the unclassified text of a section 36(b)(1) arms sales notification. This is published to fulfill the requirements of section 155 of Pub. L. 104-164 dated 21 July 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. J. Hurd, DSCA/COMPT/RM, (703) 604-6575.

The following is a copy of a letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Transmittal 01-19 with attached transmittal, policy justification, and Sensitivity of Technology.

Dated: August 1, 2001.

L.M. Bynum,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

BILLING CODE 5001-01-M