

and Constitution Avenue, Washington, DC 20230, (202) 482-5438.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Chapter 19 of the North American Free-Trade Agreement ("Agreement") establishes a mechanism to replace domestic judicial review of final determinations in antidumping and countervailing duty cases involving imports from a NAFTA country with review by independent binational panels. When a Request for Panel Review is filed, a panel is established to act in place of national courts to review expeditiously the final determination to determine whether it conforms with the antidumping or countervailing duty law of the country that made the determination.

Under Article 1904 of the Agreement, which came into force on January 1, 1994, the Government of the United States, the Government of Canada, and the Government of Mexico established *Rules of Procedure for Article 1904 Binational Panel Reviews* ("Rules"). These Rules were published in the **Federal Register** on February 23, 1994 (59 FR 8686).

A first Request for Panel Review was filed with the United States Section of the NAFTA Secretariat, pursuant to Article 1904 of the Agreement on August 29, 2008, requesting panel review of the determination described above.

The Rules provide that:

(a) A Party or interested person may challenge the final determination in whole or in part by filing a Complaint in accordance with Rule 39 within 30 days after the filing of the first Request for Panel Review (the deadline for filing a Complaint is September 29, 2008);

(b) A Party, investigating authority or interested person that does not file a Complaint but that intends to appear in support of any reviewable portion of the final determination may participate in the panel review by filing a Notice of Appearance in accordance with Rule 40 within 45 days after the filing of the first Request for Panel Review (the deadline for filing a Notice of Appearance is October 14, 2008); and

(c) The panel review shall be limited to the allegations of error of fact or law, including the jurisdiction of the investigating authority, that are set out in the Complaints filed in the panel review and the procedural and substantive defenses raised in the panel review.

Dated: September 3, 2008.

Valerie Dees,

United States Secretary, NAFTA Secretariat.
[FR Doc. E8-20738 Filed 9-5-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-GT-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

Notice and Call for Applications for the International Buyer Program for the Period January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010

AGENCY: International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice and Call for Applications for the International Buyer Program for the period January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010.

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth objectives, procedures and application review criteria associated with support for domestic trade shows by the International Buyer Program (IBP) of the U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC). This announcement covers selection for International Buyer Program participation for calendar year 2010 (January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010).

The International Buyer Program was established to bring international buyers together with U.S. firms by promoting leading U.S. trade shows in industries with high export potential. The International Buyer Program emphasizes cooperation between the DOC and trade show organizers to benefit U.S. firms exhibiting at selected events and provides practical, hands-on assistance such as export counseling and market analysis to U.S. companies interested in exporting. The assistance provided to show organizers includes worldwide overseas promotion of selected shows to potential international buyers, end-users, representatives and distributors. The worldwide promotion is executed through the offices of the DOC U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service (hereinafter referred to as the Commercial Service) in more than 70 countries representing the United States' major trading partners, and also in U.S. Embassies in countries where the Commercial Service does not maintain offices. The DOC expects to select approximately 40 trade shows for the January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010 period from among applicants to the program. Shows selected for the International Buyer Program will provide a venue for U.S. companies interested in expanding their sales into international markets. Successful show organizer applicants will be required to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the DOC. The MOA constitutes an agreement between the DOC and the show organizer specifying which responsibilities are to be undertaken by

the DOC as part of the International Buyer Program and, in turn, which responsibilities are to be undertaken by the show organizer. Anyone requesting application information will be sent a sample copy of the MOA along with the application and a copy of this **Federal Register** Notice. The responsibilities to be undertaken by the DOC will be carried out by the Commercial Service.

DATES: Applications must be received within 60 days after the publication date of this **Federal Register** Notice.

ADDRESSES: International Buyer Program, Global Trade Programs, U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1300 Pennsylvania Ave., Ronald Reagan Center, Suite 800M—Mezzanine Level—Atrium North, Washington, DC 20004. Telephone (202) 482-4207; Facsimile: (202) 482-7800; E-mail: Blanche.Ziv@mail.doc.gov (for deadline purposes, facsimile and e-mail applications will be accepted as interim applications, to be followed by signed original applications to be received within five (5) business days after the application deadline). To ensure that applications are timely received by the deadline, applicants are strongly urged to send applications by hand delivery service.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Blanche Ziv, Manager, International Buyer Program, Global Trade Programs, U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1300 Pennsylvania Ave., Ronald Reagan Center, Suite 800M—Mezzanine Level—Atrium North, Washington, DC 20004; Telephone (202) 482-4207; Facsimile: (202) 482-7800; E-mail: Blanche.Ziv@mail.doc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Commercial Service is accepting applications for the International Buyer Program for trade events taking place between January 1, 2010, and December 31, 2010. A participation fee of \$8,000 for shows of five days or less is required. For trade shows more than five days in duration, or requiring more than one International Business Center, a participation fee of \$14,000 is required. For trade shows ten days or more in duration, and/or requiring more than two International Business Centers, the participation fee will be negotiated, but shall not be less than \$19,500.

Under the International Buyer Program, the Commercial Service seeks to bring together international buyers with U.S. firms by selecting and promoting in international markets U.S.

domestic trade shows covering industries with high export potential. Selection of a trade show is valid for one event, i.e., a trade show organizer seeking selection for a recurring event must submit a new application for selection for each occurrence of the event. Even if the event occurs more than once in the 12-month period covered by this announcement, the trade show organizer must submit a separate application for each event.

The Commercial Service expects to select approximately 40 events from among applicants to the program for the January 1, 2010 and December 31, 2010 period. The Commercial Service will select those events that are determined to most clearly meet the Commercial Service's statutory mandate to promote U.S. exports, especially those of small- and medium-sized enterprises, and that best meet the selection criteria articulated below.

The DOC selects trade shows to be International Buyer Program partners that it determines to be leading international trade shows appropriate for participation by U.S. exporting firms and for promotion in overseas markets by U.S. Embassies and Consulates. Selection as an International Buyer Program partner does not constitute a guarantee by the U.S. Government of the show's success. International Buyer Program partnership status is not an endorsement of the show organizer except as to its international buyer activities. Non-selection should not be viewed as a finding that the event will not be successful in the promotion of U.S. exports.

Exclusions: Trade shows that are either first-time or horizontal (non-industry specific) events will not be considered.

General Selection Criteria: The Commercial Service will select shows to be International Buyer Program partners that, in the judgment of the Commercial Service, best meet the following criteria:

(a) **Intellectual Property Rights Protection:** The trade show organizer includes in the terms and conditions of its exhibitor contracts provisions for the protection of intellectual property rights (IPR); has procedures in place at the trade show to address IPR infringement, which, at a minimum, provides information to help U.S. exhibitors procure legal representation during the trade show; and agrees to assist the DOC to reach and educate U.S. exhibitors on the Strategy Targeting Organized Piracy (STOP!), IPR protection measures available during the show, and the means to protect IPR in overseas markets, as well as in the United States.

(b) **Export Potential:** The trade show promotes products and services from U.S. industries that have high export potential, as determined by DOC sources, e.g., Commercial Service best prospects lists and U.S. export statistics (certain industries are rated as priorities by our domestic and international commercial officers in their Country Commercial Guides, available through the Web site, <http://www.export.gov>).

(c) **International Interest:** The trade show meets the needs of a significant number of overseas markets and corresponds to marketing opportunities as identified by the posts in their Country Commercial Guides (e.g., best prospect lists). Previous international attendance at the show may be used as an indicator.

(d) **Scope of the Show:** The event must offer a broad spectrum of U.S. made products and services for the subject industry. Trade shows with a majority of U.S. firms as exhibitors are given priority.

(e) **U.S. Content of Show Exhibitors:** Trade shows with exhibitors featuring a high percentage of U.S. products or products with a high degree of U.S. content will be preferred. Generally, to have "U.S. content," products and services to be exhibited should be: (i) Produced or manufactured in the United States; or, (ii) if produced or manufactured outside of the United States, be marketed under the name of a U.S. firm and have U.S. content representing at least 51 percent of the value of the finished product or service being exported. U.S.-sourced inputs that may be considered as contributing to U.S. content, to the extent that they are incorporated into the finished product or service being exported, may include but are not limited to: Materials; components; packaging; labor; production equipment and factory overhead; research and development; design; intellectual property; warehousing; distribution; sales; administration and management; advertising; and marketing and promotion.

(f) **Stature of the Show:** The trade show is clearly recognized by the industry it covers as a leading event for the promotion of that industry's products and services both domestically and internationally, and as a showplace for the latest technology or services in that industry.

(g) **Exhibitor Interest:** There is demonstrated interest on the part of U.S. exhibitors in receiving international business visitors during the trade show. A significant number of U.S. exhibitors should be new-to-export (NTE) or

seeking to expand their sales into additional export markets.

(h) **Overseas Marketing:** There has been a demonstrated effort to market prior shows overseas. In addition, the applicant should describe in detail the international marketing program to be conducted for the event, and explain how efforts should increase individual and group international attendance. (Planned cooperation with Visit USA Committees overseas is desirable. For more information on Visit USA Committees go to: <http://www.tia.org/International/VUSA.html>.)

(i) **Logistics:** The trade show site, facilities, transportation services, and availability of accommodations at the site of the exhibition must be capable of accommodating large numbers of attendees whose native language will not be English.

(j) **Cooperation:** The applicant demonstrates a willingness to cooperate with the Commercial Service to fulfill the program's goals and adhere to the target dates set out in the MOA and in the event timetables, both of which are available from the program office (see the "FOR FURTHER INFORMATION" section above). Past experience in the International Buyer Program will be taken into account in evaluating the applications received for the January 1, 2010, through December 31, 2010, period.

(k) **Delegation Incentives:** Show organizers should list or identify a range of incentives to be offered to delegations and/or delegation leaders recruited by the Commercial Service overseas posts. Examples of incentives to international visitors and to organized delegations include, but are not limited to: Waived or reduced admission fees; special organized events, such as receptions, meetings with association executives, briefings, and site tours; and complimentary accommodations for delegation leaders. Waived or reduced admission fees are required for international attendees who are members of Commercial Service recruited delegations under this program. Delegation leaders also must be provided complimentary admission to the event.

Legal Authority: The Commercial Service has the legal authority to enter into MOAs with show organizers (partners) under the provisions of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961 (MECEA), as amended (22 U.S.C. sections 2455(f) and 2458(c)). MECEA allows the Commercial Service to accept contributions of funds and services from firms for the purposes of furthering its mission. The statutory program

authority for the Commercial Service to conduct the International Buyer Program is 15 U.S.C. 4724.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has approved the information collection requirements of the application to this program under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*) (OMB Control No. 0625-0151). Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall a person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

Dated: September 2, 2008.

Blanche Ziv,

Manager, International Buyer Program, U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

[FR Doc. E8-20756 Filed 9-5-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XK26

Marine Mammals; File No. 13430

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

ACTION: Notice; receipt of application.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the NMFS National Marine Mammal Laboratory, (Responsible Party: Dr. John Bengtson, Director), Seattle, WA, has applied for a permit to conduct research on marine mammals.

DATES: Written, telefaxed, or e-mail comments must be received on or before October 8, 2008.

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

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.

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. 13430.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tammy Adams or Kate Swails, (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 conduct research on Pacific harbor seals (*Phoca vitulina*), California sea lions (*Zalophus californianus*), and northern elephant seals (*Mirounga angustirostris*) within coastal waters and on pinniped rookeries and haul outs of Washington and Oregon. Research activities would include aerial, vessel, and ground surveys; capture for collection of tissue samples, attachment of scientific instruments and application of marks (flipper tags, brands, etc.); and underwater playback experiments. The purpose of the research is to investigate: (1) abundance and distribution of harbor seals; (2) food habits and foraging ecology of harbor seals; (3) the ecology of contaminants, environmental toxins and infectious pathogens in harbor seals; (4) harbor seal life history parameters; (5) population substructure in harbor seals in Washington and Oregon; (6) abundance, distribution and health of California sea lions in Washington and Oregon; (7) California sea lion food habits and predation of threatened, endangered, and/or depleted fish stocks in Washington and Oregon; and (8) the abundance, distribution and health of northern elephant seals. The objective of the research is to provide information necessary for stock assessments and for management, including management of marine mammal predation on threatened and

endangered salmon. The permit would be valid for five years and would authorize level B and level A harassment, including research-related mortality of limited numbers of each species. Please refer to the table in the application for the numbers of animals proposed for taking, and the locations and manner of such taking.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), a draft environmental assessment (EA) has been prepared to examine whether significant environmental impacts could result from issuance of the proposed scientific research permit. Based on the analyses in the EA, it is NMFS initial determination that issuance of the permit would not significantly impact the quality of the human environment and that preparation of an environmental impact statement is not required.

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

Dated: September 2, 2008.

P. Michael Payne,

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

[FR Doc. E8-20773 Filed 9-5-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN: 0648-XK28

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Mid-Atlantic Council's (MAFMC) Dogfish Monitoring Committee will hold a public meeting.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Thursday, September 25, 2008, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Sheraton Providence Airport Hotel, 1850 Post Road, Warwick, RI 02886; telephone: (401) 738-4000.

Council address: Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 300 S. New Street, Room 2115, Dover, DE 19904; telephone: (302) 674-2331.