

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

Dated: February 10, 2003.

Richard W. Surdi,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 03-3761 Filed 2-13-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 010903A]

Marine Mammals; File No. 939-1682

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

ACTION: Issuance of permit.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Michael Moore, Ph.D., Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543, has been issued a permit to collect, import and export parts from all cetaceans and pinniped species (excluding walrus) for purposes of scientific research.

ADDRESSES: The permit 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)713-0376; and Northeast Region, NMFS, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930-2298; phone (978)281-9200; fax (978)281-9371.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jennifer Skidmore or Ruth Johnson, (301)713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On September 4, 2002, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (67 FR 56535) that a request for a scientific research permit to collect, import and export marine mammal parts of the orders Cetacea and Pinnipedia (excluding walrus) had been submitted by the above-named individual. The requested permit has been issued under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (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.*), the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts

222-226), and the Fur Seal Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1151 *et seq.*).

Issuance of this permit, as required by the ESA, was based on a finding that such permit (1) was applied for in good faith, (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of the endangered species which are the subject of this permit, and (3) is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

Dated: January 29, 2003.

Stephen L. Leathery,

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

[FR Doc. 03-3762 Filed 2-13-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Technology Administration

RIN 0692-AA08

National Medal of Technology's Call for Nominations 2003

AGENCY: Technology Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Announcement: Call for Nominations for the National Medal of Technology 2003.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce's Technology Administration is accepting nominations for its National Medal of Technology (NMT) 2003 program.

Established by Congress in 1980, the President of the United States awards the National Medal of Technology annually to our Nation's leading innovators. If you know of a candidate who has made an outstanding contribution in technology, obtain a nomination form from: www.ta.doc.gov/medal.

DATES: The deadline for submission of an application is May 23, 2003.

ADDRESSES: The NMT Nomination form for the year 2003 can be obtained by visiting the Web site at www.ta.doc.gov/medal. Please return the completed application to Mildred Porter, Director of the NMT program, at: NMT2003@ta.doc.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mildred Porter, Director, at NMT2003@ta.doc.gov or call 202-482-5572.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Medal of Technology is the highest honor awarded by the President of the United States to America's leading innovators. Enacted by Congress in 1980, the Medal of Technology was

first awarded in 1985. The Medal is given annually to individuals, teams, or companies who have improved the American economy and quality of life by their outstanding contributions through technology.

The primary purpose of the National Medal of Technology is to recognize American innovators whose vision, creativity, and brilliance in moving ideas to market have had a profound and lasting impact on our economy and way of life. The Medal highlights the national importance of fostering technological innovation based upon solid science, resulting in commercially successful products and services.

Dated: February 5, 2003.

Bruce Mehlman,

Assistant Secretary for Technology Policy, Technology Administration.

[FR Doc. 03-3636 Filed 2-13-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-18-P

COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Adjustment of Import Limits for Certain Wool Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

February 7, 2003.

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

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

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 14, 2003.

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 these limits, 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 Web site at <http://www.customs.gov>. For information on embargoes and quota re-openings, refer to the Office of Textiles and Apparel Web site at <http://otexa.ita.doc.gov>.

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 current limits for certain categories are being adjusted for swing and special shift.

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 68 FR 1599, published on January 13, 2003). Also see 67 FR 63895, published on October 16, 2002.

D. Michael Hutchinson,

Acting Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

February 7, 2003.

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 October 9, 2002, by the Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements. That directive concerns imports of certain wool textile products, produced or manufactured in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and exported during the twelve-month period beginning on January 1, 2003 and extending through December 31, 2003.

Effective on February 14, 2003, you are directed to adjust the current limits for the following categories, as provided for in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Governments of the United States and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia dated November 7, 1997, as amended and extended by exchange of notes on June 22, 2000 and July 5, 2000:

| Category | Adjusted twelve-month limit ¹ |
|-----------|--|
| 433 | 25,815 dozen. |
| 443 | 180,355 numbers. |
| 448 | 64,809 dozen. |

¹ The limits have not been adjusted to account for any imports exported after December 31, 2002.

The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements has determined that these actions fall within the foreign affairs exception to the rulemaking provisions of 5 U.S.C. 553(a)(1).

Sincerely,
D. Michael Hutchinson,
Acting Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.
[FR Doc. 03-3676 Filed 2-13-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DR-S

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

Petition HP 01-3 Requesting a Ban of Chromated Copper Arsenate (CCA)-Treated Wood in Playground Equipment

AGENCY: Consumer Product Safety Commission.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC or Commission) will conduct a public meeting on March 17, 2003 to receive comments on the CPSC staff briefing package on petition HP 01-3 requesting a ban of chromated copper arsenate (CCA)-treated wood in playground equipment. The CPSC staff will also brief the Commission on the package on that date.

The focus of the discussions will be the supporting information developed by CPSC staff that is described in the February 7, 2003 briefing package entitled *Petition to Ban Chromated Copper Arsenate (CCA)-Treated Wood in Playground Equipment*. The Commission invites oral presentations from individuals, associations, firms, and government agencies with information or comments related to the briefing package. The Commission will evaluate these presentations in its deliberations on petition HP 01-3.

DATES: The CPSC staff will brief the Commission on the issues at 10 a.m. on March 17, 2003. Oral presentations by commenters will begin at 2 p.m. on that date. In the event that time constraints require it, the meeting may continue to the next day. No oral presentations will be permitted by persons who do not submit both a request to testify and the text of the presentation by February 28, 2003. Requests to make oral presentations, and 10 copies of the text of the presentation, must be received by the CPSC Office of the Secretary no later than February 28, 2003. Persons making presentations at the meeting should provide an additional 50 copies for dissemination on the date of the meeting.

Presentation texts should identify the author's affiliation with, or employment or sponsorship by, any entity with an interest in the petitioner's request that the Commission ban use of CCA-treated wood in playground equipment. The Commission reserves the right to limit the number of persons who make presentations and the duration of their presentations. To prevent similar presentations, groups will be directed to designate a spokesperson.

Written submissions, in addition to, or instead of, an oral presentation may be sent to the address listed below and will be accepted until March 28, 2003.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be in room 420 of the East-West Towers Building, 4330 East-West Highway, Bethesda, MD. Requests to make oral presentations, and texts of oral presentations should be captioned ACCA Ban Petition, Petition HP 01-3@ and be mailed to the Office of the Secretary, Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, DC

20207, or delivered to that office, room 502, 4330 East-West Highway, Bethesda, Maryland 20814. Requests and texts of oral presentations may also be submitted by facsimile to (301) 504-0127 or by e-mail to *spsc-os@cpsc.gov*.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information about the purpose or subject matter of this meeting contact Patricia M. Bittner, M.S., Project Manager, Directorate for Health Sciences, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, DC 20207; telephone (301) 504-7263; e-mail: *pbittner@cpsc.gov*. For information about the schedule for submission of requests to make oral presentations and submission of texts of oral presentations, contact Rockelle Hammond, Office of the Secretary, Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, DC 20207; telephone (301) 504-6833; fax (301) 504-0127; e-mail *rhammond@cpsc.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

By a submission dated May 22, 2001, the Environmental Working Group (EWG) and the Healthy Building Network (HBN) requested that the Commission enact a ban on use of chromated copper arsenate (CCA)-treated wood in playground equipment.¹ The submitters asserted that a ban is necessary because "[r]ecent research has shown that arsenic is more carcinogenic than previously recognized, that arsenic is present at significant concentrations on CCA-treated wood and in underlying soil, that the health risks posed by this wood are greater than previously recognized, and that past risk assessments were incomplete." On June 20, 2001, that request was docketed as petition HP 01-3 under the Federal Hazardous Substances Act (FHSA), 15 U.S.C. 1261-1278.

The Commission solicited public comment on the petition by Federal Register notice of July 13, 2001. 66 FR 36756. Twenty-eight comments were received by the close of the comment period on September 11, 2001. The staff also held a public meeting on August 6, 2001 with members of the American Chemistry Council (representing CCA chemical manufacturers) and the American Wood Preservers Institute. On October 3, 2001, the staff conducted a public meeting with representatives of the petitioners. The comments from the

¹ The submission also contained a request that the commission review the safety of CCA-treated wood for general use. Such a review would not require rulemaking to implement. Therefore, that request was not docketed as a petition for rulemaking.