

Regulations (19 CFR 353.46(a)) at the above address, on or before December 28, 1981 and at least 10 copies.

Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with section 733(d) of the Act, we are directing the U.S. Customs Service to suspend the liquidation of all unliquidated entries of this merchandise entered or withdrawn from warehouse for U.S. consumption on or after the date of publication of this notice. We are also directing Customs to require a cash deposit, bond, or other security in the amount of 3.9 percent of the f.o.b. value of this merchandise. Until further notice this suspension of liquidation will remain in effect.

ITC Notification

We are making available to the U.S. International Trade Commission all nonprivileged and nonconfidential information relating to this investigation. We will allow the ITC access to all privileged and confidential information in our files, provided it confirms that it will not disclose such information either publicly or under an administrative protective order, without the written consent of the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

This notice is published pursuant to section 733 of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1673(b)) and § 353.39, Commerce Regulations (19 CFR 353.39).

Leonard S. Shambon,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

November 20, 1981.

FR Doc. 81-34300 Filed 11-27-81; 8:45 am]

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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Reevaluation of Appropriateness of Elevating Georges Bank to Status of Active Candidate for National Marine Sanctuary Designation

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: To fulfill NOAA's responsibility under a Settlement Agreement dated December 22, 1980, the Acting Assistant Administrator for OCZM has reviewed the status of Georges Bank and determined that no site or sites on Georges Bank should be listed as an Active Candidate for marine sanctuary designation at this time.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Richard J. Podgorny, (202) 634-4236.

ADDRESS: NOAA, 3300 Whitehaven Street, NW, Washington, DC 20235.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

NOAA is publishing this notice in accordance with a Settlement Agreement resolving protracted litigation dating back to 1978 in which the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Conservation Law Foundation (CLF) sought to require the Department of the Interior to establish additional environmental safeguards prior to offering OCS Lease Sale No. 42 which included portions of the productive Georges Bank fishery.

After several court decisions had resulted in postponing the lease sale, CLF and certain fishing organizations nominated the entire Georges Bank, approximately 20,000 square miles, for designation as a marine sanctuary pursuant to Title III of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972, 16 U.S.C. 1431-1434. NOAA evaluated this nomination in accordance with its regulations at 15 CFR 922.23 declaring the area an Active Candidate for designation on August 10, 1979 (44 FR 47132).

In late August 1979, NOAA conducted public workshops in Maine and Massachusetts to help determine whether to further consider the site for designation. On September 21, 1979, utilizing the information developed at the public workshops among other sources, NOAA negotiated an agreement with the Department of the Interior and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that added a variety of environmental safeguards to protect the Bank. These measures were sufficiently similar to those which NOAA believed would have been appropriate regulations for a marine sanctuary that it withdrew the nomination from the Active Candidate's list on October 31, 1979 (44 FR 62553). As a result Massachusetts and CLF joined NOAA as a defendant in their action to enjoin rescheduled Lease Sale 42.

After the plaintiffs' motion for a preliminary injunction was denied, *Massachusetts v. Andrus*, 461 F. Supp. 685 (D. Mass. Nov. 5, 1979) *aff'd*, 623 F. 2d 712 (1st Cir. Dec. 17, 1979), and the lease sale held, the parties negotiated a settlement agreement to finally dispose of the litigation. Paragraph 5 of this agreement provides as follows:

On or before December 1, 1981, NOAA shall evaluate available information pertaining to Georges Bank in light of the criteria of 15 CFR 922.23, including the adequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms to protect the marine resources of Georges Bank, and consider whether a site or sites on

all or parts of the Georges Bank area should be placed on the list of active candidates for marine sanctuary designation. NOAA shall prepare and provide to the public and the plaintiffs a statement of reasons for its decision. The December 1, 1981, date may be modified by the parties to reflect changes in the proposed OCS leasing schedule for the North Atlantic.

Bases of Determination

The Acting Assistant Administrator for OCZM has reviewed the status of Georges Bank in accordance with this agreement and determined that no site or sites on Georges Bank should be listed as an Active Candidate for marine sanctuary designation at this time. The bases for this determination are:

1. The low level of hydrocarbon exploration activity to date on Georges Bank has produced no evidence that substantially changes the results of the evaluation which NOAA conducted under § 922.23 when it withdrew the site as an Active Candidate in 1979.

2. Since the Settlement Agreement, NOAA has proposed a series of refinements and improvements to the methods and policies it uses to select and designate marine sanctuary candidates including a new nomination/designation process.

As contemplated by the September, 1979 interagency agreement providing additional safeguards, the Georges Bank Biological Task Force (BTF) for Lease Sale No. 42 has begun to function. During the past year, it has designed a field monitoring program for the affected areas of the Bank and has recommended to the Department of the Interior that this program be used as the primary monitoring mechanism to satisfy EPA's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit requirements under the Clean Water Act for the discharge of operational effluents on Georges Bank. While the BTF may benefit from additional capability once activities increase, NOAA believes the basic concept remains viable. In addition, the Department of the Interior has proposed to retain the same environmental mitigating measures used for Lease Sale No. 42 for the next Georges Bank Lease Sale No. 52 scheduled for August 1982 and has excluded from this sale the 12 tracts at the head of Lydonia Canyon that were withdrawn on September 21, 1979.

Refinements in the Sanctuary Program's present nomination and designation procedures include:

- Elimination of the List of Recommended Areas, on which Georges Bank and several submarine canyons are presently listed. The list has caused substantial confusion and concern over

the status of areas on the list, the likelihood of further action on the listed areas, and the overall emphasis of the Program.

- Institution of a new site evaluation process which applies more definitive nomination requirements and site identification and selection criteria and results in a base pool of suitable sites. (The nomination process used in the past has resulted in the accumulation of an extraordinary range of sites, most of which will never be suitable for sanctuary status.)

Under the new procedures, NOAA will establish eight regional resource evaluation teams to aid in the initial identification and evaluation of possible marine sanctuary sites. (There will be one team to deal exclusively with the North Atlantic.) Each team is to identify the truly special or unique resources in their region and select three to five priority sites based on the Program's site identification criteria. Public review will be solicited to obtain additional information on each team's initial list of sites. Using the comments from the public review, each team will finalize the lists and submit it to NOAA. NOAA will review the recommendations of the regional evaluation teams, eliminate any sites that are inconsistent with the objectives of the Program, and place appropriate sites on a Site Evaluation List (SEL).

This process will provide a pool of marine areas which meet the Program's site identification criteria and have undergone a certain level of public review prior to being presented to NOAA.

Sites now on the list of Recommended Areas (including Georges Bank) will be among the first areas to be examined by the regional teams for placement on the SEL. This entire process is slated to take 15 months, beginning in early 1982, and is described in the current Program Development Plan (PDP) for the National Marine Sanctuary Program.

While these refinements were not considered at the time of the Settlement Agreement, they serve to strengthen NOAA's decision in this case.

Given the paucity of new information to indicate any urgent need to reverse NOAA's earlier decision not to consider Georges Bank an Active Candidate, and given the prospects of a more thorough evaluation of specific sites in the area through the refined marine sanctuary site selection process, NOAA believes that any consideration of marine sanctuary status for Georges Bank should be deferred until final recommendations have been formulated by the Northeast Regional Evaluation

Team. The recommendations are expected by early FY 1983.

(Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog No. 11.419 Coastal Zone Management Program Administration)

Dated: November 20, 1981.

William Matuszeski,
Acting Assistant Administrator for Coastal Zone Management.

[FR Doc. 81-34171 Filed 11-27-81; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-08-M

COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Announcing Additional Import Controls on Certain Cotton Apparel Products from the Republic of the Philippines

November 24, 1981.

AGENCY: Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

ACTION: Controlling women's, girls' and infants' cotton trousers in Category 348 (Traditional), produced or manufactured in the Philippines and exported during the twelve-month period which began on January 1, 1981, at a level of 188,564.

(A detailed description of the textile categories in terms of T.S.U.S.A. numbers was published in the Federal Register on February 28, 1980 (45 FR 13172), as amended on April 23, 1980 (45 FR 27463), August 12, 1980 (45 FR 53506), December 24, 1980 (45 FR 85142), May 5, 1981 (46 FR 25121), and October 5, 1981 (46 FR 48963) and October 27, 1981 (46 FR 52409))

SUMMARY: Under the terms of the Bilateral Cotton, Wool and Man-Made Fiber Textile Agreement of August 22 and 24, 1978, as amended, between the Governments of the United States and the Republic of the Philippines, the United States Government has decided to control imports of cotton textile products in Category 348 (Traditional), produced or manufactured in the Philippines and exported to the United States during the twelve-month period which began on January 1, 1981, in addition to those categories previously designated.

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 1, 1981.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Carl Ruths, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C. 20230 (202/377-4212).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On December 29, 1980, there was published in the Federal Register (45 FR 85498) a letter dated December 19, 1980 from the Chairman of the Committee for the

Implementation of Textile Agreements to the Commissioner of Customs, which established levels of restraint for certain specified categories of cotton, wool and man-made fiber textile products, produced or manufactured in the Philippines, which may be entered into the United States for consumption, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, during the twelve-month period which began on January 1, 1981 and extends through December 31, 1981. Under the terms of the bilateral agreement, the United States Government has decided also to control imports of cotton textile products in Category 348 (Traditional) during the same period. Accordingly, in the letter published below the Chairman of the Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements directs the Commissioner of Customs to prohibit entry into the United States for consumption, or withdrawal from warehouse for consumption, of cotton textile products in Category 348 (Traditional) in excess of 188,564 dozen. The level of restraint has not been adjusted to reflect any imports after December 31, 1980. Imports in that portion of the category affected by this directive have amounted to 153,158 dozen during the January-September 1981 period and will be charged. As the data become available further charges will be made to account for the period which began on October 1, 1981 and extends to the effective date of this action.

Arthur Garel,

Acting Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Commissioner of Customs,
Department of the Treasury, Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Commissioner: This directive further amends, but does not cancel, the directive issued to you on December 19, 1980 by the Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements, concerning imports into the United States of certain cotton, wool and man-made fiber textile products, produced or manufactured in the Philippines.

Under the terms of the Arrangement Regarding International Trade in Textiles done at Geneva on December 20, 1973, as amended on December 15, 1977; pursuant to the Bilateral Cotton, Wool and Man-Made Fiber Textile Agreement of August 22 and 24, 1978, as amended, between the Governments of the United States and the Republic of the Philippines; and in accordance with the provisions of Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended by Executive Order 11951 of January 6, 1977, you are directed to prohibit, effective on December 1, 1981 and for the twelve-month period beginning on January 1, 1981 and extending through December 31, 1981, entry into the United