

From 8:30 a.m. 9 a.m., the Council will hear recommendations from the Advisory Panel Selection Committee and appoint new advisory panel members.

From 9 a.m. 9:15 a.m., the Council will receive a report from the Highly Migratory Species Committee.

From 9:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m., the Council will hear a report from the Habitat Committee.

From 9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m., the Council will receive a presentation on the Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey (MRFSS).

From 10:30 a.m. 11:15 a.m., the Council will hear NOAA Fisheries status reports on the Golden/Red Crab/Skate FMP management unit issue, Shrimp Amendment 5 implementation, the Sargassum FMP, the Dolphin Wahoo FMP, the SEDAR Committee Process and implementation of the ACCSP (Atlantic Coast Cooperative Statistics Program) in the Southeast Region. NOAA Fisheries will also give status reports on landings for Atlantic king mackerel, Gulf king mackerel (eastern zone), Atlantic Spanish mackerel, snowy grouper golden tilefish, wreckfish, greater amberjack and south Atlantic octocorals.

From 11:15 a.m. 12 noon, the Council will hear agency and liaison reports, discuss other business and upcoming meetings.

Documents regarding these issues are available from the Council office (see **ADDRESSES**).

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, those issues may not be the subjects of formal Council action during this meeting. Council action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305 (c) of the Magnuson-Stevens 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 February 27, 2003.

Dated: February 11, 2003.

Theophilus R. Brainerd,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service
[FR Doc. 03-3760 Filed 2-13-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 110802B]

Coral, Golden Crab, Shrimp, Spiny Lobster, Red Drum, Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources, and Snapper-Grouper Fisheries of the South Atlantic

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

ACTION: Issuance of an exempted fishing permit.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces the issuance of an exempted fishing permit (EFP) for the South Carolina Aquarium (applicant), located in Charleston, SC. The EFP would authorize the applicant, with certain conditions, to collect for public display annually, for 2 years, an average of 25 specimens each of numerous species of marine invertebrates and marine fish from Federal waters off South Carolina. This EFP is similar to the previous EFP issued to the applicant that expired on December 31, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the EFP are available from Peter Eldridge, Southeast Regional Office, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Peter Eldridge, 727-570-5305; fax 727-570-5583; e-mail: peter.eldridge@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The EFP is issued under the authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*) and the regulations at 50 CFR 600.745(b).

The South Carolina Aquarium (SCA), located in Charleston, is a public, non-profit, self-supporting institution for the understanding and conservation of South Carolina's natural aquatic habitats, with extensive field study and outreach programs and with free admission to groups of school children.

The applicant intends, over a period of 2 years, to collect annually for public display an average of 25 specimens each of 76 species of marine invertebrates and 221 species of marine fish from the EEZ off South Carolina, using a variety of fishing gears and the fish anesthetic, quinaldine.

The proposed collection involves activities otherwise prohibited by regulations implementing the Fishery Management Plans of the South Atlantic Region for Coral, Coral Reefs, and Live/

Hard Bottom Habitats, Golden Crab, Shrimp, Spiny Lobster, Red Drum, Coastal Migratory Pelagics, and Snapper-Grouper. The EFP authorizes the applicant, consistent with the terms of the EFP, to harvest and possess corals, live rock, golden crab, rock shrimp, red drum, wreckfish, warsaw grouper, speckled hind, spiny lobster, bluefish, cobia, king and Spanish mackerel, groupers and snappers, greater amberjack, hogfish and red porgy species taken from Federal waters off South Carolina. In addition, the EFP authorizes, consistent with the terms of the EFP, the use of quinaldine in a coral area and the possession of species below the minimum size limit and in excess of established bag limits or taken with prohibited gear.

The EFP has a number of conditions concerning the harvest of prohibited species and corals and the gear that can be employed. The EFP requires an annual report to NMFS that lists specimens that have been taken.

The applicant also intends to collect a large number of species that are either not subject to Federal fishery management in the South Atlantic Region or included under a fishery management plan that contains no management measures restricting possession or harvest. The collection of highly migratory species is prohibited in this EFP. The applicant was referred to the NMFS Highly Migratory Species Division for authorization to collect Atlantic highly migratory species, such as sharks and tunas, for public display.

A notice of receipt of the application for this permit was published in the **Federal Register** on November 21, 2002 (67 FR 70216). In addition to announcing the receipt of the application, public comments were requested; no public comments were received. Also, consistent with the requirements of 50 CFR 600.745(b)(3)(i), NMFS provided copies of the EFP application to the State of South Carolina, the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, and the U.S. Coast Guard, along with the following required information: Information on the EFP's effects on target and incidental species; citations of the regulations that, without the EFP, would prohibit the proposed collection activity; and other biological information relevant to the EFP proposal. None of these consulted entities expressed any objections to the issuance of the EFP.

Failure of the permittee to comply with the terms and conditions of the EFP may be grounds for revocation, suspension or modification of this EFP or for civil or criminal sanctions.

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