

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject permit amendments are requested under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR 222–226).

Application to Modify Permit No. 1578

The existing permit authorizes sampling 500 shortnose sturgeon adults and sub-adults annually in the main stem of the Kennebec River between Augusta, ME and Lockwood Dam. Efforts have focused on the location of spawning and foraging habitat, migratory pathways, and effects of river flow on migration and habitat use. The applicant now proposes to document the use of other river systems by sturgeon in the Gulf of Maine (GOM) proposing an increase in numbers of shortnose sturgeon captured from 500 to 600, while also expanding the action area to include: (1) the Kennebec River mouth to Lockwood Dam; (2) the Androscoggin River mouth to Brunswick Dam; (3) the Sheepscot River mouth to Reversing Falls; (4) the Sasanoa River, the Back River, and Sagadahoc Bay; (5) Tottman Cove; and (6) the lower Saco River. New research methods proposed include: use of Floy tags for external identification; endoscopic examination with borescopes to verify sex; blood sampling; gastric lavage for diet analysis; scute sampling for elemental analysis; and electro-narcosis for anesthetization.

Application to Modify Permit No. 1595–03

The objectives of the original research would remain the same for the proposed modification, assessing the distribution, movements, abundance and spawning of shortnose sturgeon in the Penobscot River system. However, the Permit Holder requests an increased number of shortnose sturgeon captured with gill and trammel nets from 200 to 300. Other research activities requested include: (1) lowering the minimum water temperature to 0°C to target sturgeon; (2) using Floy tags; (3) using electro-narcosis for anesthetization; (4) using scute sampling for elemental analysis; (5) using gastric lavage for diet analysis; and (6) using fall (September–December) to sample early life stages.

Dated: September 21, 2010.

Jolie Harrison,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[C–423–809]

Stainless Steel Plate in Coils from Belgium: Extension of Time Limits for Preliminary and Final Results of Full Five-year (“Sunset”) Review of Countervailing Duty Order

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 24, 2010.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alexander Montoro, AD/CVD Operations, Office 1, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–0238.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On June 2, 2010, the Department of Commerce (“Department”) initiated the second sunset review of the countervailing duty order on stainless steel plate in coils from Belgium in accordance with section 751(c) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (“Act”). *See Initiation of Five-year (“Sunset”) Review*, 75 FR 30777 (June 2, 2010). Within the deadline specified in 19 CFR 351.218(d)(1)(i), the Department received notices of intent to participate on behalf of Allegheny Ludlum Corporation and the United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial and Service Workers International Union, who were the petitioners in the original investigation. Those parties claimed interested party status under section 771(9)(C) and (D) of the Act, as manufacturers of a domestic like product and as a certified union representing workers in the domestic industry producing certain stainless steel plate in coils. The Department received substantive responses from the petitioners within the deadline specified in 19 CFR 351.218(d)(3)(i). The Department also received substantive responses in a timely manner from the following respondent interested parties: the Government of

Belgium and ArcelorMittal Stainless Belgium N.V. Domestic and respondent interested parties also submitted timely rebuttal comments.

On July 22, 2010, after analyzing the submission and rebuttals from interested parties and finding the substantive responses adequate, the Department determined to conduct a full sunset review. *See Memorandum from Yasmin Nair, International Trade Compliance Analyst, to Susan H. Kuhbach, Director, AD/CVD Operations, Office 1, entitled “Adequacy Determination in Countervailing Duty Sunset Review of Certain Stainless Steel Plate in Coils from Belgium,” dated July 22, 2010.*

Extension of Time Limits for Preliminary and Final Results of Reviews

The Act provides for the completion of a full sunset review within 240 days of the publication of the initiation notice. *See* section 751(c)(5)(A) of the Act. In accordance with section 751(c)(5)(B) of the Act, the Department may extend the period of time for making its determination by not more than 90 days, if it determines that the review is extraordinarily complicated.

We determine that this review is extraordinarily complicated, pursuant to sections 751(c)(5)(C)(i) and (ii) of the Act, because there are a large number of programs under consideration for which the Department must analyze numerous complex issues. Therefore, the Department requires additional time to complete its analysis. Accordingly, the Department is extending the deadline in this proceeding by 90 days in accordance with section 751(c)(5)(B) of the Act. As a result, the Department intends to issue the final results of this full sunset review by April 28, 2011.

With respect to the preliminary results of this full sunset review, the Department’s regulations, at 19 CFR 351.218(f)(3), provide that the Department normally will issue its preliminary results in a full sunset review not later than 110 days after the initiation. However, because of the reasons cited above, we require additional time to conduct the analysis required for the preliminary results. Therefore, we are extending the deadline for the preliminary results of this full sunset review by 90 days and intend to issue those preliminary results by December 19, 2010. However, December 19, 2010, falls on a Sunday, and it is the Department’s long-standing practice to issue a determination the next business day when the statutory deadline falls on a weekend, federal holiday, or any other day when the

Department is closed. *See Notice of Clarification: Application of "Next Business Day" Rule for Administrative Determination Deadlines Pursuant to the Tariff Act of 1930, As Amended*, 70 FR 24533 (May 10, 2005). Accordingly, the deadline for completion of the preliminary results of this full sunset review is now no later than December 20, 2010.

This notice is issued in accordance with sections 751(c)(5)(B) and (C) of the Act.

Dated: September 20, 2010.

Susan H. Kuhbach,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations.

[FR Doc. 2010-24019 Filed 9-23-10; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XR61

Marine Mammals; File No. 14535

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

ACTION: Notice; issuance of permit amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Colleen Reichmuth, Ph.D., University of California at Santa Cruz, Long Marine Laboratory, 100 Shaffer Road, Santa Cruz, CA, has been issued a permit amendment (Permit No. 14535-01).

DATES: Written, telefaxed, or e-mail comments must be received on or before October 25, 2010.

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;

Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668; phone (907)586-7221; fax (907)586-7249; and

Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213; phone (562)980-4001; fax (562)980-4018.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On June 29, 2010, notice was published in the *Federal Register* (75 FR 37388) that a

request for a permit amendment to conduct research on captive pinnipeds for scientific research had been submitted by the above-named applicant. 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.*), and the regulations governing the taking and importing of marine mammals (50 CFR part 216).

Permit No. 14535-01 authorizes the addition of two non-releasable animals of each of the following species to the captive research program: ringed seal (*Phoca hispida*), bearded seal (*Erignathus barbatus*), and spotted seal (*Phoca largha*). The purpose is to expand the comparative understanding of basic perceptual and cognitive function among pinnipeds and to assess potential impacts of human noise on marine mammals. The amendment is for the duration of the permit, which expires on December 31, 2014.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), a final determination has been made that the activity proposed is categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

Dated: September 17, 2010.

P. Michael Payne,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XZ24

Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; General Provisions for Domestic Fisheries; Issuance of an Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP)

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

ACTION: Notification of issuance of a revised EFP to conduct exempted fishing.

SUMMARY: The Regional Administrator for Sustainable Fisheries, Northeast Region, NMFS, has issued a revised EFP in support of a drop chain small mesh net study conducted by the University of Rhode Island (URI). The study aims to reduce summer flounder discard mortality in the *Loligo* small-mesh

fishery. The revised EFP includes an exemption for participating vessels from the Trimester III *Loligo* mesh size restrictions. This exemption is consistent with the goals and objectives of the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Fishery Management Plan (FMP) and the Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish FMP.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sarah Heil, Fishery Management Specialist, (978) 281-9257.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

On October 26, 2009, an EFP was issued to URI in support of a study that would test the effectiveness of a drop chain small mesh net in its ability to reduce catches of summer flounder in the small mesh fishery. The original EFP included exemptions from the summer flounder size restrictions specified at 50 CFR 648.103, scup size restrictions at § 648.124, scup possession limits at § 648.125, and squid and butterfish possession restrictions at § 648.25. The exemption from summer flounder size restrictions was granted to allow vessels to retain and land summer flounder for a delayed mortality monitoring period. The remaining exemptions were granted to allow incidental catch species to be temporarily retained for data collection purposes. Field work for this project began in April 2010, and 8 of the project's proposed 12 fishing trips have been completed. Research trips are conducted aboard two commercial fishing vessels, as normal fishing operations, using standard *Loligo* squid nets. Research trips conducted since April 2010 have used experimental and control nets with a codend mesh size of 1 7/8 in. (48 mm), consistent with the *Loligo* mesh size restrictions in place at the time.

Amendment 10 to the Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish FMP implemented an increase to the minimum mesh size for *Loligo* squid, from 1 7/8 in. (48 mm) to 2 1/8 in. (54 mm), during Trimester I (January to April) and Trimester III (September to December), effective September 13, 2010. This increase to the *Loligo* minimum mesh size was unanticipated at the time the original EFP application was submitted, and therefore, principal investigators did not request an exemption from *Loligo* mesh size restrictions. In addition, because the 2 1/8-in. (54-mm) minimum mesh size was not in place at the onset of field operations, research trips were completed using nets consistent with *Loligo* gear restrictions at that time.

On September 8, 2010, NMFS received a request from Kathy Castro of URI for an exemption from the new