

cooling water needed, and continued operation of intake screens and fish return systems when associated water pumps are in operation. CHGE proposed to provide an annual count of the number of shortnose sturgeon impinged at each facility based on sampling during one 24-hour period each week of operation. CHGE will conduct a mark-recapture study designed to estimate the size of the adult shortnose sturgeon population in the Hudson River twice during the 15-year term of the permit (permit years 7 and 14).

On May 19, 2000, NMFS' Office of Protected Resources received a complete application from CHGC requesting an ESA section 10(a)(1)(A) scientific research permit for the conduct of monitoring associated with the operation of the Roseton and Danskammer power plants. As required by 50 CFR 222.24 (a), NMFS published a notice of receipt in the **Federal Register** on June 19, 2000 (65 FR 39869). CHGC has requested approval for the collection of larvae, juvenile, and adult shortnose sturgeon in various location in the Hudson River. The comment period for this research permit application closed on July 23, 2000, and NMFS is currently compiling comments that were received on the application. Details of the research permit application are provided in the Conservation Plan prepared for CHGE's application for an ESA section 10(a)(1)(B) incidental take permit which is announced by this notice.

This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(a) of the ESA and NEPA regulations. The NMFS will evaluate the application, associated documents, and comments submitted to determine whether the application meets the requirements of the Act and NEPA. If it is determined that the requirements are met, permits will be issued for the incidental take of shortnose sturgeon. The final permit decision will be made no sooner than 30 days from the date of this notice.

Authority

Issuance of permits and permit modifications, as required by the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531–1543) (ESA), is based on a finding that such permits/modifications: (1) Are applied for in good faith; (2) would not operate to the disadvantage of the listed species which are the subject of the permits; and (3) are consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA. Authority to take listed species is subject to conditions set forth in the permits. Permits and modifications are issued in accordance with and are

subject to the ESA and NMFS regulations governing listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR parts 222–226).

Dated: August 3, 2000.

Margaret Lorenz,

*Acting Chief, Endangered Species Division,
Office of Protected Resources, National
Marine Fisheries Service.*

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 072600C]

Marine Mammals; Photography Permit (File No. 986–1592)

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

ACTION: Receipt of application.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Mr. Bruce Reitherman Pandion Enterprises, P.O. Box 545, Summerland, California 93067, has applied in due form for a permit to take elephant seals (*Mirounga angustirostris*) for purposes of commercial photography.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before September 8, 2000.

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

Permits Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713–2289); and

Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Boulevard, Suite 4200, Long Beach, California 90802, (562/980–4021).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject permit is requested under the authority of § 104(c)(6) 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). Section 104(c)(6) provides for photography for educational or commercial purposes involving non-endangered and non-threatened marine mammals in the wild. NMFS is currently working on proposed regulations to implement this provision. However, in the meantime, NMFS has received and is processing this request as a “pilot” application for Level B Harassment of non-listed and non-

depleted marine mammals for photographic purposes.

The applicant seeks authorization to inadvertently harass up to 50 elephant seals (*Mirounga angustirostris*) during the course of filming activities in Piedras Blancas and Ano Nuevo, California over a 1-year period.

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on this application should be mailed to the Chief, Permits and Documentation 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) 713–0376, provided the facsimile is confirmed by hard copy submitted by mail and postmarked no later than the closing date of the comment period. Please note that comments will not be accepted by e-mail or by other electronic media.

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

Dated: August 4, 2000.

Ann D. Terbush,

*Chief, Permits and Documentation Division,
Office of Protected Resources, National
Marine Fisheries Service.*

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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

August 4, 2000.

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

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

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 9, 2000.

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,