

a Finding of No Significant Impact, the determination was made that it was not necessary to prepare an environmental impact statement.

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

Dated: December 27, 2004.

**Stephen L. Leathery,**

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

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**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 122704B]

**Marine Mammals; File Nos. 881-1668, 1010-1641, 782-1532, 434-1669, and 800-1664**

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

**ACTION:** Issuance of permit amendments.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the following organizations and individual have been issued amendments to permits for scientific research on Steller sea lions (*Eumetopias jubatus*): The Alaska SeaLife Center, Seward, Alaska (Permit No. 881-1668); The Aleutians East Borough, Kodiak, Alaska (Permit No. 1010-1641); The National Marine Mammal Laboratory, NMFS, Seattle, Washington (Permit No. 782-1532); The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Corvallis, Oregon (Permit No. 434-1669); and Dr. Randall Davis, Texas A&M University, Department of Marine Biology, Galveston, Texas (Permit No. 800-1664).

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

All permits - 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;

Permit No. 434-1669 - Northwest Region, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, BIN C15700, Bldg. 1, Seattle, WA

98115-0700; phone (206)526-6150; fax (206)526-6426; and

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

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Tammy Adams or Amy Sloan, (301)713-2289.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On June 27, 2002, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (67 FR 43283) that requests for permits and permit amendments to "take" Steller sea lions by harassment during scientific research had been submitted by the above-named individuals/organizations. The permits and permit amendments were issued on November 12, 2002 (67 FR 697243). Amendments to these permits have 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.*), and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR 222-226).

These minor amendments extend the expiration date for all five permits from December 31, 2004 to December 31, 2005. These five permits authorize "takes" of Steller sea lions by harassment during a variety of research activities. These amendments do not authorize any additional "takes" of Steller sea lions. Rather, they allow the permit holders an additional 12 months to use any research-related harassment "takes" remaining from the 2004 permit year.

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

Dated: December 27, 2004.

**Tammy C. Adams,**

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

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## COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

### Determination Under the African Growth and Opportunity Act

December 23, 2004.

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

**ACTION:** Directive to the Commissioner of Customs.

**SUMMARY:** The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA) has determined that certain textile and apparel goods from Mozambique shall be treated as "handloomed, handmade, or folklore articles" and qualify for preferential treatment under the African Growth and Opportunity Act. Imports of eligible products from Mozambique with an appropriate AGOA visa will qualify for duty-free treatment.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** January 10, 2005

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Anna Flaaten, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-3400.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Authority:** The African Growth and Opportunity Act (Title I of the Trade and Development Act of 2000, Pub. L. No. 106-200) (AGOA) provides preferential tariff treatment for imports of certain textile and apparel products of beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries, including handloomed, handmade, or folklore articles of a beneficiary country that are certified as such by the competent authority in the beneficiary country. In Executive Order 13191, the President authorized CITA to consult with beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries and to determine which, if any, particular textile and apparel goods shall be treated as being handloomed, handmade, or folklore articles. (66 FR 7272).

In a letter to the Commissioner of Customs dated January 18, 2001, the United States Trade Representative directed Customs to require that importers provide an appropriate export visa from a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country to obtain preferential treatment under section 112(a) of the AGOA (66 FR 7837). The first digit of the visa number corresponds to one of nine groupings of textile and apparel products that are eligible for preferential tariff treatment. Grouping "9" is reserved for handmade, handloomed, or folklore articles.

CITA has consulted with Mozambican authorities, and has determined that handloomed fabrics, handloomed articles (e.g., handloomed rugs, scarves, place mats, and tablecloths), handmade