

newsletters, direct outreach to the Department's clients and distribution lists, publication in the **Federal Register**, and announcements at industry meetings, symposia, conferences, and trade shows.

Recruitment for the mission will begin immediately and conclude no later than January 3, 2012, by the close of business. Applications received after January 3, 2012, will be considered only if space and scheduling constraints permit.

Disclaimer, Security, and Transportation

Business development mission members participate in the mission and undertake related travel at their own risk and are advised to obtain insurance accordingly. Any question regarding insurance coverage must be resolved by the participant. The U.S. Government does not make any representations or guarantees as to the safety or security of participants. Companies should consult the State Department's travel warning for Afghanistan: http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/tw/tw_2121.html. http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/tw/tw_2121.html.

ITA will coordinate with the U.S. Embassy in Kabul to arrange for transportation of the mission participants to and from the airport and lodging facilities. The primary venue for the mission has security measures in place.

For More Information and an Application Packet Contact

U.S. Commercial Service Domestic Contact

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Elnora Moye,

Trade Program Assistant.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

U.S. Education Mission to Poland and Czech Republic Warsaw, Poland and Prague, Czech Republic, April 15-19, 2012

AGENCY: International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

Mission Description

The United States Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration, U.S. & Foreign Commercial Service, is coordinating and sponsoring an education industry trade mission to Warsaw, Poland and Prague, Czech Republic from April 15 to 19, 2012. This mission will include representatives from regionally accredited graduate programs and 4-year undergraduate educational institutions. This mission will seek to connect United States education institutions to potential students, university/institution partners and education consultants in Poland and the Czech Republic. The mission will include one-on-one appointments with potential partners, embassy briefings, student fairs and networking events in Warsaw and Prague, which represent the largest cities in two dynamic and growing countries that hold high potential for U.S. educational institutions interested in students from this region.

Commercial Setting

Poland

Poland is a prime target from which U.S. educational institutions can successfully recruit both graduate and undergraduate students. This market is not only the sixth largest country in the European Union in terms of population, but from a demographics standpoint, the population is heavily skewed towards young students with keen interest in higher education per the Ministry of Education. Poland's total population of 38 million includes over 5.5 million young people from 15 to 24 years of age, including 1.9 million students.

Polish students are well-disposed toward the United States, as exemplified by their foreign language curriculum. English is the first choice for a second language in this market and is used by almost all high school and university students. Since 2004, when Poland joined the European Union, Polish young adults have been participating in the European Union educational programs. Increasingly, young Polish

students are also interested in expanding their experiences beyond the European Union. There is thus a strong core group of students who are very interested in studying in the United States per recent trends and sources.

Over 450 institutions of higher education exist in Poland, including 132 of public origin. Poland is currently undergoing a higher education reform. The legislation became effective October 1, 2011 and is expected to better organize and streamline the education process. The changes are expected to raise the standards for access to free-of-charge study programs, a side effect which may result in increased interest in studying abroad.

The Polish Ministry of Education and other higher education authorities strongly encourage Polish students to study abroad, and welcome foreign students to study in Poland as well. While most Polish students choose to study abroad in Europe, the interest in studying in the United States is still quite high. As in other European countries, the number of students studying in the United States has slightly declined over the last few years, mainly due to the global fiscal crisis. For the 2009/2010 academic year, there were 2,264 Polish students studying in the United States, compared to 2,772 in 2008. With the Polish economy continuing to experience positive growth and with stronger interest on the part of U.S. educational institutions to focus on the market, the trend is expected to reverse. It should be well noted that currently a balanced interest exists in both undergraduate as well as graduate studies.

Czech Republic

Study abroad programs are popular in the Czech Republic, as Czechs discovered travel and study abroad in the 1990s after the fall of communism. Though the number of Czechs studying in the United States experienced a decline in recent years, to about 1,000 students, current exchange rates and the visa waiver program are making U.S. education more attractive. The majority of university students are interested in economic and humanities subjects while technical areas rank as their third choice.

English is the standard second language in the Czech Republic, providing a large pool of candidates for both undergraduate and graduate studies in the U.S. A recent government decision that will make English language mandatory for primary school students should improve the ability of Czech students to study at U.S. universities and colleges. Many U.S.

higher education institutions have under-targeted this market and can take reap extra student recruitment opportunities in a country that has not been saturated with overseas student recruitment fairs.

Mission Goals

The goals of the U.S. Education Mission to the Czech Republic and Poland are:

(1) To gain market exposure and introduce participants to two growing student markets in the region, taking

advantage of the United States' strong ties and positive reputation in these countries.

(2) To develop market knowledge and relationships that can enhance future recruitment of students as well as potential partnerships with local educational institutions

Mission Scenario

Participation in the mission will include the following:

- Pre-travel briefings/webinars;

- Embassy/consulate and industry briefings;
- Networking reception at Ambassador's Residence in Warsaw;
- Pre-scheduled meetings with university heads and educational consultants in Warsaw and Prague;
- Student recruitment fairs in Warsaw and Prague;
- Airport transfers to hotels and sites in Warsaw and Prague .

The precise schedule will depend on the specific goals and objectives of the mission participants.

PROPOSED TIMETABLE—APRIL 15–19 2012

Sunday, April 15, 2012	Arrive Warsaw.
Evening	Individual transfer to the hotel.
Monday, April 16.	
8:30 a.m.	Embassy briefing.
10:00 a.m.	Meeting at the Ministry of Higher Education or with one of the universities/schools.
11:30–1:00 p.m.	Set-up the venue and lunch on your own.
1:30–5:30 p.m.	Event.
5:30 p.m.	Closing down.
6:30–8:00 p.m.	Reception at the Residence.
9:00 p.m.	Return to hotel
Tuesday, April 17.	
8:30AM–12:00 p.m.	Individual meetings with Polish educational institutions, agents and other partners.
Afternoon	Plane Departure to Prague.
Wednesday, April 18.	
8:30–11:00AM	Breakfast and School Participant Meetings with Prospective Partners (Optional).
11:30–1:00 p.m.	Set-up the venue and lunch on your own.
2:00 p.m.	Embassy briefing.
3:00 p.m.	Event.
7:00 p.m.	Close down.
8:00 p.m.	Return to hotel.

Participation Requirements

All parties interested in participating in the Mission to the Czech Republic and Poland must complete and submit an application for consideration by the U.S. Department of Commerce. All applicants will be evaluated on their ability to meet certain conditions and best satisfy the selection criteria as outlined below. The mission will include a minimum of 15 and maximum of 20 qualified, regionally accredited U.S. education institutions.

Fees and Expenses

After an educational institution has been selected to participate on the mission, a payment to the U.S. Department of Commerce in the form of a participation fee is required. The participation fee is \$1,995 for one principal representative from each regionally accredited educational institution.¹ The fee for each additional

representative is \$500. Expenses for lodging, some meals, incidentals, and all travel (except for transportation to and from airports in-country, previously noted) will be the responsibility of each mission participant.

Conditions for Participation

An applicant must submit a timely, completed and signed mission application and supplemental application materials, including adequate information on courses offerings, primary market objectives, and goals for participation.

Selection Criteria for Participation

Selection will be based on the following criteria:

- Suitability of a company's products or services to the mission's goals;
- Applicant's potential for business in Mexico, including likelihood of exports resulting from the trade mission;

affiliates, and subsidiaries will be considered when determining business size. The dual pricing reflects the Commercial Service's user fee schedule that became effective May 1, 2008 (see <http://www.export.gov/newsletter/march2008/initiatives.html> for additional information).

- Consistency of the applicant's goals and objectives with the stated scope of the trade mission (*i.e.*, the sectors indicated in the mission description).

Referrals from political organizations and any documents containing references to partisan political activities (including political contributions) will be removed from an applicant's submission and not considered during the selection process.

Selection Timeline

Mission recruitment will be conducted in an open and public manner, including publication in the **Federal Register**, posting on the U.S. Department of Commerce trade mission calendar (<http://www.trade.gov/trade-missions>) and other Internet Web sites, press releases to general and trade media, direct mail, notices by industry trade associations and other multiplier groups, and publicity at industry meetings, symposia, conferences, and trade shows. Recruitment for the mission will begin immediately and conclude no later than January 31, 2012. The mission will be open on a first-

¹ An SME is defined as a firm with 500 or fewer employees or that otherwise qualifies as a small business under SBA regulations (see http://www.sba.gov/services/contracting_opportunities/sizestandardstopping/index.html). Parent companies,

come, first-serve basis. Applications received after that date will be considered only if space and scheduling constraints permit.

Contacts

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Elnora Moye,

Trade Program Assistant.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XA852

Endangered and Threatened Species; 5-Year Reviews for 4 Distinct Population Segments of Steelhead in California

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

ACTION: Notice of availability of 5-year reviews.

SUMMARY: We, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Southwest Region, announce the availability of 5-year reviews for four DPSs of steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) in California, as required by the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Information about the 5-year review process, including copies of the 5-year review reports, may be obtained by visiting the NMFS Southwest Regional Office Web site at <http://swr.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.

ADDRESSES: Additional information about the 5-year review process, including copies of the 5-year review reports, may be obtained by visiting the NMFS Southwest Regional Office Web site at <http://swr.nmfs.noaa.gov/> or by writing to us at: NMFS Southwest Region, 501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802; *Attn:* Craig Wingert.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Craig Wingert at the above address or at (562) 980-4021.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Under the ESA, a list of endangered and threatened wildlife and plant species must be maintained. The list is

published at 50 CFR 17.11 (for animals) and 17.12 (for plants). Section 4(c)(2)(A) of the ESA requires that NMFS conduct a review of listed species under its jurisdiction at least once every 5 years ("5-year reviews"). In conducting 5-year reviews, we consider the best scientific and commercial data, including new information that has become available since the last listing determination or most recent status review of a species.

On March 18, 2010, NMFS announced the initiation of 5-year reviews for listed Pacific salmon ESUs and steelhead DPSs in California, Oregon, Washington, and Idaho (75 FR 13082). Both ESUs and DPSs are treated as "species" under the ESA and we use the term "species" to refer to both in the remainder of this notice. In the March 18, 2010 announcement, we requested new information regarding the biological status of these ESUs and DPSs and the factors that affect them from the public, concerned governmental agencies, Tribes, the scientific community, environmental entities, and other interested parties.

This notice of availability addresses our completed 5-year reviews for: (1) Northern California steelhead; (2) Central California Coast steelhead; (3) South-Central California Coast steelhead; and (4) Southern California steelhead. We used a two-step process to complete the reviews. First, we asked scientists from our Southwest Fisheries Science Center to collect and analyze new information about each species' viability. To evaluate each species' viability, our scientists applied the agency's Viable Salmonid Population framework, which relies on evaluating four key population parameters (abundance, productivity, spatial structure, and diversity). Using this framework, they compiled and evaluated all new relevant information on these four parameters and then updated the overall viability status of each species. They also considered new genetic and biogeographic information related to each species' freshwater and estuarine geographic boundaries. At the end of this process, the Center prepared a report detailing the results and conclusions from their analyses. To complete the review, fishery biologists from the Southwest Region and its field offices evaluated all information that has become available on the species since 2005, the date of its last biological status review.

The 5-year review reports prepared by the Southwest Region, the Southwest Science Center's updated status assessment, and additional information concerning these species are available on the Southwest Region's Web site:

<http://swr.nmfs.noaa.gov/>. NMFS concludes that the 5-year review meets the requirements of the ESA.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*

Dated: November 30, 2011.

Angela Somma,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XO45

Marine Mammals; File No. 14241, Correction

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

ACTION: Notice; receipt of application for permit amendment; correction.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Dr. Peter Tyack, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Woods Hole, MA has applied for an amendment to Permit No. 14241-02 to conduct research on marine mammals. This document makes a correction to a previously published document (December 2, 2011) in which the **DATES** section was inadvertently omitted. **DATES:** Written, telefaxed, or email comments must be received on or before January 3, 2012.

ADDRESSES: The application and related documents are available for review by selecting "Records Open for Public Comment" from the *Features* box on the Applications and Permits for Protected Species home page, <https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov>, and then selecting File No. 14241 from the list of available applications.

These documents are also available 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) 427-8401; fax (301) 713-0376;
Northeast Region, NMFS, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930; phone (978) 281-9300; fax (978) 281-9333; and
Southeast Region, NMFS, 263 13th Avenue South, Saint Petersburg, Florida 33701; phone (727) 824-5312; fax (727) 824-5309.