

has been appointed examiner to investigate the application and report to the Board.

Public comment is invited from interested parties. Submissions (original and 3 copies) shall be addressed to the Board's Executive Secretary at the address below. The closing period for their receipt is May 30, 2000. Rebuttal comments in response to material submitted during the foregoing period may be submitted during the subsequent 15-day period (to June 12, 2000.)

A copy of the application and accompanying exhibits will be available for public inspection at each of the following locations:

U.S. Department of Commerce Export Assistance Center, 2050 N. Stemmons Fwy., Suite 170, P.O. Box 420069, Dallas, Texas 75207

Office of the Executive Secretary, Foreign-Trade Zones Board, Room 4008, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th & Constitution Avenues, NW, Washington, DC 20230

Dated: March 21, 2000.

Dennis Puccinelli,

Acting Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-7765 Filed 3-28-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[Docket 27-98 and 28-98]

Withdrawal of Applications for Subzone Status for Hanover Direct, Inc. (Distribution of Consumer Goods); Foreign-Trade Zone 147—Reading, PA (Hanover, PA); Foreign-Trade Zone 204—Blountville, TN (Roanoke, VA)

Notice is hereby given of the withdrawal of the applications submitted by the Foreign-Trade Zone Corporation of Southeastern Pennsylvania, grantee of FTZ 147, Reading, PA, and Tri-Cities Airport Commission, grantee of FTZ 204, Blountville, TN, requesting special-purpose subzone status for the consumer goods distribution facilities of Hanover Direct, Inc., located in Hanover, PA (Docket 27-98) and Roanoke, VA (Docket 28-98). The applications were filed on June 1, 1998 (63 FR 29699, 6/1/98).

The withdrawals were requested because of changed circumstances, and the cases have been closed without prejudice.

Dated: March 17, 2000.

Dennis Puccinelli,

Acting Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-7764 Filed 3-28-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

University of Michigan; Notice of Decision on Application for Duty-Free Entry of Electron Microscope

This is a decision pursuant to section 6(c) of the Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Materials Importation Act of 1966 (Pub. L. 89-651, 80 Stat. 897; 15 CFR part 301). Related records can be viewed between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. in Room 4211, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC.

Docket Number: 00-002. *Applicant:* The Regents of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-2143. *Instrument:* Electron Microscope, Model JEM-2010F. *Manufacturer:* JEOL Ltd., Japan. *Intended Use:* See notice at 65 FR 11986, March 7, 2000. *Order Date:* April 22, 1999.

Comments: None received. *Decision:* Approved. No instrument of equivalent scientific value to the foreign instrument, for such purposes as the instrument is intended to be used, was being manufactured in the United States at the time the instrument was ordered. *Reasons:* The foreign instrument is a conventional transmission electron microscope (CTEM) and is intended for research or scientific educational uses requiring a CTEM. We know of no CTEM, or any other instrument suited to these purposes, which was being manufactured in the United States at the time of order of the instrument.

Frank W. Creel,

Director, Statutory Import Programs Staff.

[FR Doc. 00-7763 Filed 3-28-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 031400D]

Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Generic Amendment to the Fishery Management Plans for the Gulf of Mexico to Establish the Tortugas Marine Reserve

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and

Atmosphere Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a draft supplemental environmental impact statement (DSEIS); request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces the intent of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) to prepare a DSEIS for a Generic Amendment to the Fishery Management Plans for the Gulf of Mexico to Establish the Tortugas Marine Reserve (Generic Amendment). The Generic Amendment would amend all of the Council's fishery management plans (FMPs) in a manner necessary to establish a marine reserve in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) in the vicinity of the Dry Tortugas, Florida, along with appropriate fishing restrictions. The purpose of this document is to solicit public comments on the scope of the issues to be addressed in the DSEIS.

DATES: Written comments on the scope of the DSEIS must be received on or before April 28, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on the scope of the DSEIS and requests for additional information on the Generic Amendment should be sent to Wayne Swingle, Executive Director, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 3018 U.S. Highway 301, North, Suite 1000, Tampa, Florida 33619.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Wayne Swingle, 813-228-2815, or Michael Barnette, 727-570-5305.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: At the Council's November 1999 meeting, representatives of the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (FKNMS) requested the Council to draft fishing regulations, under authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), for the EEZ for a proposed ecological reserve (marine reserve) in the Tortugas region. The proposed marine reserve is approximately 70 miles west of Key West, Florida.

Currently, the Council is considering proposed measures for the Generic Amendment that would prohibit all fishing (i.e., fishing for all species managed under its FMPs as well as fishing for Atlantic highly migratory species (HMS)) and anchoring of fishing vessels in the marine reserve. The expected benefits include: (1) Protection and conservation of essential fish habitat, including critical coral reef resources, as mandated by the Magnuson-Stevens Act; (2) establishment of a refuge and biological resource replenishment area to conserve

and to enhance the abundance and diversity of reef resources; (3) protection of critical spawning stock and fishing size-class recruits from overfishing, thus helping to ensure the continued abundance of fishery resources; and (4) improvement of opportunities for research on and monitoring of a coral reef ecosystem reference site. Disadvantages include displacement of fishing effort to other areas with associated crowding and possible short-term loss of revenues for commercial fishermen. The Generic Amendment would amend, as necessary, the Council's FMPs for stone crab, shrimp, corals, spiny lobster, coastal migratory pelagics, reef fish, and red drum.

The Council intends to prepare a DSEIS covering the expected environmental impacts of the Generic Amendment. The DSEIS would supplement the environmental reviews conducted previously by the Council and NMFS for each of the Council's FMPs. It is noted that the Council intends to assess, within its DSEIS, the expected environmental impacts of a management alternative prohibiting all fishing, including fishing for HMS.

Scoping Process

The FKNMS established a working group (Tortugas 2000) in 1998 consisting of representatives of various user groups that may be impacted by the establishment of a marine reserve in the Tortugas region. This working group conducted several public meetings in 1998 and 1999. Furthermore, the FKNMS held public hearings on the proposed marine reserve in 1998 and 1999 throughout Florida and in Washington, DC. Because of these previous opportunities for public input, the Council has scheduled no scoping meetings for the DSEIS for the Generic Amendment. However, the Council is requesting written comments on the scope of the issues to be addressed in the DSEIS.

Timetable for DSEIS Preparation and Decisionmaking Schedule

The Council intends to accept public comments on the completed DSEIS, prepare a final supplemental environmental impact statement (FSEIS), and submit the FSEIS to NMFS when it submits the final Generic Amendment for agency review, approval, and implementation, as provided by procedures of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. The Council intends to hold public hearings on the Draft Generic Amendment/DSEIS in June 2000; the specific times and locations for these hearings will be

announced through publication of a separate **Federal Register** notice.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: March 23, 2000.

Bruce C. Morehead,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 00-7707 Filed 3-28-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 032200C]

Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) to hold a work session that is open to the public.

DATES: The work session will be held on Thursday, April 20, 2000 and Friday, April 21, 2000, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

ADDRESSES: The work session will be held at NMFS Southwest Fisheries Science Center, 8604 La Jolla Shores Drive, Room D-203, La Jolla, CA.

Council address: Pacific Fishery Management Council, 2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224, Portland, OR 97201.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dan Waldeck, Pacific Fishery Management Council, (503) 326-6352; or Dr. Doyle Hanan, California Department of Fish and Game, (619) 546-7170.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The primary purpose of this work session is to initiate several analyses requested by the Council. These include: (1) establish a capacity goal for the coastal pelagic species (CPS) finfish fishery and analyze transferability of CPS limited entry permits; (2) address disapproved portions of the CPS fishery management plan—develop alternatives for specifying maximum sustainable yield (MSY) and acceptable biological catch (ABC) for market squid, and management alternatives for assessing bycatch in CPS fisheries; (3) initiate the 2000 stock assessment and fishery evaluation (SAFE) process for the CPS fishery, including preparation of the CPS SAFE

document and consideration of developing a process to review Pacific sardine and Pacific mackerel stock assessments.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in the CPSMT meeting agenda may come before the CPSMT for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal CPSMT action during this meetings. CPSMT 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 Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of the CPSMT'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 Mr. John Rhoton at (503) 326-6352 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: March 22, 2000.

Bruce C. Morehead,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 00-7706 Filed 3-28-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No. 000317075-0075-01]

RIN 0651-XX22

Public Advisory Committees

AGENCY: Patent and Trademark Office, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice and request for nominations.

SUMMARY: On November 29, 1999, the President signed into law the Patent and Trademark Office Efficiency Act, Public Law 106-113, Title VI, Subtitle G, which, among other things, established Public Advisory Committees to review the policies, goals, performance, budget and user fees of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with respect to patents, in the case of the Patent Public Advisory Committee; and with respect to trademarks in the case of the Trademark Public Advisory Committee. To implement these statutory changes, the USPTO is requesting nominations for members to these Committees.

DATES: Nominations must be submitted on or before April 28, 2000.