

organizations to consider subjects related to the field of weights and measures technology, administration, and enforcement. Pursuant to (15 U.S.C. 272(b)(6)), the National Institute of Standards and Technology supports the National Conference on Weights and Measures in order to promote uniformity among the States in the complexity of laws, regulations, methods, and testing equipment that comprises regulatory control by the states of commercial weighing and measuring.

Publication of this notice by the NIST on the NCWM's behalf is being undertaken as a public service; NIST does not necessarily endorse, approve, or recommend any of the proposals contained in the notice.

DATES: July 9–13, 2006.

ADDRESSES: The Chicago Marriott, Chicago, Illinois.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The NCWM has the following topics scheduled for discussion and development at its Annual Meeting. At this stage, the items are proposals. This meeting includes work sessions in which Committees take public comments and finalize recommendations for possible adoption at the meeting.

Committees may also withdraw or carryover items that need additional development. Please see NCWM Publication 16, which is available on the NCWM Web site at <http://www.ncwm.net> for additional information. The following are brief descriptions of some significant agenda items that will be considered at the meeting. Comments will be taken on these items during the public comment sessions to be held at the meeting.

The Specifications and Tolerances Committee will consider proposed amendments to NIST Handbook 44, "Specifications, Tolerances, and Other Technical Requirements for Weighing and Measuring Devices (NIST Handbook 44)." Those items address weighing and measuring devices that may be used in commercial measurement applications, that is, devices that are normally used to buy from or sell to the general public or used for determining the quantity of products sold among businesses. Issues on the agenda of the NCWM Laws and Regulations Committee relate to proposals to amend NIST Handbook 130, "Uniform Laws and Regulations in the area of legal metrology and engine fuel quality (NIST Handbook 130)." This notice contains information about significant items on the NCWM Committee agendas, and they are not presented in consecutive order.

NCWM Specifications and Tolerances Committee

The following items are proposals to amend NIST Handbook 44.

General Code

Item 310–1. Software for Not-Built for Purpose Devices: This is a proposal to require manufacturers to display information on the version of software that is currently in use in a commercial measuring device.

Scales Code

Item 320–1. Zero Indication; Requirements for Markings or Indications for Other than Digital Zero Indications: This proposal would clarify the requirement's original intent for marking zero indications on scales and point-of-sale systems where a zero is represented by other than a digital indication of zero.

Item 320–3. Revise Shift Test for Scales: This proposal would modify requirements for the placement of test weights and test loads on weighing devices.

Item 320–4. Minimum Test Weights and Test Loads for Scales: This proposal would modify requirements for the minimum amount of test weights and test loads that must be used to verify the accuracy of commercial weighing devices.

Item 320–6. Time Dependence Tests: This is a proposal to align the type approval requirements for the time dependence (creep) test for scales and load cells with OIML requirements.

Item 320–8. Computing Scale Interfaced to an Electronic Cash Register (ECR): This proposal is intended to clarify requirements for computing scales with ECRs and to specify how each component must display transaction information, function in taking tare, and operate with Price-Look-Up (PLU) capability.

Item 320–9. Vehicle Scale Approaches: This is a proposal to clarify that vehicle scales may have one or more approaches to allow vehicles to move onto and off of the load receiving elements.

Item 320–11. Acceptable International Symbols: This is a proposal to include a list of accepted international symbols for marking operational controls, indications and features on scales in NIST Handbook 44.

Belt-Conveyor Scale Systems

Item 321–1. Official and As-found Tests: This is a proposal to improve the accuracy of these weighing systems by encouraging users to conduct random as-found tests and to improve their

recordkeeping concerning scale maintenance and performance.

Liquid-Measuring Devices

Item 330–4. Diversion of Measured Flow: This is a proposal to revise requirements for valves and piping on liquid measuring devices so that they are consistent throughout NIST Handbook 44.

Cryogenic Liquid Measuring Devices

Item 334–1. Provision for Security Seals: This is a proposal to add a requirement that these meters have electronic security seals.

NCWM Laws and Regulations Committee

The following item is a proposal to amend NIST Handbook 130.

Method of Sale of Commodities Regulation

Item 232–2. Biodiesel and Fuel Ethanol Labeling: This item requires the identification and labeling of biodiesel fuels and blends at retail service stations.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Carol Hockert, Chief, NIST, Weights and Measures Division, 100 Bureau Drive, Stop 2600, Gaithersburg, MD 20899–2600. Telephone (301) 975–5507, or e-mail: Carol.Hockert@nist.gov.

Dated: June 19, 2006.

Hratch G. Semerjian,
Deputy Director.

[FR Doc. E6–10098 Filed 6–26–06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

Announcement of a Meeting To Explore Feasibility of Establishing a NIST/Industry Consortium on Metrological Aspects of X-Ray Diffraction and X-Ray Reflectometry Analysis

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) invites interested parties to attend a pre-consortium meeting to be held on August 10, 2006 in conjunction with the 55th Annual Denver X-Ray Conference at the Denver Marriott Tech Center Hotel, in Denver, CO. The objective of this meeting is to evaluate industry interest in a NIST/Industry Consortium on metrological aspects of X-Ray

Diffraction and X-Ray Reflectometry analysis.

The goals of this consortium include the development of standardized terminology and modeling methods, which will facilitate parameter comparisons between different instrument software and improve customer confidence in X-ray characterization techniques. The approach will compare results from industrial X-ray modeling and refinement approaches with NIST X-ray metrology-based approaches to establish consistency in parameter determination and in uncertainty analysis. The long-term goal of this collaboration will be NIST recommendations for X-ray data measurement and analysis methods. Recommended measurement and analysis methods in conjunction with future Standard Reference Materials will establish SI traceability between X-ray measurement and structural model parameters.

NIST staff members along with at least one technical representative from each participating member company will conduct X-ray software data refinements. Membership in the Consortium is open to the X-ray instrument vendor community, particularly equipment manufacturers with commercially available X-ray analysis software applicable to the comparative study. The term of the consortium is intended to be 5 years.

DATES: The meeting will take place on Thursday, August 10, 2006 from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Interested parties should contact NIST at the address, telephone number or FAX number shown below to confirm their interest in attending this meeting.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will take place at the Denver Marriott Tech Center Hotel, 4900 S. Syracuse Street, Denver, CO 80237, Room: Evergreen Ballroom.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Donald Windover or James P. Cline, Ceramics Division, National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), 100 Bureau Drive, MS 8520, Gaithersburg, MD 20899. Telephone: (301) 975-6102 or (301) 975-5793, FAX: 301 975-5334; e-mail: donald.windover@nist.gov or james.cline@nist.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Any program undertaken will be within the scope and confines of The Federal Technology Transfer Act of 1986 (Pub. L. 99-502, 15 U.S.C. 3710a), which provides Federal laboratories including NIST, with the authority to enter into cooperative research agreements with qualified parties. Under this law, NIST may contribute personnel, equipment, and facilities but no funds to the

cooperative research program. This is not a grant program.

Dated: June 19, 2006.

Hratch G. Semerjian,

Deputy Director.

[FR Doc. E6-10099 Filed 6-26-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 061406C]

Endangered Species; File No. 1557

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

ACTION: Notice; issuance of permit.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Molly Lutcavage, Department of Zoology, 177 A Spaulding Hall, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH 03824-2617, has been issued a permit to take leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*) for purposes of scientific research.

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)427-2521; and Northeast Region, NMFS, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930-2298; phone (978)281-9200; fax (978)281-9371.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patrick Opay or Kate Swails, (301)713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On January 6, 2006, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (71 FR 916) that a request for a scientific research permit to take leatherback sea turtles had been submitted by the above-named individual. The requested permit has been issued 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 parts 222-226).

The primary purpose of the proposed research is to investigate leatherback sea turtle regional behavior and movements in near-shore waters off the northeastern United States and to identify their dispersal in relation to oceanographic conditions and fishing activities. The

research will also help establish baseline health assessments, genetic identities, sex ratios, and stable isotope composition of leatherback sea turtle tissues and prey. Researchers will conduct research on up to 12 leatherback sea turtles annually. Researchers will use animals that have been disentangled from fishing gear by the stranding network or they will capture the animals using a breakaway hoopnet. Turtles will be measured, weighed, photographed and video taped, flipper and passive integrated transponder (PIT) tagged, blood sampled, cloacal swabbed, nasal swabbed, skin sampled, tagged with electronic instruments (e.g., satellite transmitters), and released. The research permit is issued for 5 years.

Issuance of this permit, as required by the ESA, was based on a finding that such permit (1) was applied for in good faith, (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of any endangered or threatened species, and (3) is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

Dated: June 21, 2006.

P. Michael Payne,

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

[FR Doc. E6-10113 Filed 6-26-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

Admittance To Practice and Roster of Registered Patent Attorneys and Agents Admitted To Practice Before the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the continuing information collection, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before August 28, 2006.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

E-mail: Susan.Brown@uspto.gov.

Include "0651-0012 comment" in the subject line of the message.

Fax: 571-273-0112, marked to the attention of Susan Brown.