

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**International Trade Administration**

AGENCY: International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce invites U.S. companies to participate in the following overseas trade missions:

Women-In-Trade Business Development*Mission to South Africa.*

Johannesburg and Cape Town.

October 6–10, 1997.

Recruitment closes August 29, 1997.

For further information contact

Loretta Allison, Department of Commerce.

Tel: 202–482–5479.

Fax: 202–482–1999.

Health Industries Russian Trade Mission.

Nizhny Novgorod, Russia, and Kazan, Tatarstan.

October 19–26, 1997.

Recruitment closes September 15, 1997.

For further information contact

George Keen, Department of Commerce.

Tel: 202–482–2010.

Fax: 202–482–0975. 02

Retailing and Franchising Trade Mission to China.

Hong Kong, Shenzhen, Shanghai, and Beijing.

October 19–28, 1997.

Recruitment closes September 15, 1997.

For further information contact Bruce Harsh, Department of Commerce.

Tel: 202–482–4582.

Fax: 202–482–2669.

U.S. Computer Industry Trade Mission to the Middle East.

United Arab Emirates, Egypt and Israel.

October 28–November 6, 1997.

Recruitment closes September 5, 1997.

For further information contact Daniel Valverde, Department of Commerce.

Tel: 202–482–0573.

Fax: 202–482–0952.

Medical Devices and Supplies Trade Mission to India.

New Delhi, Chennai (Madras), and Mumbai (Bombay).

January 17–24, 1998.

Recruitment closes November 21, 1997.

For further information contact

Duaine Priestley, Department of Commerce.

Tel: 202–482–2410.

Fax: 202–482–2702.

Medical and Dental Devices, Medical Device Components, and Laboratory Instruments Trade Mission to China.

Beijing, Shanghai, Chengdu, and Kunming.

April 19–April 29, 1998.

Recruitment closes February 21, 1997.

For further information contact

Lauren Brosler, Department of Commerce.

Tel: 202–482–4431.

Fax: 202–482–0975.

For further information contact

Reginald Beckham, Department of Commerce.

Tel: 202–482–5478.

Fax: 202–482–1999.

Dated: August 21, 1997.

David C. Bowie,

Deputy Director, Office of Export Promotion Coordination.

[FR Doc. 97–22637 Filed 8–25–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DR-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****National Marine Sanctuary Program**

AGENCY: Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM), National Ocean Service (NOS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is withdrawing Norfolk Canyon from consideration as an Active Candidate for designation as a National Marine Sanctuary. Norfolk Canyon is located approximately 60 nautical miles east of the entrance to Chesapeake Bay (offshore Virginia), and is a deep-water site. Norfolk Canyon was identified by NOAA for further evaluation prior to the development of the National Marine Sanctuary Program's Site Evaluation List (SEL). For reasons related to limited agency resources, the remote nature of the site, and the absence of known threats to the Canyon's resources, NOAA has decided to withdraw Norfolk Canyon from Active Candidate status, and terminate consideration of the site for possible designation as a National Marine Sanctuary.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Edward Lindelof, Manager, Atlantic, Great Lakes and Gulf Branch, Sanctuaries and Reserves Division, Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, at 301–713–3137 (ext.

131), fax: 301–713–0404, e-mail: elindelof@ocean.nos.noaa.gov.

I. Background

The National Marine Sanctuaries Act, as amended, (Act), 16 U.S.C. 1431 et seq., authorizes the Secretary of Commerce to designate discrete areas of the marine environment as national marine sanctuaries if the designation will fulfill the purposes and policies of the Act (set forth in section 301(b) (16 U.S.C. 1431(b)), and if: (1) The area proposed for designation is of special national significance due to its resource or human-use values; (2) existing state and federal authorities are inadequate or should be supplemented to ensure coordinated and comprehensive conservation and management of the area, including resource protection, scientific research, and public education; (3) designation of the area as a national marine sanctuary will facilitate the coordinated and comprehensive conservation and management of the area; and (4) the area is of a size and nature that will permit comprehensive and coordinated conservation and management. The Act is administered by NOAA through the National Ocean Service (NOS), Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM), Sanctuaries and Reserves Division (SRD).

II. Administrative History

In January 1982, NOAA published a Program Development Plan (PDP) for the National Marine Sanctuary Program, describing the Program's mission and goals, site identification and selection criteria, and the nomination and designation process. Based on the PDP and Program regulations, NOAA published a proposed SEL recommended to NOAA by regional resource evaluation teams. At the time of development of the SEL, Norfolk Canyon and five other sites were already under consideration by NOAA for possible designation, and the regional resource evaluation teams were instructed to not consider these sites. On August 4, 1983, NOAA published the final SEL (48 FR 35568). The SEL is described in the regulations for the National Marine Sanctuary program at 15 CFR 922.10.

On September 1, 1985, NOAA published notice (50 FR 37760) announcing preliminary consultation and inviting public comment on the possible designation of Norfolk Canyon as a National Marine Sanctuary. Norfolk Canyon became an Active Candidate for National Marine Sanctuary designation

on February 28, 1986 (51 FR 7097). Public scoping meetings were conducted pursuant to notice published on May 19, 1986 (51 FR 18352). The scoping meetings were held to allow NOAA to gather information and determine the range and significance of issues related to the potential Sanctuary designation and management of the Norfolk Canyon site. A preliminary draft resource assessment/environmental impact statement was completed in 1992. No further significant action toward designation has occurred since that time.

III. The Site

Norfolk Canyon is located approximately 60 nautical miles east of the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay (offshore Virginia), and is the southernmost of a series of submarine canyons along the Atlantic continental margin. This is a deep-water site, characterized as a non-glaciated area that is influenced by a major drainage system (the Chesapeake Bay), and is habitat for several alcyonariid and scleractinid corals. The area is approximately positioned about the coordinates: 37°03.3n by 74°38.4W.

IV. Action

The SRD has been unable to actively pursue designation of this site for reasons pertaining to availability of resources and Program priorities. NOAA has decided to focus its limited personnel and budgetary resources on completion of Congressionally-designated sites; on consideration of bio-geographic areas not well represented by the Sanctuary Program; and on sites that are more significantly affected by human activities. NOAA's resources are being directed at bringing the management of designated sanctuaries up to levels consistent with mandates of the Act. NOAA finds, through information gathered for the preliminary draft resource assessment and environmental impact statement, that there appears to be the minimal threat to the Norfolk Canyon site, relative to other proposed and existing sites. Human activities are limited primarily to low levels of commercial and recreational fishing. No mineral mining or ocean disposal activity occurs at the site, and the near-term prospects of such activities are unlikely.

Accordingly, the site is withdrawn from Active Candidate status and further consideration of Norfolk Canyon for designation as a National Marine Sanctuary is discontinued.

(Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog Number 11.429 Marine Sanctuary Program)

Dated: August 18, 1997.

Captain Evelyn J. Fields,

Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator for Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management.

[FR Doc 97-22602 Filed 8-25-97 8:45 am.]

BILLING CODE 3510-08-M

COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Adjustment of Import Limits and Guaranteed Access Levels for Certain Cotton, Wool and Man-Made Fiber Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in the Dominican Republic

August 20, 1997.

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

ACTION: Issuing a directive to the Commissioner of Customs adjusting import limits and Guaranteed Access Levels.

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 26, 1997.

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 or call (202) 927-5850. For information on embargoes and quota re-openings, call (202) 482-3715.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended; section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854); Uruguay Round Agreements Act.

The current limit for Categories 351/651 is being increased for special shift, reducing the limit for 342/642 to account for the increase.

Upon the request of the Government of the Dominican Republic, the U.S. Government has agreed to increase the current Guaranteed Access Levels (GALs) for certain textile products.

A description of the textile and apparel categories in terms of HTS numbers is available in the **CORRELATION:** Textile and Apparel Categories with the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (see **Federal Register** notice 62 FR 66263, published on December 17, 1996). Also see 61 FR 65375, published on December 12, 1996.

The letter to the Commissioner of Customs and the actions taken pursuant to it are not designed to implement all of the provisions of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act and the Uruguay Round Agreement on Textiles and Clothing, but are designed to assist only in the implementation of certain of their provisions.

Troy H. Cribb,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

August 20, 1997.

Commissioner of Customs,
Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC 20229.

Dear Commissioner: This directive amends, but does not cancel, the directive issued to you on December 6, 1996, by the Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements. That directive concerns imports of certain cotton, wool and man-made fiber textile products, produced or manufactured in the Dominican Republic and exported during the twelve-month period which began on January 1, 1997 and extends through December 31, 1997.

Effective on August 26, 1997, you are directed to adjust the limits for the following categories, as provided for under the Uruguay Agreements Act and the Uruguay Round Agreement on Textiles and Clothing:

Category	Adjusted limit ¹
342/642	348,935 dozen.
351/651	1,076,530 dozen.

¹ The limits have not been adjusted to account for any imports exported after December 31, 1996.

The Guaranteed Access Levels (GALs) for Categories 342/642 and 351/651 remain unchanged. You are directed to increase the current GALs for the following categories:

Category	Guaranteed Access Level
338/638	4,150,000 dozen.
347/348/647/648	9,050,000 dozen.
433	81,000 dozen.

The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements has determined that these actions fall within the foreign affairs exception of the rulemaking provisions of 5 U.S.C. 553(a)(1).

Sincerely,

Troy H. Cribb,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

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