

statement from the contact officer indicated for this mission below.

Business Development Mission to Romania and Bulgaria

Bucharest and Sofia

Deputy Secretary of Commerce, Samuel Bodman, with Assistant Secretary and Director General of the U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service, Maria Cino, and Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Market Access and Compliance, William Lash, will lead a senior-level business development mission to help U.S. companies explore business opportunities in Romania and Bulgaria. The delegation will include 10–15 U.S.-based senior executives of small, medium and large U.S. firms representing, but not limited to, the following sectors: automotive parts, building products, information technology, telecommunications, defense industry, energy, medical products, environmental technologies, and tourism infrastructure.

Recruitment closes on May 9, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Matthew Wright, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW., Room 2012, Washington, DC 20230, telephone 202–482–2567, fax 202–482–0178, or e-mail Matthew.Wright@mail.doc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Goals for the Mission

The mission will further both U.S. commercial policy objectives and advance specific business interests. It is intended to: assist individual U.S. companies to pursue business opportunities by introducing them to government decision-making officials and to potential business partners; assist new-to-market firms to evaluate the market potential for their products and gain an understanding of how to operate successfully in Romania and Bulgaria; enhance the dialogue between government and industry on issues affecting the development of commercial relations; promote U.S. and Romanian and Bulgarian trade and investment and, as a result, contribute to the political and economic stability of important American allies; and assist U.S. companies to take advantage of opportunities arising from NATO accession.

Scenario for the Mission

American Embassy officials will provide a detailed briefing on the economic, commercial and political climate, and participants will receive individual counseling on their specific interests from the in-country U.S.

Commercial Service industry specialists. Meetings will be arranged as appropriate with senior government officials and potential business partners. Networking events also will be organized to provide opportunities to meet Romanian and Bulgarian business and government representatives, as well as U.S. business people living and working in Romania and Bulgaria. The tentative trip itinerary is as follows: July 14, arrive Bucharest; July 15–16, one-on-one business meetings in Bucharest and evening travel to Sofia; July 17–18, one-on-one business meetings in Sofia. The precise schedule will depend in part on the availability of local government and business officials and the specific goals of the mission participants.

Recruitment and selection of private sector participants for this mission will be conducted according to the Statement of Policy Governing Department of Commerce Overseas Trade Missions dated March 3, 1997.

Dated: April 11, 2003.

Carlos Poza,

Deputy Director General, U.S. & Foreign Commercial Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 041403A]

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Southwest Region Permit Family of Forms

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, 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 proposed and/or continuing information collections, 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 June 16, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dHynek@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Alvin Katekaru, 808–973–2935, ext. 2072937, or at Alvin.Katekaru@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

Permits are required for persons to participate in Federally-managed fisheries in the western Pacific region and off the West Coast. There are three types of permits: basic fishery permits (e.g., western Pacific general longline fishing and receiving permits, precious coral permits, and troll or handline permits for pelagic management unit species in waters around the U.S. Pacific remote island areas); limited entry permits for selected fisheries (e.g., Hawaii longline fishery, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI) bottomfish fishery, West Coast coastal pelagic fishery); and experimental fishing permits (EFPs). Appeals and certain waivers requests can also be submitted. Some fisheries require an application to transfer a permit.

The permit application forms provide basic information about permit holders and the vessels and gear being used. This information is important for understanding the nature of the fisheries and provides a link to participants. It also aids enforcement of regulations.

II. Method of Collection

Paper forms are required for most permit applications. Experimental fishing permits, waivers, and appeals are submitted in paper format, but forms are not used.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0648–0204.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations, individuals or households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 369.

Estimated Time Per Response: 30 minutes for a permit application or permit transfer (unless otherwise noted below); 1 hour for additional permit information (when requested) for the coastal pelagic fishery of the Pacific coast; 1 hour for a limited entry permit application for bottomfish in the NWHI Ho'omalulu Zone; 2 hours for a permit appeal; 2 hours for an application for an exemption or experimental fishing permit; and 1 hour for a waiver for NWHI Ho'omalulu Zone or Mau Zone bottomfish permit renewal requirements.