

In addition, NMFS will require that, immediately following the completion of the seismic retrofit construction of the Bridge, the monitor(s) will conduct observations of seal behavior, at Castro Rocks, at least 5 days/week for approximately 1 tidal cycle (high tide to high tide) each day, for one week/month during the months of April, July, October, and January. At least 2 nights/week during this same period, the monitor will conduct an additional harbor seal census after midnight.

### Reporting

Under previous IHAs, CALTRANS has provided monitoring reports (Green *et al.* (2001, 2002). The findings from these reports have been summarized previously in this document.

CALTRANS will provide weekly reports to the Southwest Regional Administrator (Regional Administrator), NMFS, including a summary of the previous week's monitoring activities and an estimate of the number of harbor seals that may have been disturbed as a result of seismic retrofit construction activities. These reports will provide dates, time, tidal height, maximum number of harbor seals ashore, number of adults, sub-adults and pups, number of females/males, number of harbor seals with a red pelage, and any observed disturbances. A description of retrofit activities at the time of observation and any sound pressure levels measurements made at the haulout will also be provided. A draft interim report must be submitted to NMFS by April 30, 2004.

A draft final report must be submitted to the Regional Administrator within 90 days after the expiration of this IHA. A final report must be submitted to the Regional Administrator within 30 days after receiving comments from the Regional Administrator on the draft final report. If no comments are received from NMFS, the draft final report will be considered to be the final report.

CALTRANS will provide NMFS with a follow-up report on the post-construction monitoring activities within 18 months of project completion in order to evaluate whether haulout patterns are similar to the pre-retrofit haul-out patterns at Castro Rocks.

### National Environmental Policy Act

NMFS prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) in 1997 that concluded that the impacts of CALTRANS' seismic retrofit construction of the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge will not have a significant impact on the human environment. A copy of that EA, which includes the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is available upon

request (see **ADDRESSES**). This action has not changed significantly from the action analyzed in the 1997 EA. Therefore, this proposed action is not expected to change the analysis or conclusion of the 1997 EA.

### Endangered Species Act (ESA)

On January 27, 1997, NMFS completed consultation under section 7 of the ESA with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) on the CALTRANS' proposed seismic retrofit work on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. That consultation concluded that the project is not likely to adversely affect winter-run chinook salmon. However, issuance of this IHA to CALTRANS constitutes an agency action that authorizes an activity that may affect ESA-listed species and, therefore, is subject to section 7 of the ESA. Moreover, because the underlying action has not changed from that considered in the consultation, NMFS has determined that issuance of an IHA does not lead to any effects to listed species apart from those that were considered in the consultation on FHWA's action.

### Conclusions

NMFS has determined that the short-term impact of the seismic retrofit construction of the Bridge should result, at worst, in the temporary modification in behavior by harbor seals and, possibly, by some California sea lions. While behavioral modifications, including temporarily vacating the haulout, may be made by these species to avoid the resultant visual and acoustic disturbance, this action is expected to have a negligible impact on the animals. In addition, no take by injury and/or death is anticipated, and harassment takes will be at the lowest level practicable due to incorporation of the mitigation measures mentioned previously in this document.

### Authorization

For the reasons previously discussed, NMFS has issued an IHA for a 1-year period, for the incidental harassment of harbor seals and California sea lions by the seismic retrofit of the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, San Francisco Bay, CA, provided the above mentioned mitigation, monitoring and reporting requirements are incorporated.

Dated: November 19, 2003.

**Laurie K. Allen,**

*Acting Director, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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### COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

#### Adjustment of Import Limits for Certain Cotton Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in Bangladesh

November 20, 2003.

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

**ACTION:** Issuing a directive to the Commissioner, Bureau of Customs and Border Protection adjusting limits.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** November 26, 2003.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ross Arnold, 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, call (202) 927-5850, or refer to the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection website at <http://www.customs.gov>. For information on embargoes and quota reopenings, refer to the Office of Textiles and Apparel website at <http://otexa.ita.doc.gov>.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

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

The current limit for Category 334 is being increase for special shift from Category 335, reducing the limit for Category 335.

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 68 FR 1599, published on January 13, 2003). Also see 67 FR 65339, published on October 24, 2002.

**James C. Leonard III,**

*Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.*

#### Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

November 20, 2003.

Commissioner,  
*Bureau of Customs and Border Protection,*  
*Washington, DC 20229.*

Dear Commissioner: This directive amends, but does not cancel, the directive issued to you on October 18, 2002, by the Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements. That directive concerns imports of certain cotton and man-made fiber textile products, produced or manufactured in Bangladesh and exported during the twelve-month period which began