Service, Portland, Oregon, Tel: (503) 326–5290, Email: *jennifer.woods@trade.gov.*

Jeffrey Goldberg, Industry & Analysis, Office of Trade Promotion Programs, Washington, DC, Tel: (202) 482–1706, Email: *jeffrey.goldberg@trade.gov.*

Frank Spector,

Acting Director, Trade Missions Program.

[FR Doc. 2015–31584 Filed 12–15–15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DR–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

Limitation of Duty-Free Imports of Apparel Articles Assembled in Haiti Under the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (CBERA), as Amended by the Haitian Hemispheric Opportunity Through Partnership Encouragement Act (HOPE)

AGENCY: International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notification of Annual Quantitative Limit on Imports of Certain Apparel from Haiti.

SUMMARY: CBERA, as amended, provides duty-free treatment for certain apparel articles imported directly from Haiti. One of the preferences is known as the ''value-added'' provision, which requires that apparel meet a minimum threshold percentage of value added in Haiti, the United States, and/or certain beneficiary countries. The provision is subject to a quantitative limitation, which is calculated as a percentage of total apparel imports into the United States for each 12-month annual period. For the annual period from December 20, 2015 through December 19, 2016, the quantity of imports eligible for preferential treatment under the value-added provision is 350,962,661 square meters equivalent.

DATED: *Effective Date:* December 20, 2015.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Laurie Mease, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482–3400.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Section 213A of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (19 U.S.C. 2703a)

(''CBERA''), as amended by the Haitian Hemispheric Opportunity through Partnership Encouragement Act of 2006 (''HOPE'') (Title V of the Tax Relief and Health Care Act of 2006), the Haitian Hemispheric Opportunity through Partnership Encouragement Act of 2008 (''HOPE II'') (Subtitle D of Title XV of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008), the Haiti Economic Lift Program Act of 2010 (''HELP''), and the Trade Preferences Extension Act of 2015; and as implemented by Presidential Proc. No. 8114, 72 FR 13655 (March 22, 2007), and No. 8596, 75 FR 68153 (November 4, 2010).

Background: Section 213A(b)(1)(B) of CBERA, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2703a(b)(1)(B)), outlines the requirements for certain apparel articles imported directly from Haiti to qualify for duty-free treatment under a ''value-added'' provision. In order to qualify for duty-free treatment, apparel articles must be wholly assembled, or knit-to-shape, in Haiti from any combination of fabrics, fabric components, components knit-to-shape, and yarns, as long as the sum of the cost or value of materials produced in Haiti or one or more beneficiary countries, as described in CBERA, as amended, or any combination thereof, plus the direct costs of processing operations performed in Haiti or one or more beneficiary countries, as described in CBERA, as amended, or any combination thereof, is not less than an applicable percentage of the declared customs value of such apparel articles. Pursuant to CBERA, as amended, the applicable percentage for the period December 20, 2015 through December 19, 2016 is 55 percent. For every 12-month period following the effective date of CBERA, as amended, duty-free treatment under the value-added provision is subject to a quantitative limitation. CBERA, as amended, provides that the quantitative limitation will be recalculated for each subsequent 12- month period. Section 213A (b)(1)(C) of CBERA, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2703a(b)(1)(C)), requires that, for the 12-month period beginning on December 20, 2015, the quantitative limitation for qualifying apparel imported from Haiti under the value-added provision will be an amount equivalent to 1.25 percent of the aggregate square meter equivalent of all apparel articles imported into the United States in the most recent 12-month period for which data are available. The aggregate square meters equivalent of all apparel articles imported into the United States is derived from the set of Harmonized System lines listed in the Annex to the World Trade Organization Agreement on Textiles and Clothing (''ATC''), and the conversion factors for units of measure into square meter equivalents used by the United States in implementing the ATC. For purposes of this notice, the most recent 12-month period for which data are available as of December 20, 2015 is the 12-month period ending on October 31, 2015.

Therefore, for the one-year period beginning on December 20, 2015 and extending through December 19, 2016, the quantity of imports eligible for preferential treatment under the value-added provision is 350,962,661 square meters equivalent. Apparel articles entered in excess of these quantities will be subject to otherwise applicable tariffs.

Dated: December 10, 2015.

Joshua Teitelbaum,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Textiles, Consumer Goods and Materials.

[FR Doc. 2015–31598 Filed 12–15–15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DR–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648–XE339

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; North Pacific Halibut and Sablefish Individual Fishing Quota Cost Recovery Programs

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

ACTION: Notice of standard prices and fee percentage.

SUMMARY: NMFS publishes individual fishing quota (IFQ) standard prices and fee percentage for cost recovery for the IFQ Program for the halibut and sablefish fisheries of the North Pacific (IFQ Program). The fee percentage for 2015 is 3.0 percent. This action is intended to provide holders of halibut and sablefish IFQ permits with the 2015 standard prices and fee percentage to calculate the required payment for IFQ cost recovery fees due by January 31, 2016.

DATES: Effective December 16, 2015.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kristie Balovich, Fee Coordinator, 907–586–7105.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

NMFS Alaska Region administers the halibut and sablefish individual fishing quota (IFQ) program in the North Pacific. The IFQ Program is a limited access system authorized by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery

Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act) and the Northern Pacific Halibut Act of 1982. Fishing under the IFQ Program began in March 1995. Regulations implementing the IFQ Program are set forth at 50 CFR part 679.

In 1996, the Magnuson-Stevens Act was amended to, among other purposes, require the Secretary of Commerce to ''collect a fee to recover the actual costs directly related to the management and enforcement of any . . . individual quota program.'' This requirement was further amended in 2006 to include collection of the actual costs of data collection, and to replace the reference to ''individual quota program'' with a more general reference to ''limited access privilege program'' at section 304(d)(2)(A). Section 304(d)(2) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act also specifies an upper limit on these fees, when the fees must be collected, and where the fees must be deposited.

On March 20, 2000, NMFS published regulations in § 679.45 implementing cost recovery for the IFQ Program (65 FR 14919). Under the regulations, an IFQ permit holder incurs a cost recovery fee liability for every pound of IFQ halibut and IFQ sablefish that is landed on his or her IFQ permit(s). The IFQ permit holder is responsible for self-collecting the fee liability for all IFQ halibut and IFQ sablefish landings on his or her permit(s). The IFQ permit holder is also responsible for submitting IFQ fee liability payment(s) to NMFS on or before the due date of January 31 of the year following the year in which the IFQ landings were made. The total dollar amount of the fee due is determined by multiplying the NMFS published fee percentage by the ex-vessel value of all IFQ landings made on the permit(s) during the IFQ fishing year. As required by regulations at § 679.45(d)(1) and (d)(3)(i), NMFS publishes this notice of the fee percentage for the halibut and sablefish IFQ fisheries in the **Federal Register** during or before the last quarter of each year.

Standard Prices

The fee liability is based on the sum of all payments made to fishermen for the sale of the fish during the year. This includes any retro-payments (*e.g.,* bonuses, delayed partial payments, post-season payments) made to the IFQ permit holder for previously landed IFQ halibut or sablefish.

For purposes of calculating IFQ cost recovery fees, NMFS distinguishes between two types of ex-vessel value: actual and standard. Actual ex-vessel value is the amount of all compensation, monetary or non-monetary, that an IFQ permit holder received as payment for his or her IFQ fish sold. Standard ex-vessel value is the default value used to calculate the fee liability. IFQ permit holders have the option of using actual ex-vessel value if they can satisfactorily document it; otherwise, the standard ex-vessel value is used.

The regulation at § 679.45(b)(3)(iii) requires the Regional Administrator to publish IFQ standard prices during the last quarter of each calendar year. These standard prices are used, along with estimates of IFQ halibut and IFQ sablefish landings, to calculate standard ex-vessel values. The standard prices are described in U.S. dollars per IFQ equivalent pound for IFQ halibut and IFQ sablefish landings made during the year. According to § 679.2, IFQ equivalent pound(s) means the weight amount, recorded in pounds, and calculated as round weight for sablefish and headed and gutted weight for halibut, for an IFQ landing. The weight of halibut in pounds landed as guided angler fish (GAF) is converted to IFQ equivalent pound(s) as specified in § 300.65(c) of this title. NMFS calculates the standard prices to closely reflect the variations in the actual ex-vessel values of IFQ halibut and IFQ sablefish landings by month and port or port-group. The standard prices for IFQ halibut and IFQ sablefish are listed in the tables that follow the next section. Data from ports are combined as necessary to protect confidentiality.

Fee Percentage

NMFS calculates the fee percentage each year according to the factors and methods described in Federal regulations at § 679.45(d)(2). NMFS determines the fee percentage that applies to landings made in the previous year by dividing the total costs directly related to the management, data collection, and enforcement of the IFQ Program (management costs) during the previous year by the total standard ex-vessel value of IFQ halibut and IFQ sablefish landings made during the previous year (fishery value). NMFS captures the actual management costs associated with certain management, data collection, and enforcement functions through an established accounting system that allows staff to track labor, travel, contracts, rent, and procurement. NMFS calculates the fishery value as described under the section, Standard Prices.

Using the fee percentage formula described above, the estimated percentage of management costs to fishery value for the 2015 calendar year is 3.0 percent of the standard ex-vessel value. An IFQ permit holder is to use the fee liability percentage of 3.0 percent to calculate his or her fee for IFQ equivalent pound(s) landed during the 2015 halibut and sablefish IFQ fishing season. An IFQ permit holder is responsible for submitting the 2015 IFQ fee liability payment to NMFS on or before January 31, 2016. Payment must be made in accordance with the payment methods set forth in 679.45(a)(4). NMFS will no longer accept credit card information by phone or in-person for fee payments. NMFS has determined that the practice of accepting credit card information by phone or in-person no longer meets agency standards for protection of personal financial information.

The 2015 fee liability percentage of 3.0 percent is an increase of 0.4 percent from the 2014 fee liability of 2.6 percent (79 FR 73045, December 9, 2014). The change in the fee percentage between 2014 and 2015 can be attributed to a 23.5 percent increase in management costs. NMFS, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), and the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) incurred higher costs in 2015 due to addition of staff (NOAA Office of Law Enforcement), additional costs to maintain the interagency Internet-based landings system used for the IFQ Program (NMFS and ADF&G), and increased costs for the port sampling program (IPHC). The value of halibut and sablefish harvests under the IFQ Program also increased by 4 percent from 2014 to 2015. This increase in value of the fishery offset some of the increase in management costs, which limited the change in the fee percentage between 2014 and 2015.

TABLE 1—REGISTERED BUYER STANDARD EX-VESSEL PRICES BY LANDING LOCATION FOR THE 2015 IFQ SEASON [1]

Landing location	Period ending	Halibut standard ex-vessel price	Sablefish Standard Ex-vessel price
CORDOVA			
	March 31		
	April 30	6.26	
	May 31	6.30	
	June 30		
	July 31	7.22	
	August 31	6.80	
	September 30		
	October 31		
	November 30		
HOMER			
	March 31		
	April 30	6.58	
	May 31	6.56	3.67
	June 30	6.63	3.59
	July 31	6.85	
	August 31	6.86	4.14
	September 30	6.79	3.71
	October 31	6.79	3.71
	November 30	6.79	3.71
KETCHIKAN			
	March 31		
	April 30	6.48	
	May 31	6.45	
	June 30	6.46	
	July 31	6.50	
	August 31	6.57	
	September 30	7.04	
	October 31	7.04	
	November 30	7.04	
KODIAK			
	March 31	6.24	
	April 30	6.19	3.58
	May 31	6.35	3.56
	June 30	6.46	3.50
	July 31	6.55	3.98
	August 31	6.57	3.92
	September 30	6.54	3.81
	October 31	6.54	3.81
	November 30	6.54	3.81
PETERSBURG			
	March 31		
	April 30		
	May 31	6.49	
	June 30	6.58	
	July 31	6.54	
	August 31	6.79	
	September 30	6.84	
	October 31	6.84	
	November 30	6.84	
PORT GROUP BERING SEA [2]			
	March 31		
	April 30	4.91	
	May 31	5.79	2.75
	June 30	5.39	3.68
	July 31	5.59	2.87
	August 31	6.00	3.10
	September 30	5.75	3.28
	October 31	5.75	3.28
	November 30	5.75	3.28
PORT GROUP CENTRAL GULF [3]			
	March 31	6.27	3.68
	April 30	6.37	3.73
	May 31	6.42	3.64
	June 30	6.53	3.57
	July 31	6.83	3.89
	August 31	6.72	3.90
	September 30	6.65	3.85
	October 31	6.65	3.85

TABLE 1—REGISTERED BUYER STANDARD EX-VESSEL PRICES BY LANDING LOCATION FOR THE 2015 IFQ SEASON [1]—Continued

Landing location	Period ending	Halibut standard ex-vessel price	Sablefish Standard Ex-vessel price
	November 30	6.65	3.85
PORT GROUP SOUTHEAST [4]			
	March 31	6.46	3.62
	April 30	6.50	3.71
	May 31	6.50	4.07
	June 30	6.59	4.17
	July 31	6.58	4.19
	August 31	6.80	4.41
	September 30	6.77	4.13
	October 31	6.77	4.13
	November 30	6.77	4.13
ALL [5]			
	March 31	6.41	3.63
	April 30	6.37	3.72
	May 31	6.38	3.77
	June 30	6.33	3.77
	July 31	6.55	3.79
	August 31	6.54	3.89
	September 30	6.52	3.91
	October 31	6.52	3.91
	November 30	6.52	3.91

[1] Note: In many instances prices have not been reported to comply with confidentiality guidelines that prevent price reports when there are fewer than three processors operating in a location during a month.

[2] *Landing locations Within Port Group—Bering Sea:* Adak, Akutan, Akutan Bay, Atka, Bristol Bay, Chefornak, Dillingham, Captains Bay, Dutch Harbor, Egegik, Ikatan Bay, Hooper Bay, King Cove, King Salmon, Kipnuk, Mekoryuk, Naknek, Nome, Quinhagak, Savoonga, St. George, St. Lawrence, St. Paul, Togiak, Toksook Bay, Tununak, Beaver Inlet, Ugadaga Bay, Unalaska.

[3] *Landing Locations Within Port Group—Central Gulf of Alaska:* Anchor Point, Anchorage, Alitak, Chignik, Cordova, Eagle River, False Pass, West Anchor Cove, Girdwood, Chinitna Bay, Halibut Cove, Homer, Kasilof, Kenai, Kenai River, Alitak, Kodiak, Port Bailey, Nikiski, Ninilchik, Old Harbor, Palmer, Sand Point, Seldovia, Resurrection Bay, Seward, Valdez, Whittier.

[4] *Landing Locations Within Port Group—Southeast Alaska:* Angoon, Baranof Warm Springs, Craig, Edna Bay, Elfin Cove, Excursion Inlet, Gustavus, Haines, Hollis, Hoonah, Hyder, Auke Bay, Douglas, Tee Harbor, Juneau, Kake, Ketchikan, Klawock, Metlakatla, Pelican, Petersburg, Portage Bay, Port Alexander, Port Graham, Port Protection, Point Baker, Sitka, Skagway, Tenakee Springs, Thorne Bay, Wrangell, Yakutat.

[5] *Landing Locations Within Port Group—All:* For Alaska: All landing locations included in 2, 3, and 4. For California: Eureka, Fort Bragg, Other California. For Oregon: Astoria, Aurora, Lincoln City, Newport, Warrenton, Other Oregon. For Washington: Anacortes, Bellevue, Bellingham, Nagai Island, Edmonds, Everett, Granite Falls, Ilwaco, La Conner, Port Angeles, Port Orchard, Port Townsend, Ranier, Fox Island, Mercer Island, Seattle, Standwood, Other Washington. For Canada: Port Hardy, Port Edward, Prince Rupert, Vancouver, Haines Junction, Other Canada.

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

Dated: December 11, 2015.

Emily H. Menashes,

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

[FR Doc. 2015–31624 Filed 12–15–15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Agency: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Title:

OMB Control Number: 0648–0314.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Request: Regular (extension of a currently approved information collection).

Number of Respondents: 146.

Average Hours per Response: 1 hour to designate a principal state fishery official(s) or for a request to reinstate authority; 80 hours for a nomination for a Council appointment; 16 hours for background documentation for nominees.

Burden Hours: 4,607.

Needs and Uses: This request is for an extension of a currently approved information collection.

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), as amended in 1996, provides for the nomination for members of Fishery Management Councils by state governors and Indian treaty tribes, for the designation of a principal state fishery official who will perform duties under the Magnuson-Stevens Act, and for a request by a state for reinstatement of state authority over a managed fishery. Nominees for council membership must provide the governor or tribe with background documentation, which is then submitted to NOAA with the nomination. The information submitted with these actions will be used to ensure that the requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Act are being met.

Affected Public: State, local and tribal governments.

Frequency: Annually.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

This information collection request may be viewed at reginfo.gov. Follow the instructions to view Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to *OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov* or fax to (202) 395–5806.