14. Allow disaster recovery work in floodplain areas away from streams and in upland areas; and

15. Purchase easements on non-agricultural lands.

Signed at Washington, DC, on December 9, 1999.

Pearlie S. Reed,

Chief, Natural Resources Conservation Service.

[FR Doc. 99–32526 Filed 12–15–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–16–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

Applications for Duty-Free Entry of Scientific Instruments

Pursuant to Section 6(c) of the Educational, Scientific and Cultural Materials Importation Act of 1966 (Pub. L. 89–651; 80 Stat. 897; 15 CFR part 301), we invite comments on the question of whether instruments of equivalent scientific value, for the purposes for which the instruments shown below are intended to be used, are being manufactured in the United States.

Comments must comply with 15 CFR 301.5(a)(3) and (4) of the regulations and be filed within 20 days with the Statutory Import Programs Staff, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20230. Applications may be examined between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. in Room 4211, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC.

Docket Number: 99–028. Applicant: National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Mental Health, Division of Intramural Research Programs, Laboratory on Genetics, 9000 Rockville Pike, Building 36, Room 3D06, Bethesda, MD 20892–4094. Instrument: Robot and Microplate Filler with accessories, Models Q–BOT and Q–Fill. Manufacturer: GENETIX, United Kingdom. Intended Use: The instrument is intended to be used for studies of cDNAs, genes, and mRNAs in support of research on the genomics of the nervous system with initial efforts focusing on the discovery of new genes and the study of gene expression patterns in mouse and human brains. Application accepted by Commissioner of Customs: December 2, 1999.

Docket Number: 99–029. Applicant: University of Florida, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, 337 Larsen Hall, PO Box 116200, Building 722, Gainesville, FL 32611–6200. Instrument: Fiber Raman Laser, Model FRL–1480–600. Manufacturer: IP Fibre Devices Ltd., United Kingdom. Intended Use: The instrument will be used as a pump source to pump Er-doped waveguide lasers in lithium niobate that are being developed. The laser will also be used as a demonstration of the principle of optical pumping for the courses of the Photonics sequence (EEL 5441, EEL 6443) in the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department. Application accepted by Commissioner of Customs: November 30, 1999.

Frank W. Creel,

Director, Statutory Import Programs Staff.

[FR Doc. 99–32672 Filed 12–15–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

University of Vermont, et al.; Notice of Consolidated Decision on Applications for Duty-Free Entry of Scientific Instruments

This is a decision consolidated pursuant to section 6(c) of the Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Materials Importation Act of 1966 (Pub. L. 89–651, 80 Stat. 897; 15 CFR part 301). Related records can be viewed between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. in Room 4211, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC.

Comments: None received. Decision: Approved. No instrument of equivalent scientific value to the foreign instruments described below, for such purposes as each is intended to be used, is being manufactured in the United States.

Docket Number: 99–023. Applicant: University of Vermont, Burlington, VT 05405. Instrument: Microforge, Model MF–830. Manufacturer: Narishige Scientific Instrument Lab., Japan. Intended Use: See notice at 64 FR 57865, October 27, 1999. Reasons: The foreign instrument provides ultra-fine finishing of microelectrode tips for patch clamp studies using advanced fine polishing technology to eliminate imperfections on the tip surface that could damage delicate cell membranes. Advice received from: National Institutes of Health, October 21, 1999.

Docket Number: 99–024. Applicant: University of Vermont, Burlington, VT 05405. Instrument: Glass Microelectrode Puller, Model PP–830. Manufacturer: Narishige Scientific Instrument Lab., Japan. Intended Use: See notice at 64 FR 57865, October 27, 1999. Reasons: The foreign instrument provides: (1) A built-in power source to avoid voltage fluctuations, (2) ultra-precise tuning of heater settings and (3) a digital display for monitoring settings while fabricating microelectrodes for patch clamp studies. Advice received from: National Institutes of Health, October 21, 1999.

The National Institutes of Health advised in its memoranda that (1) the capabilities of each of the foreign instruments described above are pertinent to each applicant's intended purpose and (2) it knows of no domestic instrument or apparatus of equivalent scientific value for the intended use of each instrument.

We know of no other instrument or apparatus being manufactured in the United States which is of equivalent scientific value to either of the foreign instruments.

Frank W. Creel,

Director, Statutory Import Programs Staff.

[FR Doc. 99–32671 Filed 12–15–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 120999C]

Northwest Region Federal Fisheries Permits; Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request

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

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

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.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before February 14, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW, Washington DC 20230 (or via Internet at LEngelme@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to William L. Robinson, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle WA 98112, 206-526-6140.