

included. Any comments not marked privileged or confidential business information will be deemed to be nonconfidential. An original and five copies, plus two copies of the nonconfidential version, should be submitted no later than 20 days after the date of this notice to: Office of Export Trading Company Affairs, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce, Room 1800H, Washington, D.C. 20230. Information submitted by any person is exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552). However, nonconfidential versions of the comments will be made available to the applicant if necessary for determining whether or not to issue the Certificate. Comments should refer to this application as "Export Trade Certificate of Review, application number 96-AE003." The Rice Millers' Association's ("RMA") original Certificate was issued on August 16, 1996 (61 FR 43733, August 26, 1996). A summary of the application for an amendment is as follows.

#### *Summary of the Application*

*Applicant:* Rice Millers' Association, 4301 North Fairfax Drive, Suite 305, Arlington, Virginia 22203-1616.

*Contact:* Cynthia H. Tough, Vice President of International Affairs for the USA Rice Federation, Telephone: (703) 351-8161.

*Application No.:* 96-AE003.

*Date Deemed Submitted:* March 31, 1997.

*Proposed Amendment:* RMA seeks to amend its Certificate to expand the eligibility for membership in the RMA Certificate to include both mill members and associate members. Associate members include a broad range of companies with an interest in the rice industry, including bag manufacturers, brokers, equipment manufacturers/suppliers, exporters, food processing companies, freight forwarders, grain elevators, grain merchandisers, industry associations, inspection companies, management companies, port authorities, and stevedoring/shipping companies. Any proprietor, partnership, or corporation, whether or not engaged in rice milling in the United States, which is not a member of RMA and which wishes to participate in the activities covered by the Certificate, may join the ETCR upon meeting the qualifications for membership in RMA.

Therefore, the definition of "Member" in RMA's Certificate would be amended to read as follows: "Member" means a member of the Rice Millers' Association which has been certified as a "Member" within the meaning of Section 325.2(l)

of the Regulations and is listed in Attachment I. Members must sign the Operating Agreement of the Rice Millers' Association Export Trade Certificate of Review in order to participate in the certified activities. Any RMA member, including any mill member or associate member, which is not a Member listed in Attachment I may join RMA's Export Trade Certificate of Review by requesting that RMA file for an amended certificate and by signing the Operating Agreement. Any proprietor, partnership, or corporation either engaged in rice milling in the United States or not engaged in rice milling in the United States, which is not a member of RMA and which wishes to participate in the activities covered by this certificate, may join RMA's membership upon meeting the qualifications for membership and then request that RMA file for an amended certificate. A Member may withdraw from coverage under this certificate at any time by giving written notice to RMA, a copy of which RMA will promptly transmit to the Secretary of Commerce and the Attorney General."

Dated: April 9, 1997.

**W. Dawn Busby,**

*Director, Office of Export Trading, Company Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 97-9617 Filed 4-14-97; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 040997A]

#### Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands

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

**ACTION:** Notice of receipt of an experimental fishing permit.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces receipt of an application from John Gauvin, Groundfish Forum, Inc., for an Experimental Fishing Permit (EFP). If awarded, this permit would be used to systematically test the effects of a different trawl net design on species and size composition of catch in trawls targeting flatfish. It is intended to promote the objectives of the Fishery Management Plan for the Groundfish Fishery of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area (FMP).

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the EFP application are available from Steven

Pennoyer, Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802, Attn: Lori Gravel.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kent Lind, 907-586-7228.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The FMP and its implementing regulations at 50 CFR part 679.6 authorize issuance of EFPs to allow fishing that would otherwise be prohibited. Procedures for issuing EFPs are contained in the implementing regulations. NMFS received a request from the applicant on March 14, 1997, that, if approved, would be used to systematically test the effects of a different trawl net design on species and size composition of catch in trawls targeting flatfish. Information from this experiment could be used by the fishing industry to reduce catches of non-target species (e.g., pollock and cod) while fishing for flatfish, thereby reducing waste and discard of those species.

In accordance with regulations, NMFS has determined that the proposal warrants further consideration and has initiated consultation with the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) by forwarding the application to the Council. The Council will consider the EFP application during its April 15-19, 1997, meeting and has invited the applicant to appear in support of the application if he so desires.

A copy of the application is available for review from the NMFS Regional Administrator (see **ADDRESSES**).

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

Dated: April 9, 1997.

**Gary C. Matlock,**

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

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 033197C]

#### Secretary's Report to Congress on the Pribilof Islands as Required Under Public Law 104-91

**AGENCY:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of submission of report to Congress.

**SUMMARY:** Public Law 104-91, section 3(c) requires the Secretary of Commerce to prepare and submit a report on necessary actions to resolve Federal