Room 1617F, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC.

The Committee advises the Office of Technology and Policy Analysis with respect to technical questions which affect the level of export controls applicable to computer peripherals and related test equipment or technology.

Agenda

General Session

1. Introduction of Members and Visitors.
2. Introduction of Invited Guests.
3. Presentation of Papers or Comments by the Public.
4. Election of Chairman.
5. COCOM Participation.
6. Decontrol of Winchester Drives.
8. Discussion of 3522 Subgroup.
9. Discussion of Bulgarian 10 MB Drive.
10. Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) Sales to the Bloc.
12. Discussion of 1565A Rewrite.

Executive Session

13. Discussion of matters properly classified under Executive Order 12356, dealing with the U.S. and Cocom control program and strategic criteria related thereto.

The meeting will be open to the public and a limited number of seats will be available. To the extent time permits, members of the public may present oral statements to the Committee. Written statements may be submitted at any time before or after the meeting and can be directed to: Technical Support Staff, Office of Technology & Policy Analysis, Room 4969A, 14th & Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

The Assistant Secretary for Administration, with the concurrence of the delegate of the General Counsel, formally determined on January 10, 1988, pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, that the series of meetings or portions of meetings of the Committee and of any Subcommittees thereof, dealing with the classified materials listed in 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(1) shall be exempt from the provisions relating to public meetings found in section 10(a)(1) and (a)(2), of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The remaining series of meetings or portions thereof will be open to the public.

A copy of the Notice of Determination to close meetings or portions of meetings of the Committee is available for public inspection and copying in the Central Reference and Records Inspection Facility, Room 6028, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC. For further information or copies of the minutes call Ruth D. Fitts, 202-377-4959.

Date: April 13, 1989.

Betty A. Ferrell,
Director, Technical Advisory Committee Unit, Office of Technology and Policy Analysis.

[FR Doc. 89-9294 Filed 4-18-89; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510-DT-M

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Intention to Adjust the Boundary of the Currituck Banks Component of the North Carolina National Estuarine Research Reserve


ACTION: Public notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Division of Coastal Management, of the State of North Carolina, intends to adjust the boundary of the Currituck Banks Component of the North Carolina National Estuarine Research Reserve. The area authorized for trade is immediately adjacent to the existing boundary for the Currituck Banks Component as described in the Draft Management Plan dated September 1988, prepared jointly by the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Office of Ocean and Coastal Management, and the State of North Carolina Division of Coastal Management.

The boundary adjustment is not intended to increase or decrease the Reserve property, but will merely shift a 42-acre inholding, owned by Monkey Island Investment Associates of Norfolk, Virginia, approximately 249 feet to the south. This tract is described as follows:

Beginning at an iron pipe in the mean high tide common boundary corner of the State of North Carolina and the Monkey Island Investments Associates, said corner being 2,124.68 feet north of the common property corner of northeastern corner of Ocean Hills subdivision and the southeastern boundary corner of State of North Carolina, thence S 87 degrees 10'22" W 744.10 feet to a point, thence N 87 degrees 10'22" E 390.00 feet to a point, thence S 13 degrees 36'31" E 61.08 feet to a point, thence S 87 degrees 10'22" W 390.00 feet to a point, thence S 13 degrees 36'31" E 61.08 feet to a point, thence N 87 degrees 10'22" E 390.00 feet to a point, thence N 14 degrees 33'38" W 1880.43 feet to a point, thence S 87 degrees 10'22" W 130.53 feet to a point and place of beginning containing 42.252 acres.

Any person wishing to comment on the proposed adjustment may forward written statements to the Division of Coastal Management, P.O. Box 27887, Raleigh, North Carolina, 27611 Attn: Reserve Coordinator. Comments must be received by the Division of Coastal Management no later than close of business on May 31, 1989.

Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog Number 11.420 (Coastal Zone Management) Estuarine Sanctuaries.

Thomas J. Maginnis,
Assistant Administrator for Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management.


[FR Doc. 89-9293 Filed 4-18-89; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510-DT-M

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Announcement of Stellwagen Bank (MA) as an Active Candidate for Designation as a National Marine Sanctuary; Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Management Plan; Public Scoping Meetings

AGENCY: Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM), National Ocean Service (NOS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce (DOC).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: NOAA is announcing Stellwagen Bank (5 nautical miles north of Cape Cod, Massachusetts) as an Active Candidate for designation as a National Marine Sanctuary, and its intent to prepare a draft environmental impact statement and management plan (DEIS/MP) on the proposal to designate. NOAA will also conduct public scoping meetings to assist in the development of the DEIS/MP. The study area includes an offshore area located 6.3 miles north of Provincetown, MA and measuring 31.6 miles by 19.1 miles. Approximately 605 square miles are encompassed in the study area.

Selection of a site as an Active Candidate formally initiates the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process; NOAA will prepare a DEIS/MP to examine management, boundary and regulatory alternatives associated with Sanctuary designation.
NOAA will conduct public scoping meetings to gather information and comments from individuals, organizations, and government agencies on the range and significance of issues related to this proposal. Scoping meetings will be held at:

1. Town Hall, Commercial Street, Portsmouth, MA, 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 13, 1989;
2. Conference Room, Sheraton-Portsmouth Hotel, 250 Market Street, Portsmouth NH, 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 14, 1989;
3. Conference Room NOAA/Fisheries Building, 1 Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA, 7:00 p.m., Thursday, June 15, 1989; and

All interested persons are invited to attend.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background and Selection Procedures

Title III of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctions Act of 1972, as amended, 16 U.S.C. 1431 et seq. (the Act), authorizes the Secretary of Commerce to designate those areas of coastal and ocean waters, the Great Lakes and their connecting waters, and submerged lands over which the United States exercises jurisdiction, consistent with international law, as National Marine Sanctuaries. The purpose of designating National Marine Sanctuaries is to protect and manage distinctive areas of the marine environment for those conservation, recreational, ecological, historical, research, educational, or esthetic values which give these areas special national significance. The Act is administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) through the Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCCRM); Marine and Estuarine Management Division (MEMD).

In January 1982, NOAA published a Program Development Plan (PDP) for the National Marine Sanctuary Program, describing the Program's mission and goals; site identification and selection criteria; and the nomination and designation process. In September 1982, NOAA issued proposed regulations for the continued operation of the Program (47 FR 35911). Pursuant to the PDP and those regulations, NOAA published a proposed Site Evaluation List (SEL), comprised of highly-qualifed marine sites identified and recommended to NOAA by regional resource evaluation teams. SEL sites meet Program criteria for further evaluation as possible National Marine Sanctuaries. Team recommendations were made in accordance with the Program's mission and goals set forth in the PDP, in Section 222.1 of the final Program regulations, and in Appendix 1 of the regulations. The Stellwagen Bank study area was recommended by the Resource Evaluation Team for the North Atlantic Region, and was placed on the SEL in 1983 (48 FR 35598). In the normal process of National Marine Sanctuary designation, the Secretary of Commerce (through NOAA) will from time to time select sites from the SEL as Active Candidates, to initiate the process of such further evaluation.


The 1988 Amendments (section 304(b)) establish a finite period of time for designation of new National Marine Sanctuaries, i.e., 30 months from the Federal Register notice of Active Candidate to a notice of designation (or findings regarding why such notice has not been published). Additionally, the 1988 Amendments specifically require (at section 305(a)) that a prospectus on the Stellwagen Bank proposal be submitted to Congress not later than September 30, 1990. NOAA is announcing Stellwagen Bank as an Active Candidate now in order to meet the required deadline for this submission to Congress. The Active Candidate notice formally initiates the 30-month period during which NOAA must conduct the complete National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) environmental impact analysis process, and publish either a notice of designation or findings regarding why such notice has not been published.

Following the scoping meetings announced in this notice, subsequent designation steps include preparation of the DEIS/MP document; public hearing(s); preparation of a final environmental impact statement/management plan; and recommendation for approval of the designation to the Secretary of Commerce or designee.

Opportunities for public comment exist throughout this process, and will be announced in the Federal Register, the local media, and other appropriate channels.

Section 303 of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1433) and implementing regulations for the National Marine Sanctuary Program (at 15 CFR 922.33) establish procedures for evaluation of the suitability of active candidates as National Marine Sanctuaries. NOAA will determine to what extent designation will fulfill the purposes and policies of the Act, i.e., whether:

(1) The area is of special national significance due to its resource or human use value;
(2) Existing State and Federal authorities are inadequate to ensure coordinated and comprehensive conservation and management of the area, including resource protection, scientific research, and public education;
(3) Designation of the area as a National Marine Sanctuary will ensure coordinated and comprehensive conservation and management of the area not provided by existing authorities; and
(4) The area is of a size and nature that will permit comprehensive and coordinated conservation and management.

In making these determinations, NOAA will consider:

(1) The area's natural resource and ecological qualities, including its contribution to biological productivity: maintenance of ecosystem structure, maintenance of ecologically or commercially important or threatened species or species assemblages, and the biogeographic representation of the site;
(2) The area's historical, cultural, archeological, or paleontological significance;
(3) The present and potential uses of the area that depend on maintenance of the area's resources, including commercial and recreational fishing, subsistence uses, other commercial and recreational activities, an research and education;
(4) The present and potential activities that may adversely affect the factors identified in the considerations listed above;
(5) The existing State and Federal regulatory and management authorities applicable to the area and the adequacy
of those authorities to fulfill the purposes and policies of the Act;
(6) The manageability of the area, including such factors as its size, its
ability to be identified as a discrete ecological unit with definable
boundaries, its accessibility, and its suitability for monitoring and
enforcement activities.

(7) The public benefits to be derived from Sanctuary status, with emphasis on the
benefits of long-term protection of nationally significant resources, vital
habitats, and resources which generate tourism;

(8) The negative impacts produced by management restrictions on income-
generating activities such as living and
non-living resource development;

(9) The socioeconomic effects of Sanctuary designation; and

(10) The fiscal capability of NOAA to manage the area as a National Marine Sanctuary.

In preparing the DEIS/MP to examine the management, boundary and regulatory alternatives associated with Sanctuary designation, NOAA will solicit comments from interested individuals, groups and organizations, appropriate Congressional Committees, Federal agencies, responsible officials of State and local governments, and officials of the affected Regional Fishery Management Council. This will be done during the scoping meetings identified herein, to be conducted prior to preparation of the DEIS/MP. Comments will also be received during public hearings on the completed DEIS/MP.

Site Description

Natural Resources. Stellwagen Bank is a shallow, glacially-deposited gravel feature located approximately six miles (10.168 km) off the northern end of Cape Cod, Massachusetts, in the southern Gulf of Maine. The Bank measures 18.75 miles in length and 6.25 miles in width at its widest point. Water depths over the Bank range from 61 feet along the escarp of the southwestern end, and 76 feet at the northwestern end, to a maximum of 120 feet at the southeast end of the Bank. Deeper waters surround the Bank; maximum depths exceeding 330 feet occur north of the Bank and within the study area. The Sanctuary study area occurs entirely within Federal waters. The study area is marked by the following coordinates: 70°14'N, 42°36'W (northeast point) by 70°35'N, 42°31'W (northwest point) by 70°25'N, 42°05'W (southwest point), by 70°04'N, 42°09'W (southeast point).

Oceanographic/Physical Characteristics. Oceanographic conditions and hydrography are highly varied in the vicinity of Stellwagen Bank. Surface circulation in the Gulf of Maine generally is counterclockwise, with currents moving southward along the Maine and New Hampshire coasts and into the Massachusetts Bay, where the flow turns gradually eastward across the northern edge of Georges Bank, further offshore. The moderate to high velocity, east-west tidal current sweeps the Bank's shallows, generating internal waves during summer months. Mixing of the water column is widespread during winter months, when isothermal conditions characterize the Bank's waters.

The Bank's profile is markedly asymmetric; the seaward edge is gentle, and the shoreward slope is steep (dropping from 27' to 80 meters over a horizontal distance of approximately one kilometer).

Regional Productivity. Primary biological productivity at Stellwagen Bank follows a temperate coastal zone cycle. Two distinct peak productivity periods are evident: the more extensive from March through May, and a second, shorter period from mid-September through October. Seasonal overturn and mixing of coastal waters with nutrient-rich waters from deeper strata produce a complex system of overlying midwater and benthic habitats. Predominantly sand and gravel substrates support benthic communities composed of polychaete worms, amphipods, and mollusks.

The extensive and cyclic biological productivity supports a variety of commercially important fishery resources. Over a dozen species are commercially harvested, including mackerel, bluefin tuna, blue fish, shad, menhaden, herring, striped bass, cod, haddock, flounder, quahog, and sea scallop. The predominant forage fish found at the Bank is the sand lance (Ammodytes americanus), which attracts several large fish species and a seasonal variety of balaenopterid cetacean species. The largest high-latitude population of humpback whales (Megaptera novaeangliae) in the contiguous United States occurs seasonally at Stellwagen Bank, in addition to fin whales (Balaenoptera physalus), minke whales (Balaenoptera acutorostrata), northern right whales (Eubalaena glacialis), Atlantic white-sided dolphins (Lagenorhynchus acutus), white-beaked dolphins (Lagenorhynchus albirostris), and harbor porpoises (Phocoena phocoena). In addition to these frequently-observed species,orca whales (Orcinus orca), and pilot whales (Globicephala melaena) are also occasionally observed at Stellwagen Bank.

Particular scientific interest is focused on four species of large cetaceans (humpbacks, fins, minke, and northern rights) using Stellwagen Bank as feeding and nursery grounds. With the exception of the minke whale, these species are all considered "endangered" pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

Northern right whales are one of the most severely endangered cetacean species in the world; no more than 150 individuals are thought to remain in the western North Atlantic Ocean. Recorded sightings of right whales at Stellwagen Bank over the past four years indicate the Bank's importance for feeding and for nursing of calves: a significant number of identified northern right whales have been observed returning to the Bank season after season.

Fin whales exist in relatively large numbers throughout the world's nontropical oceans, and approximately 6,500 to 8,500 exist in the North Atlantic Ocean. Fin whales associated with the Stellwagen Bank system are ubiquitous and apparently year-round residents.

Minke whales also exist in relatively large numbers worldwide (excluding tropical waters), although the size of the North Atlantic population is currently unknown. The world population of humpback whales is believed to be not more than 8,000 animals geographically distributed into fifteen demographic groups. Approximately 2,000 humpbacks in the western North Atlantic Ocean comprise the largest, yet least studied, population in the world. More than 100 humpbacks return annually to Stellwagen Bank from mating and calving grounds in the eastern central Caribbean Sea. Research to date has focused on this species, and details of its movements are better documented than those of other cetaceans. Humpbacks enter the Stellwagen Bank system between mid-March and mid-April, and remain until mid-November (one of the longest residency periods known anywhere).

Diverse pelagic and coastal bird species seasonally forage at the Stellwagen Bank system. Among species known to frequent or migrate through the Bank area are: storm petrels, gulls, terns, brants, old squaws, scoters, cormorants, shearwaters, doves, puffins, fulmars, gannets, murres, loons, kitiwakes, phalaropes, and jaegers.

At least two species of sea turtles also feed in the general area of the Bank, the loggerhead Carretta carretta) and the leatherback Dermochelys coriacea). Transient species include the Kemp's
Human Uses. Waters over and around the Bank are used extensively for numerous purposes, including commercial and recreational fishing, commercial whale-watching, recreational boating, shipping, and research.

Commercial Uses. The most important activity directly dependent on resources of the Stellwagen Bank area is commercial fishing. Extensive fisheries include groundfish species, such as Atlantic cod, haddock, yellowtail flounder, winter flounder, and silver hake. Invertebrates include ocean quahogs, sea scallops, and American lobsters. Pelagic fisheries include Atlantic herring, mackerel, bluefin tuna, and bluefish. The New England commercial fishing fleet increased from 1,225 registered vessels in 1985 (5 gross tons or larger) to 1,334 such vessels in 1997; and total landings increased slightly from 275,300 tons to 277,600 tons during the same period. Revenues generated (adjusted value) exceeded $106 million in 1987.

Commercial whale-watching activities operating from Maine to Connecticut are largely focused on Stellwagen Bank and Jeffrey's Ledge (located north of Stellwagen Bank). During 1986, more than 40 commercial whale-watching vessels conducted trips to these areas from May through September (approximately 8,550 trips). Assuming full vessel capacity, visitation levels to these areas exceeded one million persons during the five-month period. Revenues in 1986 from commercial whale-watching operations are estimated at over $16 million.

Shipping lanes for commercial vessel traffic in and out of Boston traverse the vicinity of Stellwagen Bank. During 1986, more than 40 commercial whale-watch vessels conducted trips to these areas from May through September (approximately 8,550 trips). Assuming full vessel capacity, visitation levels to these areas exceeded one million persons during the five-month period. Revenues in 1986 from commercial whale-watching operations are estimated at over $16 million.

Recreational Uses. Recreational fishing in the Stellwagen Bank area is seasonal and primarily focused on scup, bluefish, summer and winter flounder, Atlantic mackerel, Atlantic cod, and pollack. Recreational boating is also a popular activity during summer months.

Research Activities. The biological abundance of the Stellwagen Bank system generates scientific research on cetaceans and the resources supporting them. Research and monitoring activities are also conducted on fisheries. Research facilities in the area include the Center for Coastal Studies (Provincetown); the University of Massachusetts (Boston); the New England Aquarium (Boston); Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (Woods Hole); the Marine Biological Laboratory (Woods Hole); the Manomet Bird Observatory (Manomet); and the National Marine Fisheries Service (Gloucester and Woods Hole).

Additional institutions or organizations having supported research activities in the vicinity of Stellwagen Bank include the College of the Atlantic; Gloucester Fishermen's Museum; University of Maine; University of Rhode Island; and Cape Cod Museum of Natural History.

The Designation Process

The management plan to be prepared for the proposed Sanctuary will specify the goals and objectives of Sanctuary designation and describe programs for resource protection, research and interpretation. The various administrative and regulatory alternatives for Sanctuary management will be analyzed in the environmental impact statement. Opportunities for public participation in NOAA's development of a draft environmental impact statement and management plan will be provided through the June scoping meetings, solicitation of comments on the DEIS/MP document, and public hearings.

The June scoping meetings will attempt to identify issues in establishing a Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary and generate suggestions for resolving them. Topics for discussion will include the following: (1) Boundary alternatives; (2) management alternatives; (3) resource protection; (4) interpretive opportunities.

Marine Mammals; Application for Modification; Deborah A. Glockner-Ferrari and Mark J. Ferrari (F 171A)

Notice is hereby given that Ms. Deborah A. Glockner-Ferrari and Mr. Mark J. Ferrari, 1728 San Luis Road, Walnut Creek, California 94598, requested a modification of Permit No. 538 issued on January 14, 1989 (51 FR 3093), under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1361-1407), the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR Part 216), the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531-1534), and the National Marine Fisheries Service regulations governing endangered fish and wildlife (50 CFR Parts 217-222). Permit No. 538 authorizes the inadvertent harassment of an unspecified number of humpback whales (Megaptera novaeangliae) in the North Pacific during population studies using photographic techniques. Areas of activity include waters surrounding the Hawaiian Islands and waters of California and Alaska. The Permit Holder requests a modification to the Permit to allow population studies using photographic techniques on an opportunistic basis on all species encountered during their work with humpback whales studies. The incidental sightings include an unspecified number of bottlenose dolphin (Tursiops truncatus), spinner dolphin (Stenella longirostris), spotted dolphin (Stenella attenuata), killer whales (Orcinus orca), harbor porpoise (Phocoena phocoena), and Dall's porpoise (Phocoenoides dalli).

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the Federal Register, the Secretary of Commerce is forwarding copies of this modification to the Marine Mammal Commission and the Committee of Scientific Advisors. Written data or views, or requests for a public hearing on this modification request should be submitted to the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1335 East West Hwy., Room 7324, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910, within 30 days of the publication of this notice. Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this particular modification would be appropriate. The holding of such hearings is at the discretion of the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries. All statements and opinions contained in this modification request are summaries of those of the Applicant and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Documents submitted in connection with the above modification request are available for review by interested persons in the following offices:

Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, 1335 East West Hwy., Room 7324, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910;

Director, Alaska Region, National Marine Fisheries Service, 709 West 9th Street, Federal Bldg., Juneau, Alaska 99802;