DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
19 CFR Part 12
[CBP Dec. 13–05]
RIN 1515–AD94
Import Restrictions Imposed on Certain Archaeological Material From Belize

AGENCY: U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security; Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This final rule amends U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) regulations to reflect the imposition of import restrictions on certain archaeological material from Belize. These restrictions are being imposed pursuant to an agreement between the United States and Belize that has been entered into under the authority of the Convention on Cultural Property Implementation Act in accordance with the 1970 United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property (823 U.N.T.S. 231 (1972)).

The final rule amends CBP regulations by adding Belize to the list of countries for which a bilateral agreement has been entered into for imposing cultural property import restrictions. The final rule also contains the designated list that describes the types of archaeological material to which the restrictions apply.

DATES: Effective Date: March 5, 2013.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The value of cultural property is immeasurable. Such items often constitute the very essence of a society and convey important information concerning a people’s origin, history, and traditional setting. The importance and popularity of such items regrettably makes them targets of theft, encourages clandestine looting of archaeological sites, and results in their illegal export and import.

The United States shares in the international concern for the need to protect endangered cultural property. The appearance in the United States of stolen or illegally exported artifacts from other countries where there has been pillage has, on occasion, strained our foreign and cultural relations. This situation, combined with the concerns of museum, archaeological, and scholarly communities, was recognized by the President and Congress. It became apparent that it was in the national interest for the United States to join with other countries to control illegal trafficking of such articles in international commerce.

The United States joined international efforts and actively participated in deliberations resulting in the 1970 United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property. The United States would be of substantial benefit in deterring a serious situation of pillage, and remedies less drastic are not available.

Determinations

Under 19 U.S.C. 2602(a)(1), the United States must make certain determinations before entering into an agreement to impose import restrictions under 19 U.S.C. 2602(a)(2). On September 19, 2012, the Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs, U.S. Department of State, made the determinations required under the statute with respect to certain archaeological material originating in Belize that are described in the designated list set forth below in this document. These determinations include the following: (1) That the cultural patrimony of Belize is in jeopardy from the pillage of archaeological material originating in Belize from approximately 9000 B.C. up to 250 years old representing the Pre-Columbian era through the Early and Late Colonial Periods (19 U.S.C. 2602(a)(1)(A)); (2) that the Government of Belize has taken measures consistent with the Convention to protect its cultural patrimony (19 U.S.C. 2602(a)(1)(B)); (3) that import restrictions imposed by the United States would be of substantial benefit in deterring a serious situation of pillage, and remedies less drastic are not available (19 U.S.C. 2602(a)(1)(C)); and (4) that the application of import restrictions as set forth in this final rule is consistent with the general interests of the international community in the interchange of cultural property among nations for scientific, cultural, and educational purposes (19 U.S.C. 2602(a)(1)(D)). The Assistant Secretary also found that the material described in the determinations meet the statutory definitions of “archaeological material of the state party” (19 U.S.C. 2601(2)).

The Agreement

On February 27, 2013, the United States and Belize entered into a bilateral agreement pursuant to the provisions of 19 U.S.C. 2602(a)(2). The agreement enables the promulgation of import restrictions on categories of archaeological material representing Belize’s cultural heritage that is at least 250 years old, dating from the Pre-Ceramic (from approximately 9000 B.C.), Pre-Classic, Classic, and Post-Classic Periods of the Pre-Columbian era through the Early and Late Colonial Periods. A list of the categories of archaeological material subject to the import restrictions is set forth later in this document.

This document announces that import restrictions are now being imposed on certain archaeological material from Belize.
Restrictions and Amendment to the Regulations

In accordance with the Agreement, importation of material designated below is subject to the restrictions of 19 U.S.C. 2606 and § 12.104g(a) of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) regulations (19 CFR 12.104g(a)) and will be restricted from entry into the United States unless the conditions set forth in 19 U.S.C. 2606 and § 12.104c of the CBP regulations (19 CFR 12.104c) are met. CBP is amending § 12.104g(a) of the CBP regulations (19 CFR 12.104g(a)) to indicate that these import restrictions have been imposed.

Designated List of Archaeological Material of Belize

The bilateral agreement between the United States and Belize includes, but is not limited to, the categories of objects described in the designated list set forth below. Any dimensions listed are approximations and the import restrictions include complete examples of objects and fragments thereof. These categories of objects are subject to the import restrictions set forth above, in accordance with the above explained applicable law and the regulation amended in this document (19 CFR 12.104g(a)).

The archeological material covered under this agreement originated in Belize, from the following periods: Archaic, Pre-Classic, Classic, and Early and Late Colonial Periods. The import restrictions apply to archeological material, described below, ranging in date from approximately 9000 B.C. to at least 250 years old, including, but not limited to, objects comprised of ceramic, stone, metal, shell, bone, glass, and wood.

I. Ceramic/Terracotta/Fired Clay—Unpainted, monochrome, bichrome, and polychrome. Decorative motifs include human, animal, and hybrid figures; curvilinear and rectilinear abstract designs; mythological and historic scenes; and other motifs. Decorative techniques include: painting, fluting, gouging, incisions, and modeling, among others. Forms vary considerably, and may include lids, tripod feet, or other supplementary decoration.

A. Common Vessels

1. Vases and bottles—(10–50 cm ht).
   2. Bowls—(5–25 cm ht).
   3. Dishes and plates—(10–50 cm diam).
   4. Jars—(10–100 cm ht).
   5. Bottles—(5–50 cm ht).

B. Special Forms

1. Figurines—(3–20 cm ht).
2. Whistles, rattles and flutes—(5–20 cm ht).
4. Stamps and seals.
5. Effigy vessels—(15–50 cm ht).
7. Drums—(10–50 cm ht).

II. Stone—Objects in any type of stone, including jade, greenstone, obsidian, flint, alabaster/calcite, limestone, slate, or other.

A. Tools—forms such as points, blades, scrapers, hoes, grinding stones, eccentrics and, others.
B. Jewelry—forms such as necklaces, earplugs, pendants, beads, and others.
C. Monumental Stone Art—forms such as stelae, round altars, architectural elements, and others.
D. Vessels—forms such as bowls and vases.
E. Figurines—forms such as human, animal, and mythological creatures.
F. Masks—burial masks of variable stone composition.
G. Mirrors—round or rectangular forms composed of pyrite pieces.

III. Metal—Objects in copper, gold, silver, brass, or other. Beaten or cast into shape, often decorated with engraving, inlay, puncturing, or attachments.

IV. Shell—Objects made out of modified shell, often decorated with incisions or inlays.

V. Bone—Objects made out of modified human or animal bone, including tools, such as hooks and punches; jewelry, such as necklaces and pendants; and objects for ritual use.

VI. Glass—Objects made of glass, including utilitarian forms such as bottles, beads, figurines, and others.

VII. Wood—Objects made of wood, including utilitarian forms such as canoes, vessels, tools, and others; and ritual forms, such as crosses, figurines, and others.

Inapplicability of Notice and Delayed Effective Date

This amendment involves a foreign affairs function of the United States and is, therefore, being made without notice or public procedure (5 U.S.C. 553(a)(1)). For the same reason, a delayed effective date is not required under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3).

Regulatory Flexibility Act

Because no notice of proposed rulemaking is required, the provisions of the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) do not apply.

Executive Order 12866

Because this rule involves a foreign affairs function of the United States, it is not subject to Executive Order 12866.

Signing Authority

This regulation is being issued in accordance with 19 CFR 0.1(a)(1).

List of Subjects in 19 CFR Part 12

Cultural property, Customs duties and inspection, Imports, Prohibited merchandise, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Amendment to CBP Regulations

For the reasons set forth above, part 12 of Title 19 of the Code of Federal Regulations (19 CFR part 12), is amended as set forth below:

PART 12—SPECIAL CLASSES OF MERCHANDISE

1. The general authority citation for part 12 and the specific authority citation for § 12.104g continue to read as follows:

   Authority: 5 U.S.C. 301; 19 U.S.C. 66, 1202 (General Note 3(i), Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS)), 1624.
   * * * * *

   Sections 12.104 through 12.104i also issued under 19 U.S.C. 2612;
   * * * * *

2. In § 12.104g, paragraph (a), the table is amended by adding Belize to the list in appropriate alphabetical order as follows:

   § 12.104g Specific items or categories designated by agreements or emergency actions.
   (a) * * *

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State party</th>
<th>Cultural property</th>
<th>Decision No.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belize</td>
<td>Archaeological material representing Belize's cultural heritage that is at least 250 years old, dating from the Pre-Ceramic (from approximately 9000 B.C.), Pre-Classic, Classic, and Post-Classic Periods of the Pre-Columbian era through the Early and Late Colonial Periods.</td>
<td>CBP Dec. 13–05.</td>
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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 117
[Docket No. USCG–2013–0104]

Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, LA

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of deviation from regulation.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard has issued a temporary deviation from the regulation governing the operation of the Lapalco Boulevard bascule span drawbridge across the Harvey Canal Route, Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW), mile 2.8 at New Orleans, Jefferson Parish, Louisiana. The deviation is necessary to change out the four drive panels for the motors that operate the bridge. This deviation allows the bridge to remain closed to navigation for seven consecutive days.

DATES: This deviation is effective from 6 a.m. on Monday, March 18, 2013, until 6 a.m. on Monday, March 25, 2013.

ADDRESSES: The docket for this deviation, USCG–2013–0104, is available online at http://www.regulations.gov. Type the docket number in the “SEARCH” box and click “SEARCH.” Next, click on the Open Docket Folder on the line associated with this deviation. You may also visit the Docket Management Facility in Room W12–140 on the ground floor of the Department of Transportation West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions on this temporary deviation, call or email Kay Wade, Bridge Branch Office, Coast Guard; telephone 504–671–2128, email Kay.B.Wade@uscg.mil. If you have questions on viewing the docket, call Barbara Hairston, Program Manager, Docket Operations, telephone 202–366–9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Jefferson Parish has requested a temporary deviation from the operating schedule for the Bascule Span Bridge across the Harvey Canal Route, Intracoastal Waterway, mile 2.8 at New Orleans, Jefferson Parish, Louisiana. The bridge has a vertical clearance of 45 feet above mean high water in the closed-to-navigation position and unlimited in the open-to-navigation position. Vessels requiring a clearance of less than 45 feet may transit beneath the bridge during maintenance operations.

In accordance with 33 CFR 117.451(a), the bridge currently opens on signal for the passage of vessels; except that, from 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and from 3:45 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. Monday through Friday except holidays, the draw need not be opened for the passage of vessels. This deviation allows the bridge to remain closed to navigation from 6 a.m. on Monday, March 18, 2013, until 6 a.m. on Monday, March 25, 2013. At all other times, the bridge will open on signal for the passage of vessels in accordance with 33 CFR 117.451(a).

The closure is necessary in order to change out the four drive panels for the motors that operate the bridge. This maintenance is essential for the continued operation of the bridge.

Navigation on the waterway consists mainly of tugs with tows with some commercial fishing vessels and recreational craft. Coordination between the Coast Guard and the waterway users determined that there should not be any significant effects on these vessels. The bridge will be unable to open during these repairs; however, an alternate route is available via the GIWW (Algiers Alternate Route).

In accordance with 33 CFR 117.35(e), the drawbridge must return to its regular operating schedule immediately at the end of the designated time period. This deviation from the operating regulations is authorized under 33 CFR 117.35.

David M. Frank,
Bridge Administrator.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 165
[Docket No. USCG–2013–0091]

RIN 1625–AA00

Safety Zone; MODU KULLUK; Kiliuda Bay, Kodiak Island, AK to Captains Bay, Unalaska Island, AK

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Temporary final rule.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is establishing a temporary safety zone in the navigable waters, from surface to seabed, around the Outer Continental Shelf Mobile Offshore Drilling Unit (MODU) KULLUK currently located in Kiliuda Bay, Kodiak Island, Alaska with planned towed transit into Captains Bay, Unalaska Island, AK. The temporary safety zone will encompass the navigable waters within a 1000 meter radius of the MODU KULLUK while it is being towed to and located within Captains Bay to include while at anchor and through the loading of the MODU KULLUK onto the transport ship M/V XIANG RUI KOU. The purpose of the safety zone is to protect persons and vessels from the inherent dangers of towing and loading operations of the MODU KULLUK.

DATES: This rule is effective with actual notice from February 20, 2013 until March 5, 2013. This rule is effective in the Code of Federal Regulations from March 5, 2013 until April 30, 2013.

ADDRESSES: The docket for this rule, USCG–2013–0091, is available online at www.regulations.gov by typing in the docket number in the “SEARCH” box and clicking “SEARCH.”

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions on this rule, call or email LCDR Jason Boyle, U.S. Coast Guard, Seventeenth Coast Guard District; telephone 907–463–2821, jason.t.boyle@uscg.mil. If you have questions on viewing or submitting material to the docket, call Barbara Hairston, Program Manager, Docket Operations, telephone 202–366–9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: