

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****[I.D. 061906A]****Marine Mammals; File No. 984-1814**

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

ACTION: Notice; issuance of permit.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Dr. Terrie Williams, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Center for Ocean Health - Long Marine Laboratory, University of California, 100 Shaffer Road, Santa Cruz, CA 95060 has been issued a permit to conduct research on Weddell seals (*Leptonychotes weddellii*).

ADDRESSES: The permit and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s):

Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301)713-2289; fax (301)427-2521; and

Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213; phone (562)980-4001; fax (562)980-4018.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kate Swails or Tammy Adams, (301)713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On January 17, 2006 notice was published in the **Federal Register** (71 FR 2527) that a request for a scientific research permit to take the species identified above had been submitted by the above-named individual. The requested permit has been issued under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), and the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216).

The applicant will capture up to 20 adults and disturb up to 40 adults annually. The animals will have a data logger/video system attached, muscle biopsies and blood samples collected, and blubber thickness measured. Study results are expected to increase understanding of the foraging behavior of this marine mammal species. The animals will be recaptured up to three times to remove or tend to the instruments. The permit also authorizes research-related mortality of up to two seals per year. The permit is issued for five years.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), a final determination has been made that the activity proposed is categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

Dated: June 22, 2006.

P. Michael Payne,

Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 06-5814 Filed 6-28-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****[I.D. 062106A]****Marine Mammals; File Nos. 1034-1854 and 1070-1783**

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

ACTION: Notice; receipt of applications.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that applications have been received for a permit and a permit amendment for scientific research on marine mammals.

DATES: Written, telefaxed, or e-mail comments must be received on or before July 31, 2006.

ADDRESSES: The applications and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s):

Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301)713-2289; fax (301)427-2521;

Northwest Region, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, BIN C15700, Bldg. 1, Seattle, WA 98115-0700; phone (206)526-6150; fax (206)526-6426; and Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213; phone (562)980-4001; fax (562)980-4018.

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on these applications should be submitted to the Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, F/PR1, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing would be appropriate.

Comments may also be submitted by facsimile at (301)427-2521, provided

the facsimile is confirmed by hard copy submitted by mail and postmarked no later than the closing date of the comment period.

Comments may also be submitted by e-mail. The mailbox address for providing email comments is NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov. Include in the subject line of the e-mail comment the following document identifier, as applicable: File No. 1034-1854 or 1070-1783.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Amy Sloan or Tammy Adams, (301)713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject permit (File No. 1034-1854) and amendment to Permit No. 1070-1783 are requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), and the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216).

File No. 1034-1854: Dr. Markus Horning, Department of Fisheries & Wildlife, Oregon State University, Hatfield Marine Science Center, 2030 SE Marine Science Drive, Newport, OR 97365, has applied for a permit to conduct research on Weddell seals (*Leptonychotes weddellii*) to study aging; and specifically, to compare oxygen handling, body condition, muscle physiology, and foraging behavior in young adults and old adults. Over a 2-year period, up to 48 animals would have some or all of the following procedures performed: capture, sedation; morphometrics; ultrasound; blood and muscle samples taken; administration of Evans blue dye and deuterium oxide; external data recorders attached to pelage and internal data recorders administered by gavage; release; recapture to add device to manipulate energy expenditure; and recapture to remove instruments. Up to 250 animals seals would be incidentally harassed during these activities. Samples would be imported into the U.S. for analyses. A 5-year permit is requested to accommodate potential future studies and import of additional samples.

File No. 1070-1783: Dr. Alejandro Acevedo-Gutierrez, Biology Department, Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA 98225-9160, has requested an amendment to Permit No. 1070-1783 for research on seals in Washington. This permit, issued on March 13, 2006 (71 FR 14503), authorizes aerial and vessel surveys of harbor seals (*Phoca vitulina*) and fecal sample collections from rookeries and haul-out sites in inland waters of Washington. The permit holder requests

authorization to (1) increase the number of seals harassed in Padilla and Samish Bays (from 1500 to 2000 with 20 takes per seal in 2006, and to 4000 with 20 takes per seal per year from 2007 to 2010); and (2) extend the location of the research to include a floating dock used as a haul-out in Drayton Harbor, with up to 4800 harbor seals harassed (48 times per seal per year) at this location from 2006 to 2010. The purposes of this amendment request are to increase the sample size to provide a more robust sample size and extend the location of research to include seals throughout the region. The amendment would be valid for the duration of the permit, which expires on March 31, 2011.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, NMFS is forwarding copies of these applications to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Dated: June 22, 2006.

P. Michael Payne,

Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 06-5815 Filed 6-28-06; 8:45 am]

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DELAWARE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

Notice of Commission Meeting and Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the Delaware River Basin Commission will hold an informal conference followed by a public hearing on Wednesday, July 19, 2006. The hearing will be part of the Commission's regular business meeting. Both the conference session and business meeting are open to the public and will be held at the Commission's office building, located at 25 State Police Drive in West Trenton, New Jersey.

The conference among the commissioners and staff will begin at 10:15 a.m. Topics of discussion will include: A presentation by a representative of the Philadelphia District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on the work plan for a \$1 million grant to the District by the Assistant Secretary of the Army to enhance multi-jurisdictional use and management of the water resources of the Delaware Basin; a presentation by Dr. Anthony J. Broccoli of Rutgers University on climate change and sea level rise; a presentation by Robert Molzahn of the Water Resources Association of the Delaware River Basin and David Sayers of the DRBC on a

recommended policy for water transfers, and a presentation on the report and recommendations of the Commission's TMDL Implementation Advisory Committee on reducing loadings of PCBs to the Delaware Estuary.

The subjects of the public hearing to be held during the 1:30 p.m. business meeting include the dockets listed below:

1. *City of Harrington D-88-27 CP-3.*

An application for the renewal of a ground water withdrawal project to continue withdrawal of 21 mg/30 days to supply the applicant's public water supply distribution system from existing Wells Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 in the Frederica Aquifer. The project is located in the Browns Branch Watershed in the City of Harrington, Kent County, Delaware.

2. *Joseph Jackewicz, Sr. D-91-53-2.*

An application for the renewal of a ground and surface water withdrawal project to continue withdrawal of 219.8 million gallons per thirty days (mg/30 days) to supply the applicant's agricultural irrigation system from replacement Well No. Townsend 3, eight existing wells and one existing surface water intake. The project is located in the Tidbury Creek, Cypress Branch and Double Run watersheds in the Town of Magnolia, Kent County, Delaware.

3. *Borough of Richland D-92-1 CP-2.*

An application for the renewal of a ground water withdrawal project to continue withdrawal of 5.2 mg/30 days to supply the applicant's public water supply distribution system from existing Wells Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 and new Well No. 6 in the Stonehenge, Millbach, Hardyston and Crystalline Rock formations. The project is located in the Mill Creek Watershed in Richland Borough, Lebanon County, Pennsylvania.

4. *Evesham Municipal Utilities Authority D-98-15 CP-1.*

An application for approval of a ground water withdrawal project to continue to supply up to 149 mg/30 days of water to the applicant's distribution system through new Aquifer-Storage-Recovery Well No. 14 and existing wells Nos. 4 through 13 without an increase in existing allocation. The project is located in the Rancocas Creek Watershed in Evesham Township, Burlington County, New Jersey. (This was NAR'd as D-98-15 CP.)

5. *Pennsylvania American Water Company D-2003-32 CP.*

An application for approval of a ground water withdrawal project to supply up to 4.32 mg/30 days of water to the applicant's public water supply distribution system from new Well No. DG-13 in the Brunswick Formation, and

to retain the existing withdrawal from all wells to 29.14 mg/30 days. The project is located in the Schuylkill River watershed in Amity Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania.

6. *Horsehead Corporation D-67-196-*

2. An application for a change of ownership and a docket modification for the discharge of non-contact cooling water. The discharges of approximately 0.15 million gallons per day (mgd) from Outfall 004 and 0.31 mgd from Outfall 005 are associated with recycling electric arc furnace dust and the production of metal powders. The discharges from Outfall 004 and Outfall 005 are to the Aquashicola Creek, a tributary to the Lehigh River. The facility is located in Palmerton Borough, Carbon County, Pennsylvania.

7. *Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) D-84-10 CP-4.* An application to amend the DRBC Comprehensive Plan and to revise Docket No. D-84-10 CP (Supplement No. 1), Water Supply Plan for northern New Castle County, Delaware. The applicant proposes to delete Churchman's Marsh and Thompson Station Reservoirs and the development of additional ground water supplies at the Delaplane Manor well site from the Comprehensive Plan, and incorporate into the Comprehensive Plan the projects identified in Tables 5.2 and 5.4 in the Eighth Progress Report of the Delaware Water Supply Coordinating Council, dated March 8, 2006.

8. *Bart Golf Club, Inc. D-92-24-2.* An application for renewal of a surface water withdrawal project to supply up to 11.0 million gallons per thirty days of water for supplemental irrigation of the applicant's Hickory Valley Golf Club from an existing surface water intake located on Swamp Creek at the confluence of Schlegel Run. The allocation is a reduction from the previous allocation of 15 mg/30 days. The project is located in the Swamp Creek Watershed in New Hanover Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania and is located in the Southeastern Pennsylvania Ground Water Protected Area.

9. *Bridgeport Disposal, LLC D-93-63-*

2. An application to update and renew an existing industrial wastewater treatment plant (IWTP) discharge docket. The former commercial hazardous waste treatment facility still includes an on-site biological treatment system and a groundwater and leachate treatment system. The docket renewal will reflect changes in operations since the facility ceased in 2001 to serve as a commercial hazardous waste treatment facility. The IWTP discharges