

the applicant and do not necessarily reflect the views of NMFS.

Dated: June 27, 1996.

Robert C. Ziobro,

*Acting Chief, Endangered Species Division,
Office of Protected Resources, National
Marine Fisheries Service.*

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[I.D. 062096A]

**Marine Mammals; Permit No. 987
(P598)**

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

ACTION: Scientific research permit amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that a request for amendment of scientific research permit no. 987 submitted by Dr. Jim Darling, P.O. Box 384, Tofino, British Columbia, Canada VOR 2Z0, has been granted.

ADDRESSES: The amendment and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following offices:

Permits Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Suite 13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289);

Director, Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668 (907/586-7221);

Director, Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213 (310/980-4001); and

Coordinator, Pacific Area Office, NMFS, 2570 Dole Street, Room 106, Honolulu, HI 96822-2396 (808/973-2987).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On May 20, 1996, notice was published in the Federal Register (61 FR 25209) that an amendment of permit No. 987, issued March 1, 1996 (61 FR 9438), had been requested by the above-named individual. The requested amendment has been granted under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the provisions of paragraphs (d) and (e) of § 216.33 of the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216), the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and the provisions of § 222.25 of the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered fish and wildlife (50 CFR parts 222).

Permit No. 987 authorizes the taking (i.e., harassment) of up to 200 humpback whales (*Megaptera novaeangliae*) in the course of behavioral and photo-identification studies and biopsy sampling, in the waters around the main Hawaiian Islands, primarily off of Maui, Hawaii, over a period of 2 years. Amendment No. 1 to Permit No. 987, authorizes: 1) An increase in the total number of harassment takes authorized from 200 to up to 1000 animals annually, in Hawaii waters, up to 100 of which may be biopsy sampled annually; 2) an increase in the duration of the permit from two to three years; 3) the biopsy of 10 cows with calves or yearlings (biopsy of calves/yearlings is not requested); 4) the opportunistic collection of biopsy samples from dead stranded whales and retrieve humpback whale carcasses for necropsy; 5) the inclusion of Southeast Alaska, specifically Frederick Sound and Stephens Passage as research locations; and 6) in the requested Alaska locations, the take by harassment of up to 500 humpback whales annually, up to 100 of which may be biopsy sampled annually.

Issuance of this Permit as required by the ESA of 1973 was based on a finding that the permit: (1) was applied for in good faith; (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of the endangered species which is the subject of this permit; and (3) is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in Section 2 of the ESA.

Dated: June 20, 1996.

William Windom,

*Acting Chief, Permits and Documentation
Division, Office of Protected Resources,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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Patent and Trademark Office

**Renewal and Amendment of the
Charter of the Public Advisory
Committee for Trademark Affairs**

AGENCY: Patent and Trademark Office, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. (1976), and after consultation with GSA, it has been determined that the renewal and amendment of the charter of the Public Advisory Committee for Trademark Affairs is in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed on the Department by law. The charter was renewed on May

23, 1996. Charter amendments will allow the Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks (Assistant Secretary) to select organizations which are representative of the Intellectual Property community. Each selected organization will, in turn, be able to appoint a designated number of members to the Committee. Committee membership will be limited to no more than 15 members. These members will serve staggered 3-year terms.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Committee was first chartered in January 1973 and is now being renewed and its charter amended. The Committee's purpose is to advise the Patent and Trademark Office (Office) on ways to increase the Office's efficiency and effectiveness and to provide a continuing flow of knowledge from the private sector or the Office in the area of international and domestic trademark law.

The Office is amending the charter of the Committee to make the Committee more diverse and more representative of trademark owners, trademark practitioners and the Intellectual Property community as a whole. The Assistant Secretary will select representative organizations from among intellectual property organizations, bar groups, business-related organizations and academia, and determine the number of Committee members each organization can choose.

Allowing each representative organization to select its own Committee member(s) will ensure that the Committee represents the concerns of each member organization. Members will serve staggered three-year terms. No member may serve more than two consecutive terms.

The size of the Committee is being reduced from its former level of 18 members to 15 members. After experience with both an 18-member and a 15-member Committee, the smaller number seems to work better.

The Committee Chair will be selected by the Assistant Secretary and will serve a one-year term. No individual may be the Chair for more than two consecutive terms.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lynne G. Beresford at (703) 308-8900, by fax at (703) 308-7220, or by mail marked to her attention and addressed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Trademarks, 2900 Crystal Drive, Arlington, Virginia 22202-3513. Any organization which has an interest in the Committee should contact Ms. Beresford. A list of interested