

Committee may meet on a more frequent basis. Members of the Committee will not be compensated, but may upon request, be allowed travel and per diem expenses.

The Department of Commerce is seeking approximately 30 highly qualified individuals to serve on the Marine Protected Areas Federal Advisory Committee. Nominations are sought for non-Federal scientists, resource managers, and persons representing other interests or organizations involved with or affected by marine conservation. Individuals seeking membership on the Advisory Committee should possess demonstrable expertise in a related field or represent a stakeholder interest affected by MPAs. Nominees will also be evaluated based on the following factors: marine policy experience, leadership and organizational skills, region of country represented, and diversity characteristics.

Nominations are encouraged from all interested parties, such as scientific societies; academic and research institutions; groups or governments representing Native Americans, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, Caribbean Islanders and Pacific Islanders; states, territories and localities; interest groups such as the fishing (recreational and commercial), boating, diving, recreational, maritime, historical and philanthropic communities; conservation organizations; and Federal agencies. (NOTE: No Federal agency employees may be appointed to serve on the Committee, but nominations for non-federal employees will be accepted from Federal agencies).

Each submission should include the submitting person's or organization's name and affiliation, a cover letter describing the nominee's qualifications and interest in serving on the Committee, a curriculum vitae or resume of nominee, and no more than three supporting letter(s) describing the qualifications of the nominee. Self nominations are acceptable. The following contact information should accompany each nominee's submission: name, address, phone number, fax number, and e-mail address.

Nominations should be sent to (see **ADDRESSES**) and nominations must be received by (see **DATES**). The full text of the executive order can be found at the following address: www.mpa.gov.

Dated: August 11, 2000.

D. James Baker,

*Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere,
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration, Department of Commerce.*

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 081000A]

Marine Mammals; File No. 684-1458

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

ACTION: Issuance of permit amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Dr. Donald B. Siniff, University of Minnesota, Department of Ecology, Evolution and Behavior, 100 Ecology Building, 1987 Upper Buford Circle, St. Paul, MN 55108, has been issued an amendment to scientific research Permit No. 684-1458.

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

Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289); and

Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802 (562/980-4001).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Simona Roberts or Ruth Johnson, 301/713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On June 7, 2000, notice was published in the Federal Register (65 FR 36120) that an amendment of Permit No. 684-1458, issued August 7, 1998 (63 FR 43914), 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.*) and the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216).

Permit No. 684-1458 authorizes the permit holder to capture, tag, sample, and lavage Weddell seals

(*Leptonychotes weddellii*) of all age and sex classes on McMurdo Sound in the Antarctic.

The permit amendment authorizes the attachment of VHF transmitters on adult female Weddell seals, and the application of a series of instrument packages that contain: a 3MPDT logger(3-dimensional, magnetic data recorder), DSL (digital still camera), DU (ultrasonic depth sounder), PD2GT (speed, acceleration, depth, and temperature recorder) and ECG (electrocardiogram monitor) to male and female Weddell seals of all age classes. For attachment of the instrument package, the permit holder is authorized to anesthetize seals with the drug Sevoflurane. The amendment also authorizes an increase in the number of adult female Weddell seals captured (400 to 500), the number of adult male Weddell seals fitted with VHF transmitters (30 to 100) and the number of Weddell seal pups fitted with satellite-linked radio transmitters and the PD2GT and ECG instruments (20 to 50).

Dated: August 11, 2000.

Ann Terbush,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Air Force

Air Force A-76 Initiatives Cost Comparisons and Direct Conversions (As of 30 June 2000)

The Air Force is in the process of conducting the following A-76 initiatives. Cost comparisons are public-private competitions. Direct conversions are functions that may result in a conversion to contract without public competition. These initiatives were announced and in-progress as of 30 June 2000, include the installation and state where the cost comparison or direct conversion is being performed, the total authorizations under study, public announcement date and actual or anticipated solicitation date. The following initiatives are in various stages of completion.