

Docket Number: 11-064. *Applicant:* University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY 82071. *Instrument:* Electron Microscope. *Manufacturer:* FEI, Czech Republic. *Intended Use:* See notice at 76 FR 61669, October 5, 2011.

Comments: None received. *Decision:* Approved. No instrument of equivalent scientific value to the foreign instrument, for such purposes as this instrument is intended to be used, is being manufactured in the United States at the time the instrument was ordered. *Reasons:* Each foreign instrument is an electron microscope and is intended for research or scientific educational uses requiring an electron microscope. We know of no electron microscope, or any other instrument suited to these purposes, which was being manufactured in the United States at the time of order of each instrument.

Dated: November 1, 2011.

Gregory W. Campbell,

Director, Subsidies Enforcement Office,
Import Administration.

[FR Doc. 2011-28799 Filed 11-4-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XA807

Marine Mammals and Endangered Species; File No. 16305

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

ACTION: Notice; receipt of application.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that John P. Wise, Sr., Ph.D., Wise Laboratory of Environmental and Genetic Toxicology, Maine Center for Toxicology and Environmental Health University of Southern Maine, 478 Science Building, 96 Falmouth Street Portland, MA 04104-9300, has applied in due form for a permit to receive, import, and export marine mammal and sea turtle biological samples for scientific research purposes.

DATES: Written, telefaxed, or email comments must be received on or before December 7, 2011.

ADDRESSES: The application and related documents are available for review by selecting "Records Open for Public Comment" from the *Features* box on the Applications and Permits for Protected Species (APPS) home page, <https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov>, and then selecting

File No. 16305 from the list of available applications.

These documents are also available upon written request or by appointment in the following offices: See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.**

Written comments on this application should be submitted to the Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, at the address listed above. Comments may also be submitted by facsimile to (301) 713-0376, or by email to NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov. Please include File No. 16305 in the subject line of the email comment.

Those individuals requesting a public hearing should submit a written request to the Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division at the address listed above. The request should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this application would be appropriate.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Amy Sloan or Jennifer Skidmore, (301) 427-8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject permit is requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (MMPA; 16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), 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.*), the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR 222-226), and the Fur Seal Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1151 *et seq.*).

The objectives of the proposed research are to receive, import, and export tissue samples from marine mammals and sea turtles under NMFS jurisdiction to: (1) Determine tissue levels of metals and other environmental contaminants; and (2) establish a resource of marine mammal and sea turtle cell lines for use as model systems in the investigation of various factors related to marine mammal health and as comparative tools to human studies (toxicity of metals, virology, etc.). When available, frozen and formalin-fixed tissues would be received from the same animals from which cell lines are derived. The applicant proposes to use frozen tissues for contaminant and DNA analysis, and formalin-fixed tissues for pathological studies.

The numbers of animals, by species, from which samples may be received, imported, or exported annually include: 270 sperm whale (*Physeter macrocephalus*), 30 blue whale (*Balaenoptera musculus*), 30 Bryde's whale (*B. edeni*), 30 dwarf sperm whale

(*Kogia sima*), 30 false killer whale (*Pseudorca crassidens*), 30 fin whale (*B. physalus*), 30 gray whale (*Eschrichtius robustus*), 30 humpback whale (*Megaptera novaeangliae*), 30 killer whale (*Orcinus orca*), 30 minke whale (*B. acutorostrata*), 60 pilot whale (*Globicephala* spp.), 30 pygmy sperm whale (*B. breviceps*), 30 sei whale (*B. borealis*), 30 southern right whale (*Eubalaena australis*), 30 northern right whale (*E. glacialis*), 30 beaked whales (Cuvier's beaked, *Ziphius cavirostris*, and other beaked whales, *Mesoplodon* spp.), and 30 common dolphins (*Delphinus delphis*). In addition, samples from up to 10 animals from each of the following species may be received, imported, or exported annually: All other cetacean species, all pinnipeds (excluding walrus), and all sea turtles.

No take would be involved; tissues would be received from the following sources: Stranded animals; animals that die during rehabilitation attempts; animals that die in public display or captive research facilities; animals sampled by other permitted researchers; and animals killed during legal subsistence hunts. Once the cell lines are established, they may be transferred to other researchers for scientific research, including export to worldwide locations. The cell lines would not be sold for profit or used for commercial purposes.

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

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

Documents may be reviewed in the following locations:

Permits and Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; *phone* (301) 427-8401; *fax* (301) 713-0376;

Northwest Region, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way NE., BIN C15700, Bldg. 1, Seattle, WA 98115-0700; *phone* (206) 526-6150; *fax* (206) 526-6426;

Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668; *phone* (907) 586-7221; *fax* (907) 586-7249;

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

Pacific Islands Region, NMFS, 1601 Kapiolani Blvd. Rm. 1110, Honolulu, HI 96814-4700; *phone* (808) 944-2200; *fax* (808) 973-2941;

Northeast Region, NMFS, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930; *phone* (978) 281-9328; *fax* (978) 281-9394; and

Southeast Region, NMFS, 263 13th Avenue South, Saint Petersburg, FL 33701; *phone* (727) 824-5312; *fax* (727) 824-5309.

Dated: November 1, 2011.

P. Michael Payne,

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

[FR Doc. 2011-28771 Filed 11-4-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XA810

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of a public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's (Council) Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will hold a public meeting.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Monday, December 5, 2011, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held via webinar with a telephone-only connection option. Details on webinar registration and the telephone-only connection details are available at: <http://www.mafmc.org>.

Council address: Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 800 North State Street, Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901; telephone: (302) 674-2331.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christopher M. Moore, Ph.D., Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 800 North State Street, Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901; telephone: (302) 674-2331, extension 255.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the meeting is to reconsider the 2012 ABC recommendations made to the Council for summer flounder and scup based on updated stock assessment information recently provided for both species by the Northeast Fisheries Science Center. Information about

accessing the webinar can be obtained by visiting the Council's Web site at www.mafmc.org.

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to M. Jan Saunders at the Mid-Atlantic Council Office, (302) 526-5251, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: November 1, 2011.

Tracey L. Thompson,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2011-28659 Filed 11-4-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XA806

Marine Mammals; File No. 16553

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

ACTION: Notice; issuance of permit.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that a permit has been issued to Brent Stewart, Ph.D., J.D., Hubbs SeaWorld Research Institute, 2595 Ingraham Street, San Diego, CA 92109 to conduct research on California sea lions (*Zalophus californianus*), northern elephant seals (*Mirounga angustirostris*), and harbor seals (*Phoca vitulina*).

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

Permits and Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; *phone* (301) 427-8401; *fax* (301) 713-0376; 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: Carrie Hubard or Amy Sloan, (301) 427-8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On August 17, 2011, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (76 FR 51002) that a request for a permit to conduct research on three pinniped species had been submitted by the above-named applicant. 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).

Permit No. 16553 authorizes Dr. Stewart to continue a long term study on the comparative ecology, demography, community ecology, foraging patterns, pathology and phenology of pinniped species in California and to further characterize the resources and habitats used by each species. California sea lions, northern elephant seals, and harbor seals may be captured and sampled at several sites: San Nicolas Island, San Miguel Island, Santa Rosa Island, Santa Cruz Island, Piedras Blancas, Cape San Martin, and Gorda. Some animals will only receive a flipper tag or a dye mark. Other animals may be physically or chemically restrained; measured and weighed; have a variety of samples taken, including: Blood, skin, blubber, and mucus membrane swabs; and have tracking or data recording instruments attached. The permit also authorizes up to four unintentional research-related mortalities of each species annually. The permit is valid through October 31, 2016.

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: November 1, 2011.

P. Michael Payne,

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

[FR Doc. 2011-28768 Filed 11-4-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XT82

Marine Mammals; File No. 14676

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

ACTION: Notice; receipt of application for permit amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Paul Ponganis, Ph.D., University of California at San Diego, La Jolla, CA, has applied for an amendment to Scientific Research Permit No. 14676.