

electronic information system used for internal workload tracking and resource allocation.

Dated: June 11, 2012.

**Paul M. Wester, Jr.,**  
Chief Records Officer for the U.S.  
Government.

[FR Doc. 2012-15198 Filed 6-20-12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7515-01-P**

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Notice of Permit Modification Received Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95-541)

**AGENCY:** National Science Foundation.

**ACTION:** Notice of Permit Modification Request Received Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978, Public Law 95-541.

**SUMMARY:** The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish a notice of requests to modify permits issued to conduct activities regulated under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978. NSF has published regulations under the Antarctic Conservation Act at Title 45 Part 670 of the Code of Federal Regulations. This is the required notice of a requested permit modification.

**DATES:** Interested parties are invited to submit written data, comments, or views with respect to this permit application by July 23, 2012. Permit applications may be inspected by interested parties at the Permit Office, address below.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be addressed to Permit Office, Room 755, Office of Polar Programs, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22230.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Nadene G. Kennedy at the above address or (703) 292-7405.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The National Science Foundation, as directed by the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95-541), as amended by the Antarctic Science, Tourism and Conservation Act of 1996, has developed regulations for the establishment of a permit system for various activities in Antarctica and designation of certain animals and certain geographic areas a requiring special protection. The regulations establish such a permit system to designate Antarctic Specially Protected Areas.

*Description of Permit Modification Requested:* The Foundation issued a permit (2011-002) to David Ainley on May 28, 2010. The issued permit allows the applicant to enter Beaufort Island

ASPAs 105, Cape Royds ASPA 121, and Cape Crozier ASPA 124 to band 1800 Adelie fledglings, implant PIT tags on 250 chick and 300 adult Adelies, and, apply TDR/satellite tags, weigh and blood sample 55 Adelie adults, affix, weight, then later remove "fish tag", weight and release, and mark nests as part of a study to determine the effect of age, experience and physiology on individual foraging efficiency, breeding success and survival, and develop a comprehensive model for the Ross-Beaufort island metapopulations incorporating all the factors investigated.

The applicant requests a modification to his permit to allow:

(1) Increase the number of adults from 55-85 for attaching satellite tags at Cape Crozier (ASPAs 124). The additional 30 adults will have SPLASH tags (Wildlife Computers) attached. The SPLASH tags record depth, light, and temperature every second and report positions to the ARGOS satellite a few times per day. The real-time positions of the penguins as they forage will be transmitted to the satellite and made available on the Internet. The information will be used to steer the iRobot glider to penguin foraging hotspots, where the glider will assess characteristics of the foraging area.

(2) At Cape Royds (ASPAs 121) up to 30 Adelies will have their body mass recorded, bill and flipper dimensions taken, 3-5 feathers removed to confirm gender of the penguin, and have GPS/TDR tags attached and later removed. The information gained from the tags will be used to assess the change in foraging behavior upon the arrival of whales in the penguin's foraging area within the leads of the McMurdo Sound fast ice as it breaks up. The density and horizontal/depth distribution of prey will be assessed using deployed ROV.

*Location:* ASPAs 121-Cape Royds, and ASPAs 124-Cape Crozier, Ross Island, and ASPAs 105-Beaufort Island, Ross Sea.

**DATES:** September 1, 2012 to August 31, 2015.

**Nadene G. Kennedy,**

Permit Officer, Office of Polar Programs.

[FR Doc. 2012-15092 Filed 6-20-12; 8:45 am]

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*Description of Permit Modification Requested:* The Foundation issued a permit (2011-003) to Jo-Ann Mellish on June 6, 2011. The issued permit allows the applicant to capture and restrain up to 40 Weddell seals (weaned pups, juveniles and adults) to weigh, take digital images for 3D photogrammetric models and infrared analysis and ultrasound measurements of blubber depth, collect blood samples from the extradural vein, and blubber samples collected with a sterile biopsy punch. In addition, a telemetry instrument pack is glued to the fur in the mid-dorsal region. The pack allows for the recording of depth, swim speed, ambient temperature, and light levels, stomach temperature, heat flux and skin temperature. An additional stroke frequency sensor is glued to the base of the tail. These tests and instruments help quantify thermoregulatory