

Dated: March 19, 2010.

P. Michael Payne,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XT56

Marine Mammals; File No. 14486

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

ACTION: Notice; issuance of permit.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Alaska SeaLife Center (ASLC), 301 Railway Avenue, PO Box 1329, Seward, AK 99664-1329 (Dr. Ian Dutton, Responsible Party) has been issued a permit to receive, import, and export marine mammal parts for purposes of scientific research.

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

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) 713-0376; and Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668; phone (907) 586-7221; fax (907) 586-7249.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Amy Sloan or Jennifer Skidmore, (301) 713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On January 8, 2010, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (75 FR 1029) that a request for a permit to import specimens for scientific research 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.*), 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 parts 222-226), and the Fur Seal Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1151 *et seq.*).

Permit No. 14486 authorizes the ASLC to collect, receive, import, and

export biological samples from up to 4,000 individual cetaceans and 5,000 individual pinnipeds (excluding walrus, *Odobenus rosmarus*) annually for research on marine mammal population ecology, diet and nutrition, reproductive physiology, toxicology, and health. The permit is issued for 5 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.

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XV43

Advisory Committee to the U.S. Section to the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas; Spring Species Working Group Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of Advisory Committee meeting.

SUMMARY: The Advisory Committee (Committee) to the U.S. Section to the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) announces its spring meeting with its Species Working Group Technical Advisors April 7-9, 2010. The Committee will meet to discuss matters relating to ICCAT, including the 2009 Commission meeting results; research and management activities; global and domestic initiatives related to ICCAT; the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act-required consultation on the identification of countries that are diminishing the effectiveness of ICCAT; the results of the meetings of the

Committee's Species Working Groups; and other matters relating to the international management of ICCAT species.

DATES: The open sessions of the Committee meeting will be held on April 7, 2010, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.; April 8, 2010, 8:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.; and April 9, 2010, 9 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Closed sessions will be held on April 8, 2010, 3:15 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.; and April 9, 2010, 8 a.m. to 9 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Crowne Plaza, 8777 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910. The phone number is 301-589-5200.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rachel O'Malley, (301) 713-9505.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Advisory Committee to the U.S. Section to ICCAT will meet in open session to receive and discuss information on (1) the 2009 ICCAT meeting results and U.S. implementation of ICCAT decisions; (2) 2009 ICCAT and NMFS research and monitoring activities; (3) 2010 ICCAT activities; (4) global and domestic initiatives related to ICCAT; (5) the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act-required consultation on the identification of countries that are diminishing the effectiveness of ICCAT; (6) the results of the meetings of the Committee's Species Working Groups; and (7) other matters relating to the international management of ICCAT species. The public will have access to the open sessions of the meeting, but there will be no opportunity for public comment.

The Committee will meet in its Species Working Groups for a portion of the afternoon of April 8, 2010, and of the morning of April 9, 2010. These sessions are not open to the public, but the results of the Species Working Group discussions will be reported to the full Advisory Committee during the Committee's open session on April 9, 2010.

Special Accommodations

The meeting location is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Rachel O'Malley at (301) 713-9505 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: March 19, 2010.

Rebecca J. Lent,

Director, Office of International Affairs, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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