

Selection Criteria

The selection criteria will include:

(1) Quality of the applicant's personal education and career goal statement.

(2) Endorsement/content of the letter from the applicant's Sea Grant Program Director, the applicant's major professor and second letter of recommendation.

(3) Strength of academic performance and diversity of educational background including extracurricular activities, awards and honors (from the curriculum vitae and transcripts).

(4) Experience in marine or aquatic-related fields, oral and written communication skills, and interpersonal abilities. The four evaluation criteria will be given equal weight.

Selection

Applicants will be individually reviewed and ranked, according to the criteria outlined above, by a panel appointed by the Director of the NSGO with input from the Sea Grant Association and the National Sea Grant Review Panel. The panel will include representation from the Sea Grant Association and the current, and possibly past, class of Fellows. Once the entire class is selected, based on the criteria listed, the Knauss Program Manager will then place the selected applicants into either the legislative or executive group based upon the applicant's stated preference and/or judgment of the panel based upon material submitted. Academic discipline and geographic representation may be considered by the National Sea Grant Office to provide overall balance. The number of fellows assigned to the Congress will be limited to 10.

Federal Policies and Procedures

Fellows receive funds directly from their sponsoring Sea Grant program and are considered to be subrecipients of Federal assistance. Hence, the Department of Commerce Pre-Award Notification Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements contained in the **Federal Register** notice of October 1, 2000 (66 FR 49917), are applicable to this solicitation.

Minority Serving Institutions Statement

Pursuant to Executive Orders 12876, 12900, and 13021, DOC/NOAA is strongly committed to broadening the participation of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU), Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSI), and Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCU) in its educational and research programs. The DOC/NOAA vision, mission, and goals are to achieve full participation by Minority Serving

Institutions (MSI) in order to advance the development of human potential, to strengthen the Nation's capacity to provide high-quality education, and to increase opportunities for MSIs to participate in and benefit from Federal Financial Assistance programs. DOC/NOAA encourages applicants from MSI to participate. Institutions eligible to be considered HBCU/MSIs are listed at the following *Internet Website*: <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OCR/minorityinst.html>.

Classification

Prior notice and an opportunity for public comment are not required by the Administration Procedure Act or any other law for this notice concerning grants, benefits, and contracts according to 5 U.S.C. 553(a)(2). Therefore, a regulatory flexibility analysis is not required for purposes of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

This action has been determined to be not significant for purposes of E.O. 12866.

This document contains collection-of-information requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act. Application requirements have been approved by OMB under Control Number 0648-0362. Public reporting burden for an application is estimated to average 2 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Ms. Nikola Garber (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** above). The use off SF-LLL has been separately approved by OMB under Control Number 0348-0046.

Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

Dated: October 7, 2001.

David L. Evans,

Assistant Administrator, Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research.

[FR Doc. 01-28421 Filed 11-13-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 110101A]

Marine Mammals; File No. 1013-1648

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

ACTION: Receipt of application.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Dr. Patricia E. Mascarrelli, Carribean Center for Marine Studies, P.O. Box 3197, Lajas, PR 00667, has applied in due form for a permit to take humpback whales (*Megaptera novaeangliae*) for purposes of scientific research.

DATES: Written or telefaxed comments must be received on or before December 14, 2001.

ADDRESSES: The application 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; phone (301) 713-2289; fax (301) 713-0376; and Southeast Region, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive North, St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432; phone (727) 570-5301; fax (727) 570-5320.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tammy Adams or Ruth Johnson, (301) 713-2289.

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.*), and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR 222-226).

The applicant proposes to harass humpback whales in Puerto Rican waters for purposes of photo-identification, passive acoustic recordings, and behavioral observations. Sloughed skin samples will also be collected for genetic analyses. The purpose of the study is to collect data on population abundance, distribution, and habitat use for management purposes. Spinner dolphins (*Stenella longirostris*) and bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) may be incidentally harassed during the research.

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.

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on this application should be mailed to the Chief, Permits and Documentation Division, F/PR1, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this particular request would be appropriate.

Comments may also be submitted by facsimile at (301) 713-0376, provided the facsimile is confirmed by hard copy submitted by mail and postmarked no later than the closing date of the comment period. Please note that comments will not be accepted by e-mail or by other electronic media.

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

Dated: November 7, 2001.

Ann D. Terbush,

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

[FR Doc. 01-28541 Filed 11-13-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 110501C]

Marine Mammals; File Nos. 482-1653 and 1018-1655.

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

ACTION: Receipt of applications for scientific research permits.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the following actions regarding permits for takes of marine mammal species for the purposes of scientific research: NMFS has received scientific research permit applications from: James Gilbert, Ph.D., University of Maine, Department of Wildlife Ecology, 210 Nutting Hall, Orono, ME 04469 (File No. 482-1653); and Luciana Moller, Ph.D., Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology,

Yale University, New Haven, CT 06520 (File No. 1018-1655).

DATES: Written or telefaxed comments on new applications must be received on or before December 14, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on any of the applications should be sent to the appropriate office as indicated below. Comments may also be sent via fax to the number indicated for the applications. Comments will not be accepted if submitted via e-mail or the internet. The applications and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office:

Northeast Region, NMFS, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930-2298; phone (978) 281-9200; fax (978) 281-9371.

Documents may also be reviewed by appointment in the Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301) 713-2289; fax (301) 713-0376.

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on this application should be mailed to the Chief, Permits and Documentation Division, F/PR1, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this particular request would be appropriate.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For Application File No. 482-1653: Amy Sloan or Ruth Johnson, (301) 713-2289.

For Application File No. 1018-1655: Amy Sloan or Lynne Barre, (301) 713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject permits are requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (MMPA; 16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), and the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216).

Application File No. 482-1653: Dr. Gilbert proposes to document the extent of harbor seal (*Phoca vitulina*) predations on the Atlantic salmon aquaculture industry's pen sites and to understand the pattern of attacks and the behavior of seals near pen sites. From this information, non-lethal approaches to deterring seals will be determined. The specific research objectives are (1) to document the frequency, pattern, and extent of seal depredations at Atlantic salmon aquaculture farms; (2) to determine if this frequency, pattern, and extent is related to the number of seals at nearby

haulout sites throughout the year; and (3) to determine if repeated depredations at a site are the result of the same seal or different seals. To accomplish this research, seals will be captured, marked, sexed, measured, blood sampled, radio-tagged, and monitored via aerial surveys. Blood samples from adult females will be used for pregnancy testing. Patterns of visitation to the pen sites, including age and sex class, will be determined.

Application File No. 1018-1655: Dr. Moller proposes to import biopsy samples taken from bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops aduncus*) in Australia. The purpose(s) of this project are (1) to examine the influence of kinship on dolphin social relationships; (2) to assess sex-bias in dispersal patterns; and (3) to investigate population genetic structure of bottlenose dolphins in New South Wales. Biopsy samples already collected and analyzed in Australia for both mtDNA control region and microsatellites will be imported to the U.S. for screening at additional microsatellite loci. Additional biopsy samples will be taken in Australia and imported to the U.S. for conducting both mtDNA and microsatellite analyses.

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 activities proposed are 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 these applications to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Dated: November 7, 2001.

Ann D. Terbush,

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

[FR Doc. 01-28542 Filed 11-13-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).