

Permit Form (NSF 1078) has been in use for several years. The form requests general information, such as name, affiliation, location, etc., and more specific information as to the type of object to be taken (plant, native mammal, or native bird).

Use of the Information: The purpose of the regulations (45 CFR part 670) is to conserve and protect the native mammals, birds, plants, and invertebrates of Antarctica and the ecosystem upon which they depend and to implement the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978, Public Law 95-541, as amended by the Antarctic Science, Tourism, and Conservation Act of 1996, Public Law 104-227.

Burden on the Public: The Foundation estimates about 25 responses annually at ½ hour per response; this computes to approximately 12.5 hours annually.

Dated: May 19, 2004.

Suzanne H. Plimpton,

Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.

[FR Doc. 04-11747 Filed 5-24-04; 8:45 am]

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NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Notice of Permits Issued Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Notice of permits issued under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978, Public Law 95-541.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish notice of permits issued under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978. This is the required notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nadene G. Kennedy, Permit Office, Office of Polar Programs, Rm. 755, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On March 26, 2004, the National Science Foundation published a notice in the **Federal Register** of a permit application received. A permit was issued on May 18, 2004 to: Stacy Kim Permit No. 2005-001.

Nadene G. Kennedy,
Permit Officer.

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NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

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

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Notice of Permit Applications Received under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978, Public Law 95-541.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish notice of permit applications received 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 permit applications received.

DATES: Interested parties are invited to submit written data, comments, or views with respect to this permit application by June 24, 2004. This application 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 requiring special protection. The regulations establish such a permit system to designate Antarctic Specially Protected Areas.

The applications received are as follows:

1. Applicant

Michael Castellini, Director, Institute of Marine Science, University of Alaska, Fairbanks, Fairbanks, AK 99775.

Permit Application No. 2005-002

Activity for Which Permit Is Requested

Taking. The applicant proposes to study Weddell seals to quantify the dynamics of lipid uptake and utilization in a naturally foraging mammalian carnivore by examining freely diving Weddell seals in Antarctica. This

species offers a unique opportunity to model the biochemistry and physiology of nutrient utilization in a large carnivore that may not be possible in any other system. The applicant plans to capture up to 8 adult female seals, attach diving recorders and blood sampling lines, then transport the seals to a diving hut where they will be observed for several days and blood samples taken. Blood samples will also be taken from about 6 pups less than 5 weeks old. All seals will be returned to the tide crack areas.

Location

McMurdo Sound, Antarctica.

Dates

October 5, 2004 to December 31, 2004.

2. Applicant

Arthur L. DeVries, Department of Animal Biology, 524 Burrill Hall, University of Illinois, Urbana, IL 61801.

Permit Application No. 2005-003

Activity for Which Permit Is Requested

Introduce non-indigenous species to Antarctica. The applicant plans to import algal cells (*Nanochloropsis*) to be fed to imported marine rotifers (*Brachionus calyciflorus*) after they hatch. After 5 days the rotifers will be harvested by filtering out the algae, and concentrating the rotifers into a thick slurry. The slurry will be flash-frozen and aliquots of the thawed rotifers will be fed daily to the larval stages of the naked dragon fish, *Gymnodraco acuticeps*. The naked dragon fish spawns in mid-October on rocks in the shallow waters of McMurdo Sound. Their eggs hatch some 10 months later, the full-terms eggs will be collected, the larva hatched in aquarium tanks, and reared in seawater tanks in the Crary Science and Engineering Center at McMurdo Station. The fish will be raised to juvenile stage to follow their elaboration of blood antifreeze glycoproteins. The rotifers and algae will be autoclaved and disposed of as dry biological waste.

Location

McMurdo Station, Ross Island Antarctica.

Dates

August 20, 2004 to February 15, 2005.

Applicant

Lawrence J. Conrad, 845 17th Street, Washougal, WA 98761.