

Management. U.S. Department of Commerce.

Mark S. Paese, Director, Office of Operational Systems, Office of Operational Systems, National Weather Service.

Ciaran M. Clayton, Director of Communications Office of the Under Secretary.

Steven S. Fine, Ph.D., Director, Air Resources Laboratory, Office of Air Resources Laboratory, Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research.

Dr. Ned Cyr, Director, Office of Science and Technology National Marine Fisheries Service.

Dated: September 24, 2012

Jane Lubchenco,

Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere.

[FR Doc. 2012-24230 Filed 10-1-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

National Estuarine Research Reserve System

AGENCY: Estuarine Reserves Division, Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of Approval of the Rookery Bay, Florida and Kachemak Bay, Alaska National Estuarine Research Reserve Management Plan Revisions.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Estuarine Reserves Division, Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce approves the Rookery Bay, Florida and the Kachemak Bay, Alaska National Estuarine Research Reserve Management Plan Revisions. The revised management plans outline the administrative structure; the research, education, training, and stewardship goals of the reserve; and the plans for future land acquisition and facility development to support reserve operations.

The Rookery Bay Reserve takes an integrated approach to management, linking research, education, training and stewardship functions to address high priority issues within the 110,000 acre Reserve including land use changes affecting freshwater inflow, loss of native biodiversity, lack of public awareness and community involvement

in stewardship, incompatible use by visitors, and ecological impacts of catastrophic change events. The Reserve's Environmental Learning Center provides excellent visitor education experiences and a connecting pedestrian bridge connects visitors to a boardwalk and interpretive trails.

The Kachemak Bay Reserve takes an integrated approach to management by linking research, education, and training functions within the 372,000 acre Reserve to address high priority issues including climate change and harvested species, such as salmon and shellfish. The Reserve will continue research on coastal dynamics, monitoring of invasive species and harmful algal blooms, and will transfer information to coastal decision makers.

The Rookery Bay, Florida Reserve Management Plan can be found at www.floridadep.org/rookery/management/plan.htm and the Kachemak Bay, Alaska Reserve Management Plan can be found at www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=kbr_rresources.management.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Erica Seiden at (301) 563-1172 or Laurie McGilvray at (301) 563-1158 of NOAA's National Ocean Service, Estuarine Reserves Division, 1305 East-West Highway, N/ORM5, 10th floor, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

Dated: September 13, 2012.

Margaret Davidson,

Acting Director, Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

[FR Doc. 2012-24156 Filed 10-1-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XC218

Marine Mammals; File No. 17298

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

ACTION: Notice; receipt of application.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Mystic Aquarium, Mystic, Connecticut 06355 [Responsible Party: Stephen Coan], has applied in due form for a permit to collect, import, export, and receive marine mammal parts for scientific research.

DATES: Written, telefaxed, or email comments must be received on or before November 1, 2012.

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. 17298 from the list of available applications.

These documents are also available 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

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

Written comments on this application should be submitted to the Chief, Permits and Conservation 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 the File No. in the subject line of the email comment.

Those individuals requesting a public hearing should submit a written request to the Chief, Permits and Conservation 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:

Joselyd Garcia-Reyes or Amy Sloan, (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 objective of this application is to support multiple ongoing research programs at the Mystic Aquarium, including studies of diet and nutrition, disease, immune function, environmental stressors, toxicology and health of marine mammals. Mystic Aquarium requests the annual collection, receipt, import and export of samples from 5,000 individual cetaceans and 5,000 individual pinnipeds under NMFS jurisdiction for continued research on these species.