

Dated: August 8, 2013.

Alan D. Risenhoover,

Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, performing the functions and duties of the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XC614

Marine Mammals; File No. 17996

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

ACTION: Notice; issuance of permit.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that a permit has been issued to Silverback Films Ltd, 59 Cotham Hill, Cotham, Bristol, BS6 6JR, United Kingdom, to conduct commercial or educational photography of bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*).

ADDRESSES: The permit and related documents are available for review 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 Southeast Region, NMFS, 263 13th Avenue South, Saint Petersburg, FL 33701; phone (727) 824-5312; fax (727) 824-5309.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rosa L. González or Kristy Beard, (301) 427-8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On April 12, 2013, notice was published in the *Federal Register* (78 FR 21915) that a request for a permit to conduct commercial/educational photography 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.*) and the regulations governing the taking and importing of marine mammals (50 CFR part 216).

Permit No. 17996 authorizes a commercial photography/filming project to film bottlenose dolphin strand-feeding events in the estuaries and creeks of Bull Creek and around Hilton Head, South Carolina. Filming would be conducted from a small boat and from a helicopter. A maximum of 500

dolphins, annually, would be approached. Filming would occur over one (or two if needed) sessions of three to four weeks each and be completed by October 2014. Footage would be used in a seven-part television series, *The Hunt*, an educational series on predation strategy and predator-prey dynamics for the British Broadcasting Company. The permit expires on October 31, 2014.

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.

Dated: August 9, 2013.

P. Michael Payne,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Updates to List of National System of Marine Protected Areas MPAs

AGENCY: National Marine Protected Areas Center (MPA Center), Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS), National Ocean Service (NOS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce (DOC).

ACTION: Notice of updates to the list of National System of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs).

SUMMARY: The National System of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) provides a mechanism for agencies managing MPAs to work together on common conservation priorities. In January 2013, NOAA and the Department of the Interior (DOI) invited federal, state, commonwealth, territorial and tribal MPA programs with potentially eligible existing MPAs to nominate their sites to the National System of MPAs (national system). A total of 82 nominations were received, including 80 from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and two from the National Park Service. Following a 60-day public review period of these nominations [78 FR 30870], no public comments were received by the National Marine Protected Areas Center (MPA Center). The managing agencies listed above were then asked to make a final

determination of their desire to nominate these sites to the national system, which they subsequently confirmed. Finding them to be eligible for the national system, the MPA Center has accepted the nominations for 82 sites and placed them on the List of National System MPAs.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Lauren Wenzel, NOAA, at 301-713-7265 or via email at lauren.wenzel@noaa.gov. A detailed electronic copy of the List of National System of MPAs is available at marineprotectedareas.noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background on National System

The national system of MPAs is made up of member MPAs, networks and systems established and managed by federal, state, commonwealth, territorial, tribal, or local governments. These sites are a subset of the approximately 1,700 MPAs in U.S. waters, and have been nominated by their management entity to participate in a collaborative partnership to address national marine conservation goals and represent diverse marine ecosystems and resources. Sites in the national system continue to be managed independently, but national system MPA managers work together at the regional and national levels to achieve common objectives for conserving the nation's important natural and cultural resources. For more information about the benefit of the National System of MPAs, see <http://marineprotectedareas.noaa.gov/nationalsystem/>.

Nomination Process

NOAA issues a call for nominations to the national system annually. This round of nominations began on January 28, 2013 and the deadline for nominations was March 29, 2013. A public comment period was held from May 22, 2013 [78 FR 30870] through July 22, 2013. No public comments were received. Additional details on the nomination process are posted at marineprotectedareas.noaa.gov.

Updates to List of National System MPAs

The list of 82 MPAs nominated by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the National Park Service to join the National System of MPAs was published in the *Federal Register* on May 22, 2013 [78 FR 30870]. Both the list of newly nominated sites and the complete List of National System MPAs, which now includes 437