

to address issues affecting the habitat of Council-managed species.

The Salmon Advisory Panel will convene on Monday, April 7, at 9 a.m., and will continue to meet throughout the week as necessary to address salmon management items on the Council agenda.

The Groundfish Advisory Panel will convene on Monday, April 7, at 1 p.m., and will continue to meet throughout the week as necessary to address groundfish management items on the Council agenda.

The Budget Committee will convene on Monday, April 7, at 3 p.m., to review the status of 1996 and 1997 Council budgets.

The Enforcement Consultants meet on Tuesday, April 8, at 7 p.m., to address enforcement issues related to Council agenda items.

There will be a Salmon/Whiting Industry Meeting on Wednesday, April 9, to discuss salmon bycatch avoidance in the whiting fishery.

Detailed agendas for the above advisory meetings will be available after March 28, 1997.

#### Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Eric W. Greene at (503) 326-6352 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: March 13, 1997.

Bruce Morehead,

*Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 97-6984 Filed 3-19-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

[I.D. 031397C]

#### Endangered Species; Permits

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

**ACTION:** Issuance of scientific research permit 1030.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that on March 12, 1997, NMFS issued Scientific Research Permit 1030 to Sarah V. Mitchell, of NOAA Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary (P625), to take listed loggerhead sea turtles for the purpose of scientific research subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

**ADDRESSES:** The application, permit, and related documents are available for review by appointment in the following offices:

Office of Protected Resources, F/PR3, NMFS, 1315 East-West Hwy., Room 13307, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3226 (301-713-1401); and

Director, Southeast Region, NMFS, NOAA, 9721 Executive Center Drive, St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432 (813-893-3141).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice was published on January 17, 1997 (62 FR 2656) that an application had been filed by Sarah V. Mitchell, NOAA Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary (P625), to take listed loggerhead sea turtles as authorized by the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543) and NMFS regulations governing listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR parts 217-222).

Issuance of this permit allows the applicant to take listed loggerhead sea turtles (*Caretta caretta*) for examination, tagging, observation, collection of morphometric measurements, and release. The purpose of the authorized research, as stated in the application, is to investigate population trends, migrations, habitat, and diving behavior of loggerhead turtles in the Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary.

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 the listed species that is the subject of this permit, and (3) is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

Dated: March 13, 1997.

Robert C. Ziobro,

*Acting Chief, Endangered Species Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 97-6983 Filed 3-19-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

[I.D. 031397B]

#### Marine Mammals; Scientific Research Permit (PHF# 850-1342)

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

**ACTION:** Receipt of application.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that Lucy W. Keith, Boston University Marine Program, Broderick House/MBL, Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543, has applied in due form for a permit to take Hawaiian monk seals (*Monachus schauinslandi*) for purposes of scientific research.

**DATES:** Written comments must be received on or before April 21, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** The application and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s):

Permits Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289);

Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, 501 West Ocean Boulevard, Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213 (310/980-4001); and

Protected Species Coordinator, Pacific Area Office, 2570 Dole Street, Room 106, Honolulu, HI 96822-2396 (808/973-2987).

Written data or views, or requests for a public hearing on this request, should be submitted to the Director, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this application would be appropriate.

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.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The subject permit is requested 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 (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered fish and wildlife (50 CFR 222.23).

The application requests authorization to capture, physically restrain, and radio tag (and possibly recapture for tag removal) up to 20 immature monk seals of either gender (10 weaned pups, and 10 juveniles up to 3 years of age) over an eight month period in 1997. The applicant also requests authorization to inadvertently harass up to 10 additional seals of any age and gender during the course of the tagging activities. Research activities will involve population assessment, disease assessment, recovery action, and pelagic ecology studies.

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.

Dated: March 13, 1997.

Ann D. Terbush,

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

[FR Doc. 97-6975 Filed 3-19-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

[I.D. 031397D]

**Marine Mammals; Scientific Research Permit (PHF# 662-1345)**

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

**ACTION:** Receipt of application.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that Dena Matkin, Box 22, Gustavus, Alaska 99826, has applied in due form for a permit to take killer whales (*Orcinus orca*) and humpback whales (*Megaptera novaengliae*) for purposes of scientific research.

**DATES:** Written comments must be received on or before April 21, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** The application and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s):

Permits Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289); and  
Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668 (907/586-7221).

Written data or views, or requests for a public hearing on this request, should be submitted to the Director, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this application would be appropriate.

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.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The subject permit is requested 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 (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered fish and wildlife (50 CFR part 222.23).

The application requests authorization to unintentionally harass

up to 400 killer whales and 100 humpback whales annually over a five year period. The purpose of the research is to continue long-term, year-round photo-identification work in Southeastern Alaska to define the population size, structure and range of killer whales; and to obtain identification of photographs of humpback whales opportunistically in conjunction with the killer whale 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.

Dated: March 14, 1997.

Ann D. Terbush,

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

[FR Doc. 97-7056 Filed 3-19-97; 8:45 am]

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[I.D. 031397A]

**Marine Mammals; Permit No. 957 (P771#71)**

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

**ACTION:** Receipt of application for amendment.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the National Marine Mammal Laboratory, Alaska Fisheries Science Center, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way NE., BIN C15700, Seattle, WA 98115-0070, has requested a amendment to permit No. 957.

**DATES:** Written comments must be received on or before April 21, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** The amendment request and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s):

Permits Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289); and  
Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668 (907/586-7221).

Written data or views, or requests for a public hearing on this request should be submitted to the Director, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this

particular amendment request would be appropriate.

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.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The subject amendment to permit no. 957, issued on May 31, 1995 (60 FR 30065) is requested 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. 957 authorizes the permit holder to: satellite tag up to 50 beluga whales (*Delphinapterus leucas*) over a 5-year period, but not more than 10 in any one year; and to unintentionally harass up to 900 annually. Activities are authorized to occur in Cook Inlet and along the western Alaska coastline.

The permit holder requests authorization to increase the number of animals taken to 30 annually for the next 3 years (1997 through 1999).

Dated: March 14, 1997.

Ann D. Terbush,

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

[FR Doc. 97-7057 Filed 3-19-97; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army

#### Corps of Engineers

#### Columbia River System Operation Review, Selection of a System Operation Strategy (Record of Decision (ROD))

**AGENCY:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of Record of Decision.

**SUMMARY:** In 1990, the three Federal agencies responsible for management of the Federal Columbia River Power System; the Corps of Engineers, the Bureau of Reclamation, and Bonneville Power Administration; began the System Operation Review (SOR) for the purpose of developing and implementing a coordinated system operating strategy for managing the multiple uses of the system while