

Highway, Room 13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289);

Director, Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213 (310/980-4001);

Written data or views, or requests for a public hearing on this request, should be submitted to the Chief, Permits Division, F/PR1, Office of Protected Resources, Silver Spring, MD 20910, within 30 days of the publication of this notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gary Barone, (301/713-2289).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this particular request would be appropriate.

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

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.*), and the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216).

The applicant seeks authorization to instrument up to 150 harbor seals (*Phoca vitulina*) with radio tags, heart monitors, and time depth recorders annually. These animals will be subjects in a low frequency sound experiment. The applicant seeks authorization to take by inadvertent harassment up to 810 harbor porpoise annually incidental to the sound experiments and related activities.

The work will be conducted over a 5-year period. During the course of the field work small numbers of other species may be inadvertently harassed by the low frequency sounds. The requested species under NMFS jurisdiction are California sea lions (*Zalophus californianus*), harbor porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*), and Pacific bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*).

Dated: June 6, 1995.

Ann D. Terbush,

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

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Marine Mammals

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Receipt of application for a scientific research permit (P5H) and applications to modify permits (P129J and P281C).

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Dr. Donald B. Siniff, Department of Ecology, Evolution and Behavior, University of Minnesota, 1987 Upper Buford Circle, St. Paul, MN 55108 (P5H), has applied in due form for a permit to take Antarctic pinnipeds for purposes of scientific research.

Dr. Bruce R. Mate, Hatfield Marine Science Center, Oregon State University, Newport, OR 97365-5296 (P129J) has applied for a modification to Permit No. 841 to increase the number of blue whales (*Balaenoptera musculus*) to be tagged over the next 4 years from 50 to 55.

Mr. Jonathan Stern, Marine Mammal Research Program, Texas A&M University, Galveston, TX 77551 (P281C), has applied for a modification to Permit No. 934 to biopsy sample up to 90 killer whales (*Orcinus orca*) in the inland waters of Washington State and to inadvertently harass up to 300.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before July 21, 1995.

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).

Application P5H. Director, Northeast Region, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930-2298 (508/281-9250).

Modifications P129J and P281C. Director, Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90802-4213 (310/980-4001); and

Director, Northwest Region, 7600 Sand Point Way, NE, BIN C15700, Bldg. 1, Seattle, WA 98115-0070 (206/526-6150).

Written data or views, or requests for a public hearing on this request, should be submitted to the Director, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, NOAA, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910, within 30 days of the publication of this notice. Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this particular request would be appropriate.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, the Secretary of Commerce is forwarding

copies of these applications to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject permit and requests to modify permits are 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).

Dr. Siniff (P5H) requests a permit to: Tag/release annually, up to 900 Weddell seal (*Leptonychotes weddellii*) and take by harassment up to 2000; tag/release up to 20 each of leopard seal (*Hydrurga leptonyx*), crabeater seal (*Lobodon carcinophagus*), Ross seal (*Ommatophoca rossi*), southern elephant seal (*Mirounga leonina*), and Antarctic fur seal (*Arctocephalus gazella*); collect blood samples from up to 100 Weddell seals and collect tissue and tooth samples from seals found dead.

Dr. Bruce R. Mate (P129J) was issued Permit No. 841 on June 4, 1994, to inadvertently harass annually up to 200 blue whales (*Balaenoptera musculus*), 200 fin (*B. physalus*), 200 humpback whales (*Megaptera novaeangliae*), and 200 gray whales (*Eschrichtius robustus*). Up to 50 each of these species may be satellite-tagged, biopsy sampled, photographed, and observed over a 5-year period. Research is authorized to be conducted along the western coast of the United States and in Hawaiian waters.

Mr. S. Jonathan Stern was issued Permit No. 934 on August 3, 1994, to inadvertently harass annually up to 1000 minke whales (*Balaenoptera acutorostrata*), 400 blue whales (*Balaenoptera musculus*), 100 fin (*B. physalus*), 50 sei whales (*B. borealis*), 600 humpback whales (*Megaptera novaeangliae*), and 500 gray whales (*Eschrichtius robustus*), and 300 killer whales (*Orcinus orca*). Up to 150 minke whales and 30 each of the other species are authorized to be photographed and biopsy sampled. Minke whales may be taken from the Gulf of Alaska to the California/Mexican border. All other species are taken only off central California.