

J. Howard (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 days prior to the meeting dates.

Dated: November 27, 2001.

Richard W. Surdi,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 01-29771 Filed 11-29-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 112001A]

Endangered Species; Permits

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

ACTION: Receipt of an application for a research permit (1353).

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the following actions regarding permits for takes of endangered and threatened species for the purposes of scientific research and/or enhancement under the Endangered Species Act (ESA): NMFS has received an application for a scientific research permit from Dr. Steve W. Ross, of NC National Estuarine Research Reserve.

DATES: Comments or requests for a public hearing on this new application must be received at the appropriate address or fax number no later than 5 p.m. eastern standard time on December 31, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on this new application should be sent to the appropriate office as indicated below. Comments may also be sent via fax to the number indicated for the application. Comments will not be accepted if submitted via e-mail or the Internet. The application and related documents are available for review in the indicated office, by appointment:

Permits, Conservation and Education Division, F/PR1, 1315 East West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (phone:301-713-1401, fax: 301-713-0376).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lillian Becker, Silver Spring, MD (phone: 301-713-2319, fax: 301-713-0376, e-mail: Lillian.Becker@noaa.gov)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority

Issuance of permits and permit modifications, as required by the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543) (ESA), is based on a finding that such permits/modifications:

(1) are applied for in good faith; (2) would not operate to the disadvantage of the listed species which are the subject of the permits; and (3) are consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA. Scientific research and/or enhancement permits are issued under section 10 (a)(1)(A) of the ESA. Authority to take listed species is subject to conditions set forth in the permits. Permits and modifications are issued in accordance with and are subject to the ESA and NMFS regulations governing listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR parts 222-226).

Those individuals requesting a hearing on an application listed in this notice should set out the specific reasons why a hearing on that application would be appropriate (see **ADDRESSES**). The holding of such hearing is at the discretion of the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA. All statements and opinions contained in the permit action summaries are those of the applicant and do not necessarily reflect the views of NMFS.

Species Covered in This Notice

The following species are covered in this notice:

Endangered Shortnose Sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*)

Application 1353

The shortnose sturgeon, *Acipenser brevirostrum*, is the only federally listed endangered marine fish in North Carolina. In the late 1800's, NC shortnose and Atlantic sturgeon supported the largest sturgeon fishery in the southeastern U.S. Due to habitat loss and overfishing, NC sturgeon populations declined until both species were considered in danger of extinction in the state. This research will sample and track the shortnose sturgeon of the rivers of NC, including the Cape Fear river system, the Brunswick River, and the Northeast Cape Fear River. The fish will be collected by gillnetting, trawling, and electroshocking. They will then be documented for measurements, disease and catch per unit effort. The fish will then be tagged with an internal ultrasonic transmitter and released. The tagged fish will be monitored for the life of the battery of the implants, approximately 7 months.

Dated: November 26, 2001.

Ann Terbush,

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

[FR Doc. 01-29768 Filed 11-29-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 110801B]

Marine Mammals; File No. 376-1520-01

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

ACTION: Denial of amendment to permit.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that a request for an amendment to scientific research Permit No. 376-1520-01, submitted by James H.W. Hain, Associated Scientists at Woods Hole, Box 721, Woods Hole, MA 02543 has been denied.

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

Permits and Documentation Division, F/PR1, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301) 713-2289; fax (301) 713-0376;

Regional Administrator, Northeast Region, NMFS, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930-2298; phone (978) 281-9200; fax (978) 281-9371; and

Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive North, St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432; phone (727) 570-5301; fax (727) 570-5320.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tammy Adams or Ruth Johnson, (301) 713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On July 31, 2001, A notice was published in the **Federal Register** (66 FR 39493) that an application for a permit amendment had been filed by the above named individual. The requested permit amendment has been denied pursuant to the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (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.*), and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR 222-226).

Permit No. 376-1520-01 authorizes the Holder to approach a variety of cetacean species to conduct photo-identification and behavioral observations. The approach distances in the permit are currently limited to: up to 100 ft. (31 m) by vessel, 200 ft. (61 m) directly above and 350 ft. (107 m) slant range by aircraft for all species

except North Atlantic right whales (*Eubalaena glacialis*), and up to 700 ft. (213 m) directly above and at slant range in fixed- and rotary-winged aircraft, and 500 ft. (152 m) directly above and 350 ft (107 m) slant range using an aerostat (blimp) for right whales. The permit holder requested an amendment to the permit to allow approaching North Atlantic right whales up to 100 ft. (31 m) in a variety of small vessels, including kayaks, for the purpose of photo-identification.

Dated: November 26, 2001.

Ann D. Terbush,

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

[FR Doc. 01-29766 Filed 11-29-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 112001B]

Marine Mammals; File No. 1022-1659

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

ACTION: Receipt of application.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Doyle A. Hanan, Ph.D., P.O. Box 8914, Rancho Santa Fe, California 92067, has applied in due form for a permit to take California sea lions (*Zalophus californianus*) for purposes of scientific research.

DATES: Written or telefaxed comments must be received on or before December 31, 2001.

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

Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301) 713-2289; fax (301) 713-0376; and

Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213; phone (562) 980-4001; fax (562) 980-4018.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Amy Sloan or Ruth Johnson, (301) 713-2289.

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.*), and the Regulations Governing the Taking and

Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216).

The applicant proposes to test the hypothesis that relatively few local California sea lions break through bait receiver walls and damage bait fish at various California harbors. To test this, the applicant proposes to radio tag and track sea lions that exhibit territorial behavior near bait receivers and document interaction patterns at bait receivers. The results of this study will help institute measures to eliminate intentional or accidental feeding of sea lions at selected bait receivers.

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.

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on this application should be mailed to the Chief, Permits and Documentation Division, F/PR1, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this particular request would be appropriate.

Comments may also be submitted by facsimile at (301) 713-0376, provided the facsimile is confirmed by hard copy submitted by mail and postmarked no later than the closing date of the comment period. Please note that comments will not be accepted by e-mail or by other electronic media.

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.

Dated: November 26, 2001.

Ann D. Terbush,

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

[FR Doc. 01-29769 Filed 11-29-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 072600B]

Marine Mammals; File Application No. 1004-1656

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

Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Receipt of application.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Funtime, Inc. d/b/a Six Flags Worlds of Adventure, 1060 North Aurora Road, Aurora, OH 44202, has applied in due form for a permit to import two killer whales (*Orcinus orca*) for the purposes of public display.

DATES: Written or telefaxed comments must be received on or before December 31, 2001.

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

Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289);

Regional Administrator, Northeast Region, NMFS, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA, 01930-2298 (978/281-9116).

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on this request should be submitted to the Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, F/PR1, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this particular permit request would be appropriate.

Comments may also be submitted by facsimile at (301) 713-0376, provided the facsimile is confirmed by hard copy submitted by mail and postmarked no later than the closing date of the comment period. Please note that comments will not be accepted by e-mail or other electronic media.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jennifer Skidmore or Amy Sloan, (301/713-2289).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject application for Permit No. 1004-1656-00 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 requests authorization to import two killer whales (*Orcinus orca*), one adult female from Marineland S.A., Antibes, France and one adult male from Mundo Marino, Buenos Aires, Argentina, to Funtime, Inc. d/b/a Six Flags Worlds of Adventure in Aurora, Ohio. The applicant requests these imports for the purpose of public display. The receiving facility, Six Flags Worlds of Adventure, 1060 North