

of the ESA of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531–1543) and regulations governing listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR Parts 222–226). NMFS issues permits based on findings that such permits: (1) Are applied for in good faith; (2) if granted and exercised, 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. The authority to take listed species is subject to conditions set forth in the permits.

Anyone requesting a hearing on the application listed in this notice should set out the specific reasons why a hearing on that application would be appropriate (*see ADDRESSES*). Such hearings are held at the discretion of the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NMFS.

Application Received

Permit 16344

Dr. Jerri Bartholomew, Oregon State University at Corvallis, is requesting a 5-year permit to annually take 580 juvenile SONCC coho salmon of hatchery origin associated with two research projects to study the effects of the myxozoan parasite *Ceratomyxa shasta* on salmon and steelhead in the Klamath River in Northern California. In the two projects described below, Dr. Bartholomew and her co-investigators will utilize fish obtained from the Iron Gate Hatchery in California, transport fish to the John L. Fryer Disease Laboratory in Oregon, and will euthanize all individuals at the end of the experiments.

Project 1 is a study to determine the annual incidence of disease in May and June in the Klamath River (Humboldt County), California, following a 3-day exposure of individuals at the Beaver Creek and Seiad Valley sentinel sites. The study will compare trends in *C. shasta* infection prevalence, fish mortality, and time to death of juvenile fish of hatchery origin among years. Annually, Dr. Bartholomew proposes to collect, transport, and euthanize 220 juvenile SONCC coho salmon of hatchery origin for this project. Data from this study will provide information to estimate annual exposure of both wild and hatchery SONCC coho salmon to, and subsequent disease effects from, *C. shasta* among years; and to inform potential management actions to reduce infection rates.

Project 2 is a laboratory study to test whether sequential exposure of fish to a less virulent (IIR) strain of *C. shasta*, followed by exposure to a more virulent (IIC) strain, lessens disease effects

(mortality, parasite production) within the juvenile SONCC coho salmon host. Annually, Dr. Bartholomew proposes to collect, transport, and euthanize 360 juvenile SONCC coho salmon of hatchery origin for this project. Data collected from these experiments will be used to inform potential disease management strategies for *C. shasta* in the Klamath River.

This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(c) of the ESA. NMFS will evaluate the application, associated documents, and comments submitted to determine whether the applications meet the requirements of section 10(a) of the ESA and Federal regulations.

The final permit decision will not be made until after the end of the 30-day comment period. NMFS will publish notice of its final action in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: April 7, 2011.

Angela Somma,

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

[FR Doc. 2011–9014 Filed 4–13–11; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648–XA363

Marine Mammals; File No. 14352

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

ACTION: Notice; issuance of permit amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Dr. Gregory Bossart, Georgia Aquarium, 225 Baker Street, NW., Atlanta, GA 30313 has been issued a major amendment to Permit No. 14352.

ADDRESSES: The permit amendment and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following offices:

Permits, Conservation and Education 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 Southeast Region, NMFS, 263 13th Avenue South, Saint Petersburg, Florida 33701; phone (727) 824–5312; fax (727) 824–5309.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Carrie Hubbard or Kristy Beard, (301) 713–2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On August 6, 2010, notice was published in the

Federal Register (75 FR 47537) that a request for an amendment to Permit No. 14352 to conduct research on bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) had been submitted by the above-named applicant. The requested permit amendment 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).

The permit has been amended to authorize research in a new study area: Charleston, South Carolina. Fifty bottlenose dolphins may be captured, sampled, and released in Charleston annually. Captured dolphins will receive a health assessment clinical workup. All captured animals will receive a roto tag. Up to ten animals per year will also receive a VHF tag. Samples will be analyzed to examine a variety of health topics such as: infectious diseases, immune status, contaminant exposure, antibiotic resistance, and genetics. An additional 400 dolphins per year may be harassed during pre- and post-capture surveys. The amended permit is valid until 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: April 6, 2011.

P. Michael Payne,

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

[FR Doc. 2011–9019 Filed 4–13–11; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648–XA365

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of a public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council will convene Public Hearings on: Amendment 18 to the Fishery Management Plan for Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources in the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico; Joint