



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Silver Spring, MD 20910

NOV 26 2019

Bill Zeigler
Senior Vice President of Animal Programs
Chicago Zoological Society, Brookfield Zoo
3300 Golf Road
Brookfield, Illinois 60513

Dear Mr. Zeigler:

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has issued Permit No. 22686 to the Chicago Zoological Society. This permit authorizes the importation into the United States of three captive-born bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) from Dolphin Quest Bermuda to either the Brookfield Zoo in Brookfield, Illinois or Coral World Ocean Park in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands for the purpose of public display.

This permit is effective upon your signature and is valid through the expiration date indicated in Condition A.1. To use your permit:

1. Read the permit, including attachments. If you have questions, call your permit analyst – Jennifer Skidmore or Courtney Smith, Ph.D. – at 301-427-8401 before signing the permit.
2. Sign and date both the original and “File Copy” signature pages.
3. Keep the original signature page with your permit.
4. Return the “File Copy” signature page to our office by:
 - a. Email to your permit analyst;
 - b. Fax (301-713-0376); or
 - c. Mail (NMFS Permits and Conservation Division (F/PR1), 1315 East-West Hwy, Silver Spring, MD 20910).

The importation of these bottlenose dolphins requires a Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) export permit issued by the Management Authority of the Government of Bermuda.

All wildlife imported must be declared and cleared through a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) port designated for wildlife (50 CFR 14.12) and a Wildlife Declaration Form 3-177 must be filed with the USFWS inspector at the time of import or export. Contact the appropriate port for details about how to declare and clear your shipment *prior* to transport. The list of designated ports and Form 3-177 may be obtained from: <https://www.fws.gov/le/designated-ports.html>.



In addition, importation of live animals into the United States requires a live animal import permit issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture's, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services
(<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/animal-and-animal-product-import-information/live-animal-imports/import-live-animals>).

Sincerely,

for Amy C. Sloan

Jolie Harrison
Chief, Permits and Conservation Division
Office of Protected Resources

Enclosure

cc w/ enclosure: Anna Barry, USFWS
Barbara Kohn, D.V.M., APHIS
Peter Thomas, Ph.D, Marine Mammal Commission



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Permit No. 22686

Expiration Date: December 1, 2024

PERMIT TO IMPORT MARINE MAMMALS FOR PUBLIC DISPLAY PURPOSES

I. Authorization

This permit is issued to the Chicago Zoological Society, Brookfield Zoo, 3300 Golf Road, Brookfield, Illinois 60513 (Bill Zeigler, Responsible Party), pursuant to the provisions 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).

II. Abstract

The objective of the permitted activity, as described in the application, is to import three captive-born bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) from Dolphin Quest Bermuda to either the Brookfield Zoo in Brookfield, Illinois or Coral World Ocean Park in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands for the purpose of public display.

III. Terms and Conditions

The activities authorized herein must occur by the means, in the areas, and for the purposes set forth in the permit application, and as limited by the Terms and Conditions specified in this permit, including appendices. Permit noncompliance constitutes a violation and is grounds for permit modification, suspension, or revocation, and for enforcement action.

A. Duration of Permit

Personnel listed in Condition C.1 of this permit (hereinafter "Personnel") may conduct the import activity authorized by this permit until such time that all three dolphins have been imported or through December 1, 2024, whichever occurs first. This permit may be extended by the Director, NMFS Office of Protected Resources or the Chief, Permits and Conservation Division (hereinafter Permits Division), pursuant to applicable regulations and the requirements of the MMPA.



B. Number and Kind(s) of Protected Species, Location(s) and Manner of Taking

1. The table in Appendix 1 outlines the number of bottlenose dolphins, by ID Number, authorized to be imported, and the locations to which they may be imported.
2. Personnel must comply with the following conditions related to the manner of import:
 - a. The subject bottlenose dolphins identified in Appendix 1 must be transported from Bermuda to the United States in accordance with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service standards entitled "Specifications for the Humane Handling, Care, Treatment, and Transportation of Marine Mammals" (9 CFR Part 3, Subpart E).
 - b. Prior to importation into the United States, the Chicago Zoological Society must have the travel plan documented at the receiving facility, and the animals must be accompanied by a health certificate signed by the attending veterinarian stating that the animal was examined within the prior 10 days and found to be in acceptable health for transport.
 - c. The importation of marine mammals is subject to the provisions of 50 CFR part 14 (*i.e.*, no marine mammal may be imported without the required Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora [CITES] permits).
 - d. The Permit Holder may not import any marine mammal that is pregnant or lactating.
3. Personnel must comply with the following conditions related to public display in the United States:
 - a. The Chicago Zoological Society's Brookfield Zoo, Coral World, and any subsequent recipient must continue to meet the three public display criteria required by Section 104(c)(2)(a) of the MMPA.
 - b. Captive marine mammals may not be released into the wild (including open water training) unless such a release has been specifically authorized under a separate scientific research or enhancement permit that has been issued for that purpose.

C. Qualifications, Responsibilities, and Designation of Personnel

1. The following individuals are authorized as Personnel under this permit:
 - a. Responsible Party - Bill Zeigler;
 - b. Principal Investigator - Rita Stacey Vondra; and
 - c. Co-Investigators:
 - i. Transport personnel:
 1. Brookfield Zoo - Rita Stacey Vondra and Michelle Campbell.
 2. Coral World Ocean Park - R. Lee Keller and Michelle Campbell.
 - ii. Attending veterinarians for transport:
 1. Brookfield Zoo - Michael Adkesson, DVM, Dipl. ACZM, Dipl. ECZM (ZHM) and Jennifer N. Langan, DVM, Dipl. ACZM.
 2. Coral World Ocean Park - Natalie E. Noll, DVM and Emily Hall, DVM.
2. At the discretion of the Responsible Party, additional qualified staff may participate in the import of the subject animals.
3. Individuals conducting permitted activities must possess qualifications commensurate with their roles and responsibilities. The Responsible Party on behalf of the Permit Holder is ultimately responsible for activities of individuals operating under the authority of this permit.
4. Personnel involved in permitted activities must be reasonable in number and essential to conduct of the permitted activities.
5. Persons who require state or Federal licenses to conduct activities authorized under the permit (*e.g.*, veterinarians, pilots) must be duly licensed when undertaking such activities.

D. Possession of Permit

1. This permit cannot be transferred or assigned to any other person.
2. The Permit Holder and persons operating under the authority of this permit must possess a copy of this permit when:
 - a. Engaged in the permitted activity;

- b. The animals are in transit; and
 - c. The animals imported under the permit are in the possession of such persons.
3. A duplicate copy of this permit must accompany or be attached to the container, enclosure, or other means of containment in which a protected species is placed for purposes of transit. For the captive subject marine mammals, a copy of this permit shall be kept on file at the facility holding the marine mammals.

E. Reports and Notifications

1. Reports and notifications must be submitted to the Permits Division by one of the following:
 - a. Email (NIMM.Inventory@noaa.gov);
 - b. Fax (301-713-0376); or
 - c. Mail (NMFS Permits and Conservation Division (F/PR1), 1315 East-West Hwy, Silver Spring, MD 20910).
2. Upon completion of the importation from Bermuda, the receiving facility must complete the attached Marine Mammal Data Sheets for the subject animals and submit them as specified in Condition E.1.
3. The Brookfield Zoo and Coral World Ocean Park must review and verify the accuracy of its Marine Mammal Inventory Report Summary (MMIRS), upon request.
4. Prior to any subsequent transfer or transport of the subject animal(s) within the United States, the current owner or facility must provide written notification of the proposed transfer or transport. A completed Marine Mammal Transfer/Transport Notification form (attached) must be received at least 15 days in advance of the intended transfer or transport. The intended recipient must meet the three public display criteria required by Section 104(c)(2)(a) of the MMPA.
5. The current owner or facility of the subject animals must provide notification, within 30 days of any death or birth of progeny, by submitting a Marine Mammal Data Sheet for the animal (blank data sheets can be obtained online at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/marine-mammal-protection/national-inventory-marine-mammals>).
6. Any progeny born in the United States will be subject to the MMPA.

G. Observers and Inspections

1. NMFS may review activities conducted under this permit. At the request of NMFS, the Permit Holder must cooperate with any such review by:
 - a. Allowing an employee of NOAA or other person designated by the Director, NMFS Office of Protected Resources to observe permitted activities; and
 - b. Providing all documents or other information relating to the permitted activities.

H. Modification, Suspension, and Revocation

1. Permits are subject to suspension, revocation, modification, and denial in accordance with the provisions of subpart D [Permit Sanctions and Denials] of 15 CFR part 904.
2. The Director, Office of Protected Resources may modify, suspend, or revoke this permit in whole or in part:
 - a. In order to make the permit consistent with a change made after the date of permit issuance with respect to applicable regulations prescribed under Section 103 of the MMPA;
 - b. In a case in which a violation of the terms and conditions of the permit is found;
 - c. In response to a written request¹ from the Permit Holder;
 - d. If NMFS determines that the application or other information pertaining to the permitted activities (including, but not limited to, reports pursuant to Section E of this permit and information provided to NOAA personnel pursuant to Section G of this permit) includes false information.
3. Issuance of this permit does not guarantee or imply that NMFS will issue or approve subsequent permits or amendments for the same or similar activities requested by the Permit Holder, including those of a continuing nature.

¹ The Permit Holder may request changes to the permit related to: the species or number of animals imported; and the location, time, or manner of importing protected species. Such requests must be submitted in writing to the Permits Division in the format specified in the application instructions.

I. Penalties and Permit Sanctions

1. A person who violates a provision of this permit, the MMPA, or the regulations at 50 CFR 216 is subject to civil and criminal penalties, permit sanctions, and forfeiture as authorized under the MMPA, and 15 CFR part 904.
2. NMFS shall be the sole arbiter of whether a given activity is within the scope and bounds of the authorization granted in this permit.
 - a. The Permit Holder must contact the Permits Division for verification before conducting the activity if they are unsure whether an activity is within the scope of the permit.
 - b. Failure to verify, where NMFS subsequently determines that an activity was outside the scope of the permit, may be used as evidence of a violation of the permit, the MMPA, and applicable regulations in any enforcement actions.

J. Acceptance of Permit

1. In signing this permit, the Permit Holder:
 - a. Agrees to abide by all terms and conditions set forth in the permit, all restrictions and relevant regulations under 50 CFR Part 216 and all restrictions and requirements under the MMPA;
 - b. Acknowledges that the authority to conduct certain activities specified in the permit is conditional and subject to authorization by the Office Director; and

- c. Acknowledges that this permit does not relieve the Permit Holder of the responsibility to obtain any other permits, or comply with any other Federal, State, local, or international laws or regulations.


Donna S. Wieting

Director, Office of Protected Resources
National Marine Fisheries Service

11/26/19
Date
Bill Zeigler

Senior Vice President of Animal Programs
Chicago Zoological Society
Responsible Party

3 Dec 2019
Date

FILE COPY

Appendix 1: Table Specifying the Marine Mammals Authorized to be Imported under Permit No. 22686

Table 1: Bottlenose dolphins authorized to be imported under Permit No. 22686 from Dolphin Quest Bermuda to either the Brookfield Zoo in Brookfield, Illinois or Coral World Ocean Park in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands.				
NOAA ID No.	Sex	Birth Date	Current Age (Years)	Owner
NOA0006620	Female	1 Apr 2010	9	Chicago Zoological Society
NOA0010155	Female	31 Mar 2014	5	Dolphin Quest, Inc.
NOA0010213	Female	3 Mar 2015	4	Chicago Zoological Society

MARINE MAMMAL DATA SHEET

Form Approved by OMB No. 0648-0084

Expires 12-31-2019

Page: 1 of 1

NOAA Animal ID: NOA0010213

(Generated on: 2019-10-22)

I. Animal-Specific:

NOAA Identification No.	NOA0010213	Sex	FEMALE
Common Name	Bottlenose Dolphin	Scientific Name	Tursiops truncatus
Birth Date	03-30-2015	Birth Date Certainty	ACTUAL
Captivity Date	03-30-2015	Captive Origin	BIRTH
Permit No.		Collector	
Geographic Location	Lat : ' ' / Lon : ' '	Geographic Name	
Review Date		Review Status	
Reviewer Comments/Notes			

II. Owner/Facility-Specific:

Owner (Person or other Entity With Custody of the Marine Mammal)	Chicago Zoological Society	
Facility (if different from Owner)	Brookfield Zoo or Coral World Ocean Park	
Custody Date	03-30-2015	
Facility Date		
City/State/Zip of Facility (include Country for foreign facilities)		
Animal Identification No. (assigned by facility)		and/or
Animal Name (assigned by facility)		
Purpose(s)	Public Display	

III. Disposition:

Death Date _____
 Death Cause _____
 Death Cause Comment _____
 Release Date: _____ Permit No: _____ OR ☐ Unauthorized release/escape (reintroduction)
 Geographic Location: _____ Lat: ' ' / Lon: ' '
 Tag number or description of other identifying markings: _____

IV. Animal Historical Transfer/Transports:

MARINE MAMMAL DATA SHEET

Form Approved by OMB No. 0648-0084

Expires 12-31-2019

Page: 1 of 1

NOAA Animal ID: NOA0010155

(Generated on: 2019-10-22)

I. Animal-Specific:

NOAA Identification No.	NOA0010155	Sex	FEMALE
Common Name	Bottlenose Dolphin	Scientific Name	Tursiops truncatus
Birth Date	03-31-2014	Birth Date Certainty	ACTUAL
Captivity Date	03-31-2014	Captive Origin	BIRTH
Permit No.		Collector	
Geographic Location	Lat: : ' ' / Lon: : ' ' '	Geographic Name	
Review Date		Review Status	
Reviewer Comments/Notes			

II. Owner/Facility-Specific:

Owner (Person or other Entity With Custody of the Marine Mammal) Chicago Zoological Society

Facility (If different from Owner) Brookfield Zoo or Coral World Ocean Park

Custody Date 03-31-2014

Facility Date

City/State/Zip of Facility (include Country for foreign facilities)

Animal Identification No. (assigned by facility) and/or

Animal Name (assigned by facility)

Purpose(s) Public Display

III. Disposition:

Death Date

Death Cause ()

Death Cause Comment

Release Date: Permit No: OR ☐ Unauthorized release/escape (reintroduction)

Geographic Location: Lat: : ' ' / Lon: : ' ' ' Geographic Name:

Tag number or description of other identifying markings:

IV. Animal Historical Transfer/Transports:

MARINE MAMMAL DATA SHEET

Form Approved by OMB No. 0648-0084

Expires 12-31-2019

Page: 1 of 1

NOAA Animal ID: NOA0006620

(Generated on: 2019-10-22)

I. Animal-Specific:

NOAA Identification No. NOA0006620

Sex FEMALE

Common Name	Bottlenose Dolphin
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Scientific Name Tursiops truncatus

Birth Date 04-01-2010

Birth Date Certainty	ACTUAL
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Captivity Date	04-01-2010
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Captive Origin	BIRTH
1	1971
2	1972
3	1973
4	1974
5	1975
6	1976
7	1977
8	1978
9	1979
10	1980
11	1981
12	1982
13	1983
14	1984
15	1985
16	1986
17	1987
18	1988
19	1989
20	1990
21	1991
22	1992
23	1993
24	1994
25	1995
26	1996
27	1997
28	1998
29	1999
30	2000
31	2001
32	2002
33	2003
34	2004
35	2005
36	2006
37	2007
38	2008
39	2009
40	2010
41	2011
42	2012
43	2013
44	2014
45	2015
46	2016
47	2017
48	2018
49	2019
50	2020

Permit No.

Collector

Geographic Location Lat: : ' ' / Lon: : ' '

Geographic Name

Review Date

Review Status

Reviewer Comments/Notes

II. Owner/Facility-Specific:

Owner (Person or other Entity With Custody of the Marine Mammal) Dolphin Quest, Inc.

Facility (if different from Owner)	Brookfield Zoo or Coral World Ocean Park
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Custody Date 04-01-2010

Facility Date

City/State/Zip of Facility (include Country for foreign facilities)

Animal Identification No. (assigned by facility) _____ and/or _____

Animal Name (assigned by facility) _____

Purpose(s)	Public Display
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III. Disposition:

Death Date

Death Cause ()

Death Cause Comment

Release Date: _____ Permit No: _____ OR ☐ Unauthorized release/escape (reintroduction)

Geographic Location: Lat: : ' ' / Lon: : ' '

Geographic Name:

Tag number or description of other identifying markings:

IV. Animal Historical Transfer/Transports:

MARINE MAMMAL TRANSFER/TRANSPORT NOTIFICATION

OMB No. 0648-0084; Exp.: 12/31/2019

EXPORTS: You must contact NMFS directly (refer to contact information on the bottom of Page 2) regarding and any potential export to ensure that all documentation has been provided to comply with the MMPA requirements. See 'Export Notes' on Page 4.

NOTIFICATIONS must be received at least 15 days before the date of transfer/transport.

Planned Transfer Transport Date: _____

I. Transfer Transport Type (please check one):

- ☐ Transfer – custody is changing (donation, sale, or purchase)
☐ Transport – physical movement (loan)
☐ Transfer and Transport

II. Transfer (custody change) details, as applicable:

Current Owner (From): _____

Receiving Owner (To): _____

III. Transport (location change) details, as applicable:

Current Facility (From): _____

Receiving Facility (To): _____

IV. Purpose of transfer/transport (please check one):

- ☐ Public Display - Permit No. _____
☐ Scientific Research (permit required) - Permit No. _____
☐ Enhancement (permit required) - Permit No. _____

V. Animal Identification:NOAA ID NumberSpeciesAnimal ID Number/Animal Name

MARINE MAMMAL TRANSFER/TRANSPORT NOTIFICATION (Continued)

VI. Certification

I hereby certify that this notice and any attached supplemental information is complete, true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that this information is submitted in compliance with the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (MMPA) (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), and regulations (50 CFR Part 216), and that any false statement may subject me to the criminal penalties of 18 U.S.C. 1001 or to penalties provided under the MMPA of 1972, as amended.

"From" Entity:

"To" Entity:

Signature of Responsible Official

Signature of Responsible Official

Name of Responsible Official

Name of Responsible Official

Title

Title

Institution Name

Institution Name

Primary Contact (other than Responsible Official)

Primary Contact (other than Responsible Official)

Phone Number

Phone Number

Email Address

Email Address

All documentation required for this information collection is considered public and as such, subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). There is no assurance of confidentiality associated with this information.

QUESTIONS? If you need assistance completing this form or would like to submit a completed form, please contact the Permits and Conservation Division via:

- a. Email (NIMM.Inventory@noaa.gov);
- b. Fax (301-713-0376); or
- c. Mail (NMFS Permits and Conservation Division (F/PR1), 1315 East-West Hwy, Silver Spring, MD 20910).

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, search existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information to complete this form. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information to the Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless the collection of information displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Control Number.

MARINE MAMMAL TRANSFER/TRANSPORT NOTIFICATION

NOTES

The Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (MMPA) (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) requires notifications of transfer and transport of living marine mammals be provided 15 days in advance. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has jurisdiction of most marine mammals (cetaceans and pinnipeds, except walruses), and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) has jurisdiction over the remaining marine mammal species (walrus, polar bear, manatee sp., dugong, marine otter or sea otter).

In case of emergencies, marine mammal owners and facilities must request and receive a waiver of the 15-day notification requirement. Owners and facilities have 60 days to complete planned transfers and transports. After the transport or transport occurs, they must be verified within 30 days.

- I. This is a planned or target date ONLY. Where a specific target date cannot be identified, please select a date 15 days after the received notification date. Please note the date NMFS receives your notification is the start date of the required 15 days notification. The actual transfer/transport may occur on a different date but must not occur until after the 15-day window has passed.
- II. A "transfer" refers to a change in ownership (i.e., legal custody) of a marine mammal (e.g., sale, purchase, or donation). A "transport" refers to a change in physical location of a marine mammal or in rare cases a facility name change (e.g., associated with a sale). A notification may reference a transfer only, a transport only, or both a transfer and transport.
- III & IV. "Owner" means the person or institution with legal custody of the marine mammal proposed to be transferred/transported. The "facility" is the physical location of the marine mammal. The "From" entity is the current owner and facility (i.e., where the animal is coming from via ownership or location change). The "To" entity is the owner or facility that is receiving custody (i.e., ownership) or possession (i.e., location) of an animal.
- V. Animal Identification: All marine mammals reported to NMFS have a NOAA ID number that will never change. Please use the NOAA ID number to identify all animals to be transferred/transported. The species and Animal ID Number or Animal Name assigned by owners or facilities are used to as cross-checks to verify that NOAA ID is corresponding to the correct animal. If you are proposing to transfer/transport more than four animals, please insert rows or use an attachment. Please note the attachment on the form so that we will look for it.
- VI. Purpose: Please identify the purpose of the transfer/transport. Note that owners and facilities receiving marine mammals for public display purposes must meet the following MMPA criteria:
 - Offer an education or conservation program;
 - Be open to the public on a regularly scheduled basis; and
 - Be licensed or registered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA/APHIS) per the Animal Welfare Act (AWA).
- VII. Certification: Transfers and transports are authorized by the Responsible Official corresponding with the associated owner and/or facility involved in the transaction. The **Responsible Official** is the individual who is responsible for and who has the signatory authority for marine mammal custody decisions for or as the owner, or animal care and disposition at the facility. The **Primary Contact** is the registrar or other person responsible for maintaining the marine mammal inventory records for the owner or at the facility. The Responsible Official and the Primary Contact can be the same person.

EXPORT NOTES

Foreign owners and facilities receiving marine mammals by export from the United States must meet standards that are comparable to those applicable to persons transporting and receiving custody of marine mammals in the United States for purposes of public display, scientific research or enhancement. Exports for public display purposes must adhere to the requirements of Section 104(c)(9) of the MMPA (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*). Comparable standards for public display for the receiving foreign owner/facility include documentation of:

1. The education or conservation program comparable to one that is based on professionally recognized standards of the U.S. public display community;
2. The admission policy that reflects the facility is open to the public on a regularly scheduled basis with access that is not limited or restricted other than by charging an admission fee; and
3. A letter from APHIS stating that the foreign facility concerned meets standards comparable to those applicable to U.S. licensees and registrants under the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) (7 U.S.C. 2131 *et seq.*)

APHIS Requirements: NMFS must receive an APHIS comparability determination prior to authorizing the export of marine mammals. To make this MMPA-required comparable standards determination, the foreign receiver must submit sufficient documentation to APHIS on which to base such a determination, or be inspected by an APHIS inspector or other person designated by APHIS at the expense of the importer or exporter. When documentation is submitted, the foreign government involved must certify its accuracy. Please contact Animal Care, APHIS, Riverdale, MD 20737 (301-734-7833) for guidance concerning documentation or inspection options.

In addition, the appropriate agency of the foreign government (e.g., the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) management authority) must submit a statement certifying that:

1. The information set forth in the application is accurate;
2. The laws and regulations of the foreign government involved allow enforcement of the terms and conditions of the authorization, and that the foreign government will enforce all terms and conditions; and
3. The foreign government involved will afford comity to any amendment, modification, suspension or revocation decision.

All three certification statements are required by NMFS to ensure compliance with MMPA requirements. APHIS requires only that the accuracy of the information be certified as a prerequisite for making a comparability determination.

Subsequent transfer/transport of marine mammals previously exported from the United States, or their progeny, between foreign holders must adhere to the above requirements. Foreign transfer/transport notifications must be submitted to NMFS through the appropriate agency of the foreign government (e.g., the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) management authority). A Marine Mammal Transfer/Transport Notification must be submitted at least 15 days before the transfer/transport of exported marine mammals. The foreign receiver must document that they meet comparable standards to those facilities holding marine mammals in the United States and provide certification statements from the appropriate agency of the foreign government as described above.

CITES: Import and Export of protected species, including mammals, must comply with other applicable laws including CITES. For further information on CITES permitting, please contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority, Branch of Permits, MS: IA, 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041-3803 (1-800-358-2104).

If you are exporting animals for the purposes of scientific research or enhancement purposes under an MMPA permit, please contact NMFS regarding additional requirements (refer to contact information on the bottom of Page 2).