

## Project Information

**1. File Number**

File No. **22686**

**2. Project Title**

*Import of up to three common bottlenose dolphins born under human care from Dolphin Quest Bermuda to the Chicago Zoological Society – Brookfield Zoo in Brookfield, IL (“Brookfield Zoo”) or Coral World Ocean Park (“Coral World”) in the U.S. Virgin Islands for the purpose of public display.*

**3. Previous Federal or State Permit #**

*Permit # 15498*

**4. Permits Requested**

*MMPA Import Permit for Public Display*

**5. Where Will the Activities Occur?**

**Country of export**

*Dolphin Quest Bermuda  
15 The Keep, Sandys MA 01  
Bermuda*

**Primary contact:**

*Michelle Campbell, Vice President of Animals, 540-687-5958, mcampbell@dolphinquest.com*

**Receiving facility address: (Two possible destinations identified below)**

**1. Chicago Zoological Society – Brookfield Zoo**

*3300 Golf Rd, Brookfield, IL 60513  
708-688-8400*

**Primary contact:**

*Rita Stacey, Curator of Marine Mammals, 708-688-8442, rita.stacey@czs.org*

**Responsible party:**

*Bill Zeigler, Senior Vice President of Animal Programs, 708-688-8840, bill.zeigler@czs.org  
Dr. Stuart Strahl, President and CEO, 708-688-8300, stuart.strahl@czs.org*

**2. Coral World Ocean Park**

*6450 Coki Point  
St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands 00802*

**Primary contact:**

*R. Lee Kellar, General Curator; Telephone: 340-775-1555x222; Cell: 907-491-1135;  
Facsimile: 340-775-9068; E-Mail: lkellar@coralworldvi.com*

**Responsible party:**

*Gertrude J. Prior, General Manager; Telephone: 340-775-1555x\_\_245  
Facsimile: (340) 775-9068; E-Mail: tprior@coralworldvi.com*

**6. Timeframe**

*05/01/2019 – 04/30/2024*

**7. Sampling Season/Project Duration**

*Import of one or more animals will occur soon after issuance of the permit. The animals may or may not be imported at the same time.*

**8. Abstract**

**a. Purpose**

*Import of up to three common bottlenose dolphins born under human care into the United States for the purpose of public display.*

**b. Target and non-target species (common and scientific names)**

*Common bottlenose dolphins, *Tursiops truncatus**

**c. Proposed take activities (e.g., capture) or import**

*Import of up to three common bottlenose dolphins, *Tursiops truncatus*, born under human care from Dolphin Quest Bermuda ("DQB") to either the Brookfield Zoo or Coral World via airplane during the time period of 03/01/2019 – 02/28/2024.*

**d. Numbers of animals to be taken or imported, by species**

*Up to three female common bottlenose dolphins, *Tursiops truncatus*, during the term of the permit (animals listed in Table 1). Specific import decisions, including dates, transport locations, and selection of animals, will be determined by a long-range population sustainability strategy and breeding loans between entities. The requested five-year permit will allow for flexibility relating to the implementation of this strategy, taking into account the best interests of the animals. Listed animals are included for flexibility in choosing candidates; all may or may not be transported.*

*Notwithstanding the foregoing, the tentative proposal is to transport two females to Coral World, with Brookfield Zoo as an alternative destination. The remaining animal may be transported either to Coral World or Brookfield Zoo in the future.*

**e. Specific geographic locations of take or location from which animals will be imported**

*Import from Dolphin Quest Bermuda, 15 The Keep, Sandys, MA 01, Bermuda*

**f. Requested duration of the permit (the maximum is five years)**

*Permit is requested for 5 years.*

**Project Description**

**9. Project Purpose: Objectives and Justification**

- a.** Discuss the purpose of your project including your objectives and justification for the take or import. Explain why animal(s) cannot be obtained from captive collections in the United States (for imports) or in the United States or abroad (for captures).

*Brookfield Zoo and Coral World would like to import up to three common bottlenose dolphins, *Tursiops truncatus*, born under human care from Dolphin Quest Bermuda to be transported either to Brookfield Zoo or Coral World, via airplane during the requested timeframe. This import is intended to improve the genetic variation and population sustainability of the dolphin populations at these facilities. The import will occur pursuant to one or more breeding loans among the entities, including a long-term, established breeding loan between Dolphin Quest and Brookfield Zoo. While the entities expect for at least two animals to be imported and transported at a time, specific details regarding dates, locations, and selection of animals will not occur until a later date. These decisions will be based on the breeding loan agreements and a long-range population sustainability strategy. The requested five-year permit term will allow for flexibility relating to implementation of the strategy, taking into account the best interests of the animals. Listed animals are included for flexibility in choosing candidates; all may or may not be transported. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the*

*tentative proposal is to transport two females to Coral World, with Brookfield Zoo as an alternative destination. The remaining animal may be transported either to Coral World or Brookfield Zoo in the future.*

- b. Provide the following information required for maintaining marine mammals for public display purposes
- Describe the educational program and include educational materials as attachments. Specify the professionally recognized standards of the public display community upon which the education or conservation program offered by the applicant is based.
  - Animal Welfare Act license or registration number issued by APHIS. Attach a copy to your application.
  - Description of the facility(ies) where the marine mammal(s) to be imported or captured will be maintained. Indicate hours of operation and cost of admission. Provide copies of facility brochures or public notices advertising this information.

**Possible Destination #1: Brookfield Zoo**

*Brookfield Zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums ("AZA"), Alliance of Marine Mammal Parks and Aquariums ("AMMPA"), as well as humane certified by American Humane. Brookfield Zoo operates under the standards and guidelines of the AMMPA and AZA. Education and conservation programs are offered as per the indicated highest level of standards. The primary goal of Brookfield Zoo Marine Mammal Department's public education program is to integrate an effective conservation message that will help engage the public and increase concern and action for the overall health and protection of all ocean animals and habitats.*

**See attached Brookfield Zoo' Education Plan / Learning Strategies**

*Brookfield Zoo holds a USDA License, number 33-C-0003.*

**See attached USDA License**

*If this facility is selected, the common bottlenose dolphins will be maintained at Brookfield Zoo, 3300 Golf Rd Brookfield, IL 60513. The facility is accredited by the AZA and AMMPA, as well as humane certified by American Humane. The dolphin center consists of 4 interconnected habitats that circulate 1.1 million gallons of salt water. The public seating area holds 1,650 guests.*

*Hours of operation 10am – 5pm or 9:30am - 6pm daily depending on the time of year.*

*Cost of admission: \$21.95 per adult, \$15.95 per child or senior. Dolphins In Action presentations are an additional cost at \$5.00 per adult and \$3.00 for child or senior. No fee is required to view the dolphins in the public underwater viewing area.*

**See attached Zoo Map, Zoo 2018 Brochure**

**Possible Destination #2: Coral World Ocean Park**

*Coral World's education programs were developed and are operated in accordance with the professionally recognized standards established by AMMPA and AZA. These standards have been recognized and published by NMFS in the Federal Register at 59 Fed. Reg. 50900 (Oct. 6, 1994). Coral World is committed to preserving and enhancing its local ecosystems, as reflected in its mission statement:*

**Our Mission**

*The Caribbean is a place of extraordinary natural beauty. At Coral World Ocean Park, we bring you close to the inhabitants of the magical undersea world that surrounds the Virgin Islands and to the stunning variety of plant life that grows in our lagoons and on our hillsides. Our goal is to entertain, educate, and inspire appreciation and understanding of the local environment. Our hope is that you*

*will experience the joy of discovery and that you will love and protect the natural treasures you see here.*

*Coral World's education program is ecosystem based, promoting conservation and sustainability through integrated management of land, water, and living resources. Coral World's programs are innovative, interdisciplinary, and interactive. Coral World offers several educational programs that are specific to bottlenose dolphins. The programs focus primarily on helping guests understand the natural history of bottlenose dolphins, as well as current research, conservation, rehabilitation, and rescue efforts for these animals. Coral World's dolphin program includes regularly scheduled presentations by trained staff members who discuss dolphins, their natural environment, and conservation efforts that are playing an active role in preserving the local ecosystems and dolphin habitat. Dolphins are highly social animals, and Coral World's dolphin encounter program highlights this unique aspect of the species. Guests are able to witness first-hand the friendly nature and individual personalities of each animal. Each encounter includes an educational presentation by a trained staff member, as well as an opportunity to ask questions. The goal of Coral World's education programs is to inspire guests to become involved in conservation to maintain the integrity of the unique ecosystem in which the dolphins thrive.*

*Coral World hosts free of charge USVI K-12 students during the school year and hosts summer camps for children during the summer season. In addition to education programs, Coral World also leads conservation programs, including underwater and beach clean ups and sea turtle and bird rehabilitation. Coral World also sponsors post-secondary scholarships for local students and has been the primary supporter of local watershed studies in the U.S. Virgin Islands.*

***See attached Coral World's Education Materials***

*Coral World is currently licensed by the USDA under license 98-C-0001. **See attached USDA License.***

*Coral World's Dolphin Education Center is a brand new, state of the art facility. Construction was completed in 2018, and the APHIS inspection was completed on February 14, 2019. The inspection showed no noncompliant items. **See attached Inspection documentation.***

*The Dolphin Education Center currently maintains two male and two female dolphins. In coordination with NMFS and APHIS, these dolphins were transported to Coral World's dolphin habitat on February 20, 2019. They arrived with health certificates issued by a licensed veterinarian and have been cleared of communicable diseases. Specifically, the animals do not show (and have not at any time shown) signs of contagious fungal, viral or bacterial infections. Their health reports and profiles are stable and within normal limits. The dolphins have been in effective quarantine for seven weeks. **See attached veterinary statement.***

*The Coral World facility is an open water habitat that encloses approximately 70,000 square feet of water in Water Bay in the U.S. Virgin Islands. This spacious habitat is open to ocean currents and has a natural bottom that ranges from 20' to zero depth.*

***See attached schematic.***

*Pursuant to Coral World's U.S. Virgin Islands Coastal Zone Management ("CZM") permit and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permit, the dolphin habitat is subject to stringent water quality monitoring. The monitoring is conducted pursuant to a comprehensive Environmental and Water Quality Monitoring Plan ("WQM Plan"), which is designed to evaluate and minimize impacts on marine*

water quality and the benthic community. Pursuant to the WQM Plan, Coral World must provide the Virgin Islands Department of Planning and Natural Resources, Division of Coastal Zone Management ("DPNR") with water quality monitoring results for a twelve-month consecutive period following introduction of its first dolphin inhabitants. Coral World submitted its first report to DPNR on March 31, 2019. The first month of water quality monitoring showed no water quality concerns, with results similar to baseline conditions. **See attached water quality report.**

Hours of operation: 9 am – 3 pm daily.

Cost of admission: \$15.00 per adult, \$8.00 per senior. Dolphin Moment and Sea Sanctuary Tour presentations are \$79 for adults and children. Please visit [www.coralworldvi.com](http://www.coralworldvi.com) for additional details regarding the facility.

**See attached Coral World Brochure.**

## 10. Project Description

- a. Your permit may only authorize what you describe in your application.
- b. Methods: Provide clear descriptions of all methods for each species, and the number of animals by age class and sex you expect to take by each method/procedure annually. Define how age classes (e.g., neonate, calf/pup, juvenile, subadult, adult) are differentiated, by taxa or species.
- c. The methods must match what is in the take table.
  - There should be a narrative description for each Take Action, Observe/Collect Method, and Procedure in the take table, and the take numbers and procedures in the narrative must match the table.
  - Reference take table lines that correspond to the methods, as needed.
- b. Figures and photographs and other media are useful to illustrate your methods. You can include them with your application.
- c. Cite references for the methods where applicable, but do not substitute a literature citation for a complete description of the methods.
- d. Mitigation measures that are standard protocols may be included in this section or in the Humane Take and Measures to Minimize Impacts section below.

### A. Capturing Marine Mammals from the Wild (If Applicable)

*N/A, animals will be imported from an existing population under human care.*

### B. Importing Marine Mammals into the United States (If Applicable)

For importing marine mammals into the United States, please include the following information within the *Project Description* section:

1. Locations including country of origin, exporting facility, ports of entry (<https://www.fws.gov/le/designated-ports.html>), and final destination/facility.

**Country of Origin:** Bermuda

**Exporting facility:** Dolphin Quest Bermuda

**Port of entry:** Chicago, IL if going to Brookfield Zoo; Miami, FL or St. Thomas, USVI if going to Coral World

**Final destination/facility:**

Option #1: Brookfield Zoo, 3300 Golf Rd Brookfield, IL 60513

Option #2: Coral World, 6450 Coki Point, St Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands 00802

2. Identify the animal(s) to be imported including animal identification, estimated or known age (estimated or known), size, sex, and reproductive condition. You must provide the animal's

complete transport history (e.g., NOAA Marine Mammal Data Sheet, Species 360 specimen report, statement from the shipping facility) including dates, the manner and circumstances of transport.

- For wild-caught animal(s):
  - Describe how the animal was taken in the country of origin (see Capture section above).
  - Indicate the wild stock and the geographic location the animal was collected from (including latitude/longitude coordinates and waterbody location).
  - Provide documentation that the take was legal in accordance with the capture country's laws.

*N/A. No animals will be taken from the wild. The listed animals will be maintained under human care for the duration of their lives. Therefore, there will be no impacts to any wild species or stocks.*

- For captive-born animals:
  - Provide documentation of the animal's birth.
  - Identify the parents of the animal and provide documentation of their origin (e.g., lineage), including the wild stock and geographic location the animals were collected from. Use NOAA ID number if applicable. The purpose of this information is to document that the animal did not originate from a depleted species or stock.

*The dolphins were born at Dolphin Quest Bermuda, and were not captured from the wild. They will not be pregnant, lactating, unweaned, or less than eight months old at the time of import. The import will be from the common bottlenose dolphins born under human care listed in Table 1 below, all of which are second-generation offspring.*

**TABLE 1**

Sex	NOAA ID	Date of Birth	Age range during permit duration	Destination	Owner	Size (lbs)	Reproductive Condition during permit duration	Sire	Sire Origin	Dam	Dam origin
Female	NOA0010213	3/30/2015	4 to 9	Coral World (tentative)	Brookfield Zoo	280	Juvenile to adult	NOA0005959*	Born at Sea World; currently at Six Flags Discovery Kingdom	NOA0000703	Born at Brookfield Zoo satellite facility in Florida Keys, currently Dolphin Connection; exported to DQB 11/2/1996
Female	NOA0010155	3/31/2014	5 to 10	Either Coral World or Brookfield Zoo (TBD)	Dolphin Quest Bermuda	260	Juvenile to adult	NOA0005725*	Born at Dolphin Research Center	NOA0000691	Born at Dolphin Connection; exported to DQB 11/2/1996
Female	NOA0006620	4/1/2010	9 to 14	Coral World (tentative)	Brookfield Zoo	330	Adult	NOA0005838	Born at Dolphin Quest Bermuda; currently at Dolphin Quest Hawaii	NOA0000691	Born at Dolphin Connection; exported to DQB 11/2/1996

***See attached Animal Birth Documents***

*\* For NOA0010213 and NOA0010155, artificial insemination was performed under their respective AMMPA permits (Permit Nos. 17305 and 1076-1789, respectively).*

3. Submit a statement and, to the extent practicable, documentation concerning whether the marine mammal to be imported is presently being held in compliance with the laws of the country of exportation.

*The dolphins are maintained in compliance with the laws of Bermuda and Dolphin Quest Bermuda is accredited by AMMPA and American Humane.*

***See attached Dolphin Quest Bermuda Compliance Letter***

4. Provide a statement regarding whether any requested import will likely result in the taking of marine mammals beyond those proposed (i.e., whether marine mammals will be acquired to replace the marine mammals to be imported, or whether the proposed import will result in an increased demand for marine mammals). Provide justification for this statement.

*Dolphin Quest Bermuda has a breeding program for common bottlenose dolphin, and no dolphins will be taken from the wild as a replacement.*

***See attached Dolphin Quest Bermuda Import Letter***

5. If the import is necessary for the protection or welfare of the marine mammals, discuss the circumstances involved and any alternatives considered.

*The import will benefit the genetic diversity of the subject dolphin populations and will improve the sustainability of dolphin populations under human care overall. The import will occur pursuant to one or more breeding loans among the involved entities, including a long term, established breeding loan between Dolphin Quest and Brookfield Zoo. The entities expect for at least two animals to be initially imported and transported, with the third animal to be possibly imported and transported at a later date. Specific decisions regarding dates, locations, and selection of animals will not occur until a later date. These decisions will be based on the breeding loan agreements and a long-range population sustainability strategy. All involved entities have determined that the relocation of one or more of the listed animals best suits the long-term goals of the facilities. At this time, three animals are included for flexibility in choosing candidates; all may or may not be transported.*

### **C. Transport**

Thoroughly describe your transport procedures, incorporating the following information within the *Project Description* section:

1. Describe the method of transportation to the **receiving facility** (your institution) including but not limited to:

- Mode of transportation and name of transportation company.
- Description of the pen, tank, container, cage, cradle, or other device used (e.g., material of container, dimensions, photos or illustrations).
- Description of climate-control or other environmental parameters.

#### ***Transport Description***

*Up to three dolphins will be transported via airplane from Bermuda to the point of entry (i.e. Chicago, Miami, or St. Thomas) with a contracted airline that meets all standards and guidelines. Because the exact date of travel is unknown, and carrier availability may change, the carrier airline is yet to be determined. Transports will occur at separate times if more than one location is chosen. The dolphin transport carriers will be the same for any and all transports, regardless of the final destination.*

*Dolphin transport carriers will meet IATA (2019) regulations and AMMPA transport standards. See <https://www.ammpa.org/membership/standards-guidelines>. Each dolphin carrier is strategically designed to comfortably house the animal in a fiberglass holding container. The containers are approximately 10 feet long, 3 feet wide and 40 inches tall. The dolphins will be suspended by a sling*



*in the water (approximately 80 gallons) to maintain their comfort and will be monitored throughout the transport in accordance with AMMPA standards. These types of containers have been used previously to safely transport animals with no adverse impacts. The carrier has forklift inserts for easy transfer when needed.*

***See attached Carrier Diagram and Dimensions.***

*Carriers will be placed on a truck in Bermuda for transfer to the airport, where the carrier will be loaded onto an airplane. Cabin pressure will be maintained at less than 6,000 feet (1,800 meters) above sea level (ASL), with 4,800 feet (1,463 meters) ASL or less being optimal for most individuals during flight. Attendants will have access to the animals at all times. Water and ice will be available during the flight, with additional sources available at all points of contact if needed. Water temperature and animal temperatures will be monitored throughout the transport. Lighting and noise will be minimal to maximize comfort for the animal. Animals will be fasted 18 hours prior to transport. If the designated port of entry for customs clearance is Chicago, IL or St. Thomas, USVI, the carriers will be offloaded onto a truck and driven to the final destination, either Brookfield Zoo, 3300 Golf Rd Brookfield, IL 60513, or Coral World, 6450 Coki Point, St Thomas, USVI, 00802. If the designated point of entry is Miami, FL, the carriers will remain on the airplane during customs clearance, after which the airplane will depart for St. Thomas, USVI. Upon arrival in St. Thomas, USVI, the carriers will be offloaded onto a truck and driven to Coral World, 6450 Coki Point, St Thomas, USVI, 00802.*

2. Provide a statement as to who will accompany the animals (i.e., a veterinarian or some similarly qualified persons). Give the name, affiliation, contact information for each person in the Personnel section below.

**Destination #1: Brookfield Zoo:**

*The dolphins will be accompanied by experienced animal care staff members and a veterinarian at all times. The experienced staff on the transport will be selected from those listed below.*

*- **Rita Stacey**, Curator of Marine Mammals, Brookfield Zoo, [rita.stacey@czs.org](mailto:rita.stacey@czs.org). Role for Transport: Transport Team Lead under the direction of attending veterinarian. Experience: Primary Logistics Coordinator for 16 cetacean transports (one was an international transport). Animal attendant role under direction of attending veterinarian for 10 dolphin transports (6 aboard aircraft and 4 via ground). All transports under the direction of attending veterinarian.*

*- **Mark Gonka**, Lead Animal Care Specialist, Brookfield Zoo, [mark.gonka@czs.org](mailto:mark.gonka@czs.org). Role for Transport: Animal attendant under the direction of attending veterinarian. Experience: Animal attendant role under direction of attending veterinarian for 8 dolphin transports (6 aboard aircraft and 2 via ground), one of which was an international transport. All transports under the direction of attending veterinarian.*

*- **Elizabeth Lee**, Senior Animal Care Specialist, Brookfield Zoo, [elizabeth.miller@czs.org](mailto:elizabeth.miller@czs.org). Role for Transport: Animal attendant under the direction of attending veterinarian. Experience: Animal attendant role under direction of attending veterinarian for 2 dolphin transports (1 aboard aircraft and 1 via ground). All transports under the direction of attending veterinarian.*

*- **Michael Adkesson**, Vice President of Clinical Medicine, Brookfield Zoo, [michael.adkesson@czs.org](mailto:michael.adkesson@czs.org). Role for Transport: Attending veterinarian. Experience: 2 aerial dolphin transports with 1 in a supervisory role and 1 as secondary veterinarian. 3 ground dolphin transports and 3 as the supervising veterinarian.*

*- **Jennifer N. Langan**, Senior Veterinarian, Brookfield Zoo, [jennifer.langan@czs.org](mailto:jennifer.langan@czs.org). Role for Transport: Attending veterinarian. Dolphin Transport Experience: 5 aerial dolphin transports in a supervisory role. 3 ground dolphin transports as the supervising veterinarian.*

- **Michelle Campbell**, Vice President of Animals, Dolphin Quest, [mcampbell@dolphinquest.com](mailto:mcampbell@dolphinquest.com). Role for transport: Animal attendant under the direction of attending veterinarian. Experience: Six transports including primary planner and in flight. Three transports including primary planner and ground transport. Six transports including primary planner and ground crew support. International transports included. All transports under the direction of attending veterinarian.

- **Liselotte Rijnink**, Assistant Manager of Marine Animals, Dolphin Quest, [Irijnink@dolphinquest.com](mailto:Irijnink@dolphinquest.com). Role for transport: Animal attendant under the direction of attending veterinarian. Experience: Three transports as ground crew.

#### **Destination #2 Coral World:**

Experienced animal care staff members and a veterinarian will accompany the animals at all times. The experienced staff on the transport will be selected from those listed below.

- **Natalie E. Noll**, D.V.M., Marine Animal Veterinarian, Marine veterinary consultant, [nollnatalie@yahoo.com](mailto:nollnatalie@yahoo.com). Role for Transport: Attending veterinarian. Experience: Five land and aerial dolphin transports for the U.S. Navy, including transport between San Diego and the Middle East for dolphin deployments. Over twenty dolphin transports via ground transport from Dolphins Plus facilities to island-based radiology offices for CT scans.

- **Emily Hall**, D.V.M., Coral World Onsite Associate Veterinarian, [veterinarian@coralworldvi.com](mailto:veterinarian@coralworldvi.com). Role for Transport: Onsite veterinarian. Experience: no previous dolphin transports, but will serve as a receiving end coordinator for ground transport from St. Thomas Airport to Coral World Dolphin Education Center.

- **R. Lee Kellar**, General Curator, Coral World, [lkellar@coralworldvi.com](mailto:lkellar@coralworldvi.com). Role for Transport: Transport Team Lead under the direction of attending veterinarian. Experience: Animal attendant on 20 aerial transports of cetaceans, including dolphins. Numerous ground transports of various species of stranded dolphins and small whales. Sending and receiving transport coordinator on multiple occasions. All transports under the direction of attending veterinarian.

- **Michelle Campbell**, Vice President of Animals, Dolphin Quest, [mcampbell@dolphinquest.com](mailto:mcampbell@dolphinquest.com). Role for transport: Transport Team Lead (alternate)\*1 under the direction of attending veterinarian. Experience: Six transports including primary planner and in flight. Three transports including primary planner and ground transport. Six transports including primary planner and ground crew support. International transports included. All transports under the direction of attending veterinarian.

- **Liselotte Rijnink**, Assistant Manager of Marine Animals, Dolphin Quest, [Irijnink@dolphinquest.com](mailto:Irijnink@dolphinquest.com). Role for transport: Animal attendant under the direction of attending veterinarian. Experience: Three transports as ground crew.

*\*1 The Transport Team Lead for transports to Coral World will be either R. Lee Kellar or Michelle Campbell. The final determination will depend on seat availability (depending on airplane type) and staff availability.*

### **3. Describe any special care during transport.**

*Animal care staff and veterinarians will be monitoring the animals at all times. These attendants accompanying the animals will monitor breath rates, body temperature, positioning in stretcher; all to maximize the animals' comfort. The veterinarian will monitor any outward signs of stress and be prepared with emergency medications and equipment. The veterinarian will certify that methods of import and post-import care comply with USDA regulations and AZA and AMMPA standards and guidelines, which will ensure the well-being of the animals.*

4. Include the total transport time and time per each transport leg if stop-overs are included.

*Length of time is estimated at 8 hours to **Brookfield Zoo**:*

- 1 hour to airport
- 1.5 hour load time
- ~3 hour flight Bermuda to Chicago
- 1.5 hour offload and load at airport (including customs clearance and U.S. Fish and Wildlife inspection)
- 1 hour to Brookfield Zoo
- Total = estimated **8 hour** transport time

*Length of time is estimated at 12.5 hours to **Coral World Ocean Park via Miami, FL**:*

- 1 hour to airport
- 1.5 hour load time
- 2.5 hour flight Bermuda to Miami
- 2 hours customs clearance in Miami port of entry (including U.S. Fish and Wildlife inspection)
- 2.5 hours flight time Miami to St Thomas
- 1.5 hour offload and load at airport
- 1.5 hours for clearance and transport to Coral World
- Total = **12.5 hours** transport time with Miami stop

*Length of time is estimated at 7.5 hours to **Coral World via direct flight to St. Thomas, USVI**:*

- 1 hour to airport
- 1.5 hour load time
- 2.5 hour flight Bermuda to St. Thomas
- 2 hours offload and customs clearance (including U.S. Fish and Wildlife inspection)
- 30 minutes for transport to Coral World
- Total = **7.5 hours** transport time via direct flight to St. Thomas.

*Transport direct from Bermuda to St. Thomas will save multiple hours transport time (5 hours), allowing for a more efficient move. Coral World will request a designated port exception permit from the Fish and Wildlife Service for St. Thomas.*

5. Describe quarantine procedures and the acclimation plan for the animal(s)/how the animal(s) will be incorporated into your public display program.

**Brookfield Zoo:** *If Brookfield Zoo is the selected destination, animal care staff from Brookfield Zoo will familiarize themselves with the animals in the weeks prior to transport. A Dolphin Quest staff member may accompany the animals during transport and assist as needed at Brookfield Zoo to ensure a smooth transition. During transport, the dolphins will be accompanied by zoo staff and will not be exposed to general public areas. The animal care staff and veterinarian have many years of experience and are trained in transporting animals safely. They will follow the transport plans and guidelines to ensure human health and safety during transport. No quarantine will be conducted due to the health of the animals at the time of transport and the known health of the involved dolphin populations. After arrival at Brookfield Zoo the dolphins will be held in an off-exhibit holding area for acclimation to the facility. This holding area is adjacent to the current social group which is 2 males and 5 females. For the first 24 hours a night watch will be scheduled for animal care staff to observe the animals overnight. The attending veterinarian will visit the next day and be in communication with animal care staff to monitor appetite and acclimation. During the first few weeks, additional physical exams from veterinarians will occur. Over the course of the next several*

weeks, the animals will be acclimated through all habitats and introduced to one to two members of the dolphin group at a time. Once integrated into the dolphin group the new dolphins will participate in small sections of the public presentation and deck-side public interaction programs. The staffs at Dolphin Quest and Brookfield Zoo have extensive experience in integrating animals, including bottlenose dolphins, into new social settings. Behavior modification practices at Dolphin Quest are comparable to those used at Brookfield Zoo. The dolphins will become participants of Brookfield Zoo's marine mammal public education and conservation programs. Animals in this program help to teach the public about dolphin behavior and conservation issues facing dolphins in the wild.

**Coral World:** If Coral World is the selected destination, animal care staff from Coral World will familiarize themselves with the animals in the weeks prior to transport. A Dolphin Quest staff member may accompany the animals during transport and assist as needed at Coral World to ensure a smooth transition. During transport, the dolphins will be accompanied by staff and will not be exposed to general public areas. The animal care staff and veterinarian have many years of experience and are trained in transporting animals safely. They will follow the transport plans and guidelines to ensure human health and safety during transport. After arrival at Coral World, the dolphins will be held in an open ocean enclosure for acclimation to the facility. This initial holding area is adjacent to the larger lagoon. Separation will allow for a comfortable acclimation. **Animals will only be transported if healthy and fit for travel to a resident population that has been quarantined for at least one month and poses no known threat or unnecessary risk to the health and welfare of the incoming animals. Further or additional quarantine is therefore not necessary, due to the animals having clear bills of health at the time of transport and considering the known health of the involved dolphin populations at that time.** For the first 24 hours or as needed a night watch will be scheduled for animal care staff to observe the animals overnight. Both the attending veterinarian (Dr. Natalie Noll) and onsite veterinarian (Dr. Emily Hall) will be in communication with animal care staff to monitor appetite and acclimation. During the first few weeks, additional physical exams from veterinarians will occur. Over the course of the next several weeks, the animals will be acclimated through all ocean habitats and introduced, if necessary, to one to two members of the dolphin group **(currently two males and two females)** at a time. The staffs at Dolphin Quest and Coral World have extensive experience in integrating animals, including bottlenose dolphins, into new social settings. Behavior modification practices at Dolphin Quest are comparable to those used at Coral World. The dolphins will become participants of Coral World's marine mammal public education and conservation programs. Animals in this program help to teach the public about dolphin behavior and conservation issues facing dolphins in the wild.

6. Name and address of destination facility.

**Chicago Zoological Society – Brookfield Zoo**

3300 Golf Rd Brookfield, IL 60513

**-or-**

**Coral World Ocean Park**

6450 Coki Point

St Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands 00802

7. Describe the exhibit and the social group for this animal(s) at the destination facility.

**Brookfield Zoo**

Brookfield Zoo's dolphin habitat consists of 4 interconnected areas: the main habitat is 110 feet long, 40 feet wide, and 23 feet deep holding ~800,000 gallons, 2 circular holding areas that are 35 feet in

diameter, 14 feet deep holding 100,000 gallons, and a medical area 25 feet in diameter that is 3.5 feet deep. The man-made salt water is filtered through a series of sand-gravel filters, protein skimmers, and an ozone tower. Only the main habitat has public underwater viewing windows and guest are allowed into the stadium for public presentations only. Brookfield Zoo's dolphin social group consists of two 5-year-old males and 5 females ranging in age from 13 to 37 years old.

### **Coral World**

Coral World's dolphin habitat is an open ocean system that encloses approximately 70,000 square feet of water in Water Bay in the U.S. Virgin Islands. This spacious habitat is open to ocean currents and has a natural bottom that ranges from 20' to zero depth. The facility consists of one large main habitat, 2 holding areas, and 2 medical areas. These dolphins will join 4 other dolphins on location with the goal of the startup population being 2.4 (two males and four females) or 0.6 (six females).

## **Project Supplemental Information**

### **11. Status of the Affected Species**

- a. MMPA-depleted and ESA-listed species cannot be captured or imported for public display purposes. This also includes progeny from individuals with this status.
- b. Indicate the status of the species or stock under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) - Appendix I, I, or III  
*The dolphins will not be taken from the wild. The dolphins being imported, and their sires and dams (see chart above), were born under human care. The term "stock" is defined under the MMPA as "a group of marine mammals of the same species or smaller taxa in a common spatial arrangement, that interbreed when mature." 16 U.S.C. § 1362(11). The dolphins being imported are at least second-generation-born-in-human-care. They are no longer members of any wild stock because they are not in a common spatial arrangement with, and are not interbreeding with, any animals in the wild. Thus, there will be no impact to a wild stock, including any MMPA-depleted stock. The dolphins will not be released into the wild, and therefore will not have any effect on the wild population. Common bottlenose dolphins, Tursiops truncatus, are not listed under the ESA. No non-targeted marine mammals or ESA-listed species will be affected by this import.*

### **12. Lethal Take**

- a. If authorization for serious injury or mortality (accidental/unintentional or humane euthanasia/intentional in the event of an injury or accident) is proposed:
  - What activities could result in mortality?
  - Justify the number of mortalities.
  - How is euthanasia decided, conducted, and who conducts it?
  - What are the protocols for necropsy and carcass disposal?
  - What are the protocols for disposition of dependent pups or calves if lactating animals may die as a result of your actions?

*N/A. This is an import, and mortality is not expected.*

### **13. Anticipated Effects on Animals**

- a. Using the **best available science** (i.e., peer-reviewed literature or other cited data sources) and your experience (e.g., personal communication), discuss how each take action and procedure listed in the take table (e.g., capture, transport for long durations) will affect target and non-target animal(s) (short-term and long-term), as applicable.

- b. Include such things as typical **behavioral and physiological responses**, worst-case responses, % of animals that normally respond, how long it takes for animals to recover, and the time it takes animals to recover from stress of capture or import.
- c. As applicable, also include an assessment of such things as:
  - physiological responses to capture and transport
  - recovery from sedation and handling
  - repopulating rookeries/haul outs after flushing
  - post-release and post-transport behavior (immediate and long-term)
  - For **novel procedures**, discuss the most likely anticipated responses based on literature from studies on other species, if available.
  - Briefly summarize any **mortalities or serious injuries** that have occurred during any previously permitted import or wild capture conducted by your facility and staff identified in the application using the same or similar techniques; include circumstances and cause of death.
  - Discuss the anticipated **effects on the species or stock**, especially if mortalities or reproductive effects are possible. On what is your determination based?

*Throughout our shared experiences, the animals under our care have traveled safely and soundly during transports. In fact, the preliminary research we have conducted with marine mammal scientists show little to no effect in transport and a quick return to baseline. We also travel with airlines that are practiced in handling live animal transports. We anticipate little or no effects on the facilities' populations (Dolphin Quest Bermuda, Brookfield Zoo, or Coral World) since these animals are frequently mixed and separated within their respective populations and have a lifestyle of positive reinforcement techniques that lend to their resiliency when faced with change. See Dierauf L. A., Gulland F. M. D. 2001. CRC handbook of marine mammal medicine. Chapter 13, Stress and Marine Mammals.*

#### **14. Humane Take or Import and Measures to Minimize Negative Effects**

- a. **Humane determination:** Explain how you determined your methods involve the least possible degree of pain and suffering possible and why there are no feasible alternative methods to achieve your objectives.
  - Provide any alternatives to the proposed manner of capture and/or transport, and explain why the proposed methods are considered humane.
  - Attach a **written statement from the responsible veterinarian** certifying that the methods of capture and/or transport, facilities, and methods of care and maintenance will be adequate to ensure the well-being of the animals and will comply with all care and transport standards established under the AWA.

*The dolphins will be behaviorally trained to rest comfortably in the transport stretcher prior to the actual transport. This will allow for the dolphins to be familiar with and calm during the process, prior to transport. 15 – 30 days prior to transport the attending veterinarian will perform an initial health assessment and evaluation of behavioral, feeding and medical records for each animal (specific samples and tests to be determined by the attending veterinarian). One week prior (or no later than three days prior) to transport the attending veterinarian will perform a final health assessment (specific samples and tests to be determined by the attending veterinarian). These transport methods described herein have been used for many dolphin transports and are deemed humane by the attending veterinarian. USDA regulations for animal transport are followed as well as AMMPA standards and guidelines.*

***See attached Written Statements from the Veterinarians***

- b. **Mitigation and monitoring:** You may include mitigation and monitoring protocols here, or in the Project Description section or Anticipated Effects section above. If included in another section, simply reference the section where the following information is found:
- For each Take Action, Observe/Collect Method, and Procedure, describe your standard mitigation to avoid or minimize the potential for adverse impacts identified above.
  - Describe your short- and long-term post-take or import monitoring protocols.
  - If monitoring or mitigation is not feasible for specific procedures, species, situations, etc., explain why.
  - Coordination: For captures, describe how you collaborate or coordinate with others in your action area or in captivity for your species. Who are they? Explain how this will occur.

*The accompanying staff members have extensive marine mammal transport experience and are knowledgeable as to how to respond to the animal's behavioral and physiological responses. Prior to transport, using positive reinforcement techniques, animals are trained in mock approximations to desensitize transport conditions. Staff and a veterinarian will be monitoring the animals closely at all times to minimize potential stress. The animals are accustomed to a human/animal bond and those animal care staff will be present to foster comfort throughout the process. Secondary reinforcers will be provided throughout the transport to help inform the animal of desired responses. The attendants accompanying the animals will monitor breath rates, body temperature, positioning in stretcher, all to maximize the animals' comfort. The veterinarian will monitor for all health concerns and be prepared with emergency medications and equipment.*

**15. Attach a References File**

- a. If applicable, **attach a bibliography of references cited** in this application. Referenced materials must be made available upon request, as needed for evaluation of the application, or preparation of any necessary NEPA analyses.

*Dierauf L. A., Gulland F. M. D. 2001. CRC handbook of marine mammal medicine. Chapter 13, Stress and Marine Mammals.*

**16. Resources Needed to Accomplish Objectives**

- a. Explain how your expertise, facilities, and resources are adequate to accomplish your proposed objectives and activities.

*Dolphin Quest and Brookfield Zoo have the experienced staff, including veterinarians, and resources to accomplish this import. Both facilities are extremely knowledgeable and experienced in dolphin transports for over 30+ years. Both entities have collaborated in the past with this transport plan and worked with the anticipated carriers and ground vendors.*

*Coral World staff has many years of experience moving marine animals, including bottlenose dolphins, globally and operating all levels of the transport from handlers to transport coordinators. Specifically, Coral World's General Curator (R. Lee Kellar) has experience in over twenty aerial transports of cetaceans as well as numerous ground transports of various species of dolphins and small whales. Mr. Kellar has transported pinnipeds via boat, commercial and private airlines as well as military aircraft. Mr. Kellar has also served as sending and receiving transport coordinator on multiple occasions.*

- b. List relevant proposals, contracts, grant awards, or letters of agreement that would demonstrate financial or logistical resources.

*Brookfield Zoo and Coral World will be dividing the cost of transportation between their respective institutions. Each entity has the funding available to do so.*

- c. Indicate the status of any other international, federal, state, or local authorizations you have applied for, secured, or will apply for.  
*Dolphin Quest Bermuda is applying for a CITES II Export permit. In addition, each location works in conjunction with local regulating governmental entities.*  
*Coral World will apply for a local USVI territorial permit for import of dolphins. Coral World currently holds U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permits for the facility, Coastal Zone Management permits, and authorizations for landside and ocean habitat. Coral World will be applying for a designated port exception permit from the Fish and Wildlife Service for St. Thomas.*

## Project Locations

- a. You will first describe where you plan to work. Then, for each location (identified as a Take Table; see attached example take table), you will use the Take Table to list the species you expect to encounter and the take procedures you will conduct.
- b. New Location: provide information about one (or more) study areas
- Import, the General Area = "Captivity"
  - Collection from the wild, the General area = the ocean basin you will be working in; please choose state(s), as applicable.
- c. Provide Location Details, for imports:
- Use the text box to detail the country of origin, port of entry, and destination.
- d. Provide Location Details, for captures:
- Waterbody: enter names of rivers, estuaries, bays, etc.
  - Latitude and longitude of your project/capture location;
  - Limits of your project area (e.g., to the U.S. EEZ, to the edge of the continental shelf, to 50m depth); and
  - Names of land masses where captures will occur (e.g., islands, rookeries).
- e. Attach File: For captures, attach a high-quality map(s) with the correct scale that clearly shows the capture location and any environmental aspects of interest. If possible, include a shapefile, Google Earth kmz/kml, or ASCII text file with lat/long data and the associated basic metadata with your electronic application submission.  
*N/A. This is an import, and does not involve a take from the wild.*  
*Take Information for Captivity (Importation of up to 3 dolphins from Dolphin Quest Bermuda to either Brookfield Zoo*  
*Captivity (Importation of up to 3 dolphins from Dolphin Quest Bermuda to either Brookfield Zoo, 3300 Golf Rd Brookfield, IL 60513 or Coral World, 6450 Coki Point, St Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands 00802)*



Line	Version	Species	Stock/ Listing Unit	Production /Origin	Lifestage	Sex	Authorized Take	Authorized Indirect Mortality	Takes Per Animal	Take Action	Observe/ Collect Method	Procedures	Run	Transport Records	Begin Date	End Date	Details
1		Dolphin, bottlenose	Range- wide	Captive	Adult/ Juvenile	Female	1	N/A	1	Captive animals (research, enhanceme nt, public display)	Captive	Captive, maintain; Transport	N/A		5/1/2018	4/30/2024	NOA0010213; DOB - 3/30/2015
2		Dolphin, bottlenose	Range- wide	Captive	Adult/ Juvenile	Female	1	N/A	1	Captive animals (research, enhanceme nt, public display)	Captive	Captive, maintain; Transport	N/A		5/1/2018	4/30/2024	NOA0010155; DOB - 3/31/2014
3		Dolphin, bottlenose	Range- wide	Captive	Adult/ Juvenile	Female	1	nN/A	1	Captive animals (research, enhanceme nt, public display)	Captive	Captive, maintain; Transport	N/A		5/1/2018	4/30/2024	NOA0006620; DOB - 4/1/2010

## Project Contacts

Project Contact	Must be named in the permit application	Able to make changes to application, request changes to the permit, and submit reports	Description of qualifications required
<b>Applicant/ Permit Holder</b>	✓	✓	✓
<b>Applicant or Responsible Party*</b>	✓	✓	
<b>Principal Investigator</b>	✓	✓	✓
<b>Primary Contact</b>	✓	✓	
<b>Co-Investigator</b>	✓		✓
<b>Veterinarian</b>	✓		✓

\* The Applicant or Responsible Party may also be the PI or a CI if participating in the activities; therefore, the description of qualifications is required if they are listed as the PI or a CI.

A project must have a **Responsible Party** if the Applicant/Permit Holder is an organization, institution, or agency. The Responsible Party or Applicant/Permit Holder is an official who has the legal authority to bind the organization, institution, or agency and is ultimately responsible for the activities of any individual operating under the authority of the permit.

**The Primary Contact** is the person who we contact with questions or updates about the application. This may be the registrar or other person responsible for maintaining the marine mammal inventory records at the facility. Please include full name, title, and contact info for this person.

The **Principal Investigator** (PI) is the individual primarily responsible for the take or import, and any related activities conducted under the permit, such as the curator. There can only be one PI on a permit. The PI:

- must have qualifications, knowledge and experience relevant to the activities authorized by the permit
- must be on site during activities conducted under the permit unless a Co-Investigator is present to act in place of the PI
- May also be the Applicant/Permit Holder and Primary Contact.

**Co-investigators** (CIs) are individuals who are qualified and authorized to conduct or directly supervise activities conducted under a permit without the on-site supervision of the PI, such as the team lead overseeing the transport.

- You may add CIs to the application if the PI will not always be present during the permitted activities.
- CIs can also be added or removed once a permit has been issued.

**Veterinarian** is the veterinarian of record who is responsible (1) for overseeing the medical care of the animal(s) being imported or collected from the wild and (2) providing the written statement (required in the project description) certifying that the methods of import/capture and post-import/capture care will be adequate to ensure the well-being of the animal(s).

Include a table listing the names of the PI and CIs, and the specific procedures they will oversee or conduct.

Name/Affiliation	Role	Activities
<b>BROOKFIELD ZOO TRANSPORT</b>		
Bill Zeigler, Senior Vice President of Animal Programs, Brookfield Zoo	Responsible Party	Generally supervise activities performed under permit
Rita Stacey Vondra, Brookfield Zoo,	Principal Investigator	Supervise all activities performed under the permit; team lead on Brookfield Zoo transports
Michael Adkesson, Brookfield Zoo,	Veterinarian	Attending veterinarian
Jennifer Langan, Brookfield Zoo,	Veterinarian	Attending veterinarian
Michelle Campbell, Dolphin Quest, Sandys, Bermuda	Co-investigator	Support team lead during transports
<b>CORAL WORLD TRANSPORT</b>		
Lee Kellar, Coral World	Co-investigator	Team lead overseeing transports to Coral World
Michelle Campbell, Dolphin Quest, Sandys, Bermuda	Co-investigator	Support team lead during transports
Dr. Natalie Noll, Coral World	Veterinarian	Attending veterinarian
Dr. Emily Hall, Coral World	Veterinarian	Onsite associate veterinarian

### ***Qualifications and Experience***

Federal Regulations require that persons authorized as the PI or CIs have qualifications commensurate with their duties. In addition, the names of the PI and CIs are sent to the NOAA Office of Law Enforcement to determine if any violations of the MMPA or ESA and other environmental laws have occurred.

The permit applicant is therefore required to submit the following information about the qualifications and experience of the PI and all CIs to demonstrate they have qualifications commensurate with their duties as stipulated in the Personnel Table. **A CV or resume must be up to date and contain all relevant information below.** If sufficient experience is not provided, additional information will be required and the personnel will not be authorized to conduct the proposed activities unless sufficient experience is demonstrated.

- 1) **Contact information** - All documentation submitted will be publicly available. **DO NOT include personal information** (e.g., social security number, date of birth, nationality, or home phone/ address-unless it is also the business phone/address).
  - Name (first middle last)
  - Business phone, e-mail, and mailing address
- 2) **Relevant education and training**
  - Degree, major, name of institution, year received
  - Applicable certificates or licenses, year received
  - Other relevant training or certification, year received
- 3) **Relevant experience**
  - Job title, affiliation/location, and dates of relevant experience
  - Detailed description of when and how the individual obtained training and experience in the methods they will be conducting and/or supervising as outlined in the Personnel Table. This should include objective metrics such as:
    - The specific level of training received
    - The number of hours/months/years they have been performing the activities (e.g., number of transports/captures participated in)
    - Which and how many procedures (e.g., transports, captures) they have performed successfully and on what species/age class
    - Whether and to what extent they have performed the activities without supervision or supervised the proposed activities (e.g., number of transports/captures)

***See attached Rita Stacey, Michael Adkesson, Jennifer Langan, and Michelle Campbell, Lee Kellar, Natalie Noll, Emily Hall CV/resume***

### **Appendices**

1. ***Brookfield Zoo' Education Plan / Learning Strategies (see Documents 1 CZS pdf)***
2. ***Brookfield Zoo USDA License (see Documents 1 CZS pdf)***
3. ***Brookfield Zoo Map and 2018 Brochure (See Document 2 2018 BZ gatemap pdf)***
4. ***Coral World's Education Materials (See Document 3 CW pdf)***
5. ***Coral World USDA License and inspection for dolphin enclosure (See Document 3 CW pdf)***
6. ***Coral World Facility Schematic (See Document 3 CW pdf)***
7. ***Coral World Current Brochure (See Document 2 - Coral World Brochure)***
8. ***Animal Birth Documents – MMDs (See Document 4 DQ pdf)***
9. ***Dolphin Quest Bermuda Compliance Letter (See Document 4 DQ pdf)***
10. ***Dolphin Quest Bermuda Import Letter (See Document 4 DQ pdf)***
11. ***Carrier Diagram and Dimensions (See Document 5 Transport pdf)***

12. *Written Statements from the Veterinarians (See Document 5 Transport pdf)*
13. *CV/resumes (See Document 6 CZS CVs and Document 7 CW DQ CVs pdfs)*
14. **Chicago Zoological Society's Veterinary Letter**
15. **Coral World's Water Quality Report**
16. **Revised Dolphin Quest Bermuda Import Letter**