



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

JAN 26 2012

Samuel Pooley, Ph.D.
NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service
Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center
2570 Dole Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

Dear Dr. Pooley: *Sam*

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has issued Permit No. 15685 to the NMFS Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center, for research activities on sea turtles. This permit is effective upon your signature and valid through the expiration date indicated in Condition A.1.

Here's what you need to do to use your permit:

1. Read the permit, including attachments. If you have questions, call your permit analyst – Amy Hapeman or Colette Cairns – at 301-427-8401 before signing the permit.
2. Sign and date the original signature page and the signature page marked “file copy.”
3. Keep the original signature page with your permit. You need both as proof of your authorization to conduct the research activities.
4. Send the “file copy” signature page to our office as proof of your acceptance of the permit.

Please note this permit specifically does not authorize research on sea turtles incidentally taken in state fisheries or the use of bullpen nets as a direct capture method. We recommend that you submit a request to modify your permit to authorize these activities once the State of Hawaii obtains a Section 10(a)(1)(B) incidental take permit pursuant to the Endangered Species Act for the take of sea turtles in state fisheries.

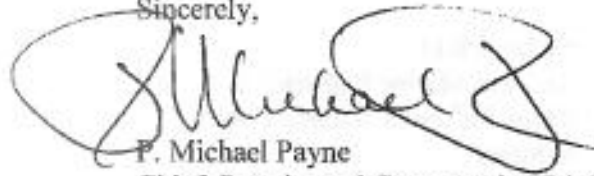
Please be aware that import and export of species, or parts of species, listed on the Appendices to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) requires a CITES Permit. For further information please contact Ms. Lisa Lierheimer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Division of Management Authority, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Room 212, Arlington, VA 22203 (1-800-358-2104).

Please keep your email contact information current in our online database (<https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov/>). You will receive automated email reminders of due dates for annual and final reports, and a notice prior to expiration of your permit.



Please return the signature page marked "file copy" to the Permits Division (F/PR1), 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. You may also submit the "file copy" of the signature page by facsimile (FAX number: 301-713-0376) and confirm it by mail.

Sincerely,



P. Michael Payne
Chief, Permits and Conservation Division
Office of Protected Resources

Enclosure



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

Permit No. 15685

Expiration Date: January 31, 2017

Reports Due: March 31st, annually

PERMIT TO TAKE PROTECTED SPECIES¹ FOR SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES

I. Authorization

This permit is issued to National Marine Fisheries Service, Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center, 2570 Dole Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822, (hereinafter "Permit Holder"), [Responsible Party: Samuel Pooley, Ph.D.], pursuant to the provisions of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR Parts 222-226).

II. Abstract

The objective of the permitted activities, as described in the application, is to continue long-term monitoring of the status of green and hawksbill turtles in the Hawaiian Islands to determine their abundance, size ranges, health/disease status, diving behavior, habitat use, foraging ecology, local movements, and migration routes.

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 attachments and appendices. Permit noncompliance constitutes a violation and is grounds for permit modification, suspension, or revocation, and for enforcement action.

A. Duration of Permit

1. Personnel listed in Condition C.1 of this permit (hereinafter "Researchers") may conduct activities authorized by this permit through January 31, 2017. This permit expires on the date indicated and is non-renewable. This permit may be extended by the Director, NMFS Office of Protected Resources, pursuant to applicable regulations and the requirements of the ESA.
2. Researchers must immediately stop permitted activities and the Permit Holder must contact the Chief, NMFS Permits and Conservation Division (hereinafter "Permits Division") for written permission to resume:

¹ "Protected species" include species listed as threatened or endangered under the ESA, and marine mammals.



- a. If serious injury or mortality² of protected species occurs. See Condition E.2 for reporting requirements.
 - b. If authorized take³ is exceeded, including accidental takes of protected species not listed in this permit. See Condition E.2 for reporting requirements.
3. The Permit Holder may possess samples taken, acquired, or imported under this permit after permit expiration without additional written authorization.

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

1. Table 1 outlines the number of protected species authorized to be taken, and the locations, manner, and time period in which they may be taken.

Table 1: Authorized annual takes of juvenile, sub-adult, and adult green and hawksbill sea turtles taken in the Hawaiian Islands.

Species	Number of turtles	Collection Method	Take Activity
Green sea turtle	250	Hand, dip net, or tangle net	Mark, carapace (temporary), measure, weigh, flipper tag, PIT tag, release
Green sea turtle	100	Hand, dip net, or tangle net	Mark, carapace (temporary), measure, weigh, flipper tag, PIT tag, shell etch, release
Green sea turtle	200	Hand, dip net, or tangle net	Lavage, Mark, carapace (temporary), measure, weigh, flipper tag, PIT tag, blood sample, scute scrape sample, shell etch, tissue sample, tumor sample, release.

² This permit does not allow for unintentional serious injury and mortality caused by the presence or actions of researchers. This includes, but is not limited to: deaths resulting from infections related to sampling procedures; and deaths or injuries sustained by animals during capture and handling, or while attempting to avoid researchers or escape capture.

³ By regulation, a take under the MMPA means to harass, hunt, capture, collect, or kill, or attempt to harass, hunt, capture, collect, or kill any marine mammal. This includes, without limitation, any of the following: The collection of dead animals, or parts thereof; the restraint or detention of a marine mammal, no matter how temporary; tagging a marine mammal; the negligent or intentional operation of an aircraft or vessel, or the doing of any other negligent or intentional act which results in disturbing or molesting a marine mammal; and feeding or attempting to feed a marine mammal in the wild. Under the ESA, a take means to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or attempt to do any of the preceding.

Green sea turtle	50	Hand, dip net, or tangle net	Instrument, epoxy attachment (e.g., satellite, VHF tag), Lavage, Mark, carapace (temporary), measure, weigh, flipper tag, PIT tag, blood sample, scute scrape sample, shell etch, tissue sample, tumor sample, release, and recapture (gear removal)
Hawksbill sea turtle	20	Hand, dip net, or tangle net	Mark, carapace (temporary), measure, weigh, flipper tag, PIT tag, blood sample, scute scrape sample, shell etch, tissue sample, tumor sample, and release
Hawksbill sea turtle	5	Hand, dip net, or tangle net	Instrument, epoxy attachment (e.g., satellite, VHF tag), Mark, carapace (temporary), measure, weigh, flipper tag, PIT tag, blood sample, scute scrape sample, shell etch, tissue sample, tumor sample, release, and recapture (gear removal)

2. Researchers working under this permit may collect visual images (e.g., still photographs, motion pictures) as needed to document the permitted activities, provided the collection of such images does not result in takes of protected species.
3. The Permit Holder may use visual images and audio recordings collected under this permit, including those authorized in Table 1, in printed materials (including commercial or scientific publications) and presentations provided the images and recordings are accompanied by a statement indicating that the activity was conducted pursuant to a NMFS Permit. This statement must accompany the images and recordings in all subsequent uses or sales.
4. Upon written request from the Permit Holder, approval for photography, filming, or audio recording activities not essential to achieving the objectives of the permitted activities, including allowing personnel not essential to the research (e.g., a documentary film crew) to be present, may be granted by the Chief, Permits Division.
 - a. Where such non-essential photography, filming, or recording activities are authorized they must not influence the conduct of permitted activities or result in takes of protected species.
 - b. Personnel authorized to accompany the Researchers during permitted activities for the purpose of non-essential photography, filming, or recording activities are not allowed to participate in the permitted activities.

- c. The Permit Holder and Researchers cannot require compensation in return for allowing non-essential personnel to accompany Researchers to conduct non-essential photography, filming, or recording activities.
5. Researchers must comply with the following conditions related to the manner of taking:
- a. Capture/Survey Methods
 - 1. Entanglement Netting:
 - a. Nets used to catch turtles must be of large enough mesh size to diminish bycatch of other species.
 - b. Highly visible buoys must be attached to the float line of each net and spaced at intervals of every 10 yards or less.
 - c. Nets must be checked at intervals of less than 30 minutes, and more frequently whenever turtles or other organisms are observed in the net. If water temperatures are $\leq 10^{\circ}\text{C}$ or $\geq 30^{\circ}\text{C}$, nets must be checked at less than 20-minute intervals. "Net checking" is defined as a complete and thorough visual check of the net either by snorkeling the net in clear water or by pulling up on the top line such that the full depth of the net is viewed along the entire length.
 - d. The float line of all nets must be observed at all times for movements that indicate an animal has encountered the net. When this occurs the net must be immediately checked.
 - e. Researchers must plan for unexpected circumstances or demands of the research activities and have the ability and resources to meet net checking requirements at all times (e.g. if one animal is very entangled and requires extra time and effort to remove from the net, researchers must have sufficient staff and resources to continue checking the rest of the net at the same time).
 - f. Marine Mammals: Nets must not be put in the water when marine mammals are observed within the vicinity of the research; marine mammals must be allowed to either leave or pass through the area safely before net setting is initiated.
 - i. Should marine mammals enter the research area after the nets have been set the lead line must be raised and dropped in an attempt to make marine mammals in the vicinity aware of the net.

ii. If marine mammals remain within the vicinity of the research area, nets must be removed.

iii. If a marine mammal is entangled, researchers must:

- A. Stop netting activities and immediately free the animal,
- B. Notify the appropriate NMFS Regional Stranding Coordinator as soon as possible (see Attachment 1 or go to: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/health/coordinators.htm>), and
- C. Report the incident as specified in Condition E.2,

Permitted activities will be suspended until the Permits Division has granted approval to continue research per Condition E.2.

b. General Handling, Resuscitation, and Release

1. Researchers must:

- a. Handle turtles according to procedures specified in 50 CFR 223.206(d)(1)(i). Use care when handling live animals to minimize any possible injury;
- b. Use appropriate resuscitation techniques on any comatose turtle prior to returning it to the water;
- c. When possible, transfer injured animals to rehabilitation facilities and allow them an appropriate period of recovery before return to the wild; and
- d. Name an experienced veterinarian, veterinary technician, or rehabilitation facility for emergencies.

2. If an animal becomes highly stressed, injured, or comatose, researchers must contact a veterinarian immediately. Based on the instructions of the veterinarian, if necessary, the animal must be immediately transferred to the veterinarian or to a rehabilitation facility to receive veterinary care.

3. Compromised or Injured Sea Turtles

- a. The Permit Holder may conduct the activities authorized by this permit on compromised or injured sea turtles, but only if the activities will not further compromise the animal. Care must be taken to minimize handling time and reduce further stress to the

animal.

- b. Compromised or injured sea turtles must not be handled or sampled by other permit holders working under separate research permits if their activities would further compromise the animal.
 4. Turtles are to be protected from temperature extremes of heat and cold, provided adequate air flow, and kept moist during sampling. Turtles must be placed on pads for cushioning and this surface must be cleaned and disinfected between turtles. The area surrounding the turtle must not contain any materials that could be accidentally ingested.
 5. During release, turtles must be lowered as close to the water's surface as possible to prevent potential injuries.
 6. Researchers must carefully observe newly released turtles and record observations on the turtle's apparent ability to swim and dive in a normal manner. If a turtle is not behaving normally within one hour of release, the turtle must be recaptured and taken to a rehabilitation facility.
- c. Handling, Measuring, Weighing, PIT and Flipper Tagging

1. When handling, measuring, and/or tagging turtles, researchers must:
 - a. Clean and disinfect all equipment (tagging equipment, tape measures, etc.) that comes in contact with sea turtles between the processing of each turtle;
 - b. Maintain a separate set of sampling equipment for handling animals displaying fibropapillomas tumors or lesions. All equipment that comes in contact with the turtle must be cleaned and disinfected between the processing of each turtle.
 - c. Examine turtles for existing flipper and PIT tags before attaching or inserting new ones. If existing tags are found, the tag identification numbers must be recorded and included in the annual report. Researchers must have PIT tag readers capable of reading 125, 128, 134.2, and 400 kHz tags.
 - d. Clean and disinfect flipper tags (e.g., to remove oil residue) before use. Applicators must be cleaned (and disinfected when appropriate, e.g., contaminated with fluids) between animals. The application site must be cleaned and then scrubbed with a disinfectant (e.g., Betadine) before the tag pierces the animal's

skin.

- e. PIT Tagging- Use new, sterile tag applicators (needles). The application site must be cleaned and then scrubbed with a disinfectant (e.g., Betadine) before the applicator pierces the animal's skin. If it has been exposed to fluids from another animal, the injector handle must be disinfected between animals.

d. Sampling

1. Blood sampling:

- a. Blood samples must be taken by experienced personnel.
- b. New disposable needles must be used on each animal.
- c. Collection sites must always be scrubbed with alcohol or another antiseptic prior to sampling.
- d. Care should be taken to ensure no injury results from the sampling. If an animal cannot be adequately immobilized for blood sampling or conditions on the boat preclude the safety and health of the turtle, samples must not be taken.
- e. Attempts (needle insertions) to extract blood from the neck must be limited to a total of four, two on either side.
- f. Blood Volume Limits
 - i. A single sample must not exceed 3 ml per 1 kg of animal.
 - ii. *Sampling period.* Within a 45-day period of time, the cumulative blood volume taken from a single turtle must not exceed the maximum safe limit described above. If more than 50% of the maximum safe limit is taken, in a single event or cumulatively from repeat sampling events, from a single turtle within a 45-day period that turtle must not be re-sampled for 3 months from the last blood sampling event.
 - iii. *Research coordination.* Researchers must, to the maximum extent practicable, attempt to determine if any of the turtles they blood sample may have been sampled within the past 3 months or will be sampled within the next 3 months by other researchers. The permit holder must contact the other researchers working in the area that could capture the same turtles to ensure that none of the above limits are exceeded.

2. Biopsy (tissue-skin) Sampling:

- a. A new biopsy punch must be used on each turtle.
- b. Sterile techniques must be used at all times. Samples must be collected from the trailing edge of a flipper if possible and practical (preference should be given to a rear flipper if practical). The tissue surface must be thoroughly swabbed once with both Betadine and alcohol, sampled, and then thoroughly swabbed again with just Betadine. The procedure area and hands must be clean.
- c. If it can be easily determined (through markings, tag number, etc.) that a sea turtle has been recaptured and has been already sampled by this permit, no additional biopsy samples may be collected from the animal over the permit year.

3. Transfer of Biological Samples

- a. Samples remain in the legal custody of the Permit Holder while in the possession of authorized recipients.
- b. Samples may be sent to the authorized recipients listed in Attachment 2 for analysis or curation without additional written authorization provided:
 - i. The analysis or curation is related to the research objectives of this permit.
 - ii. A copy of this permit accompanies the samples during transport and remains on site during analysis or curation.
 - iii. Samples not consumed in analysis are returned to the Permit Holder within 12 months or destroyed at the direction of the Permit Holder.
- c. The transfer of biological samples from the Permit Holder to or authorized recipients to anyone other than those identified in Attachment 2 requires written approval from the Chief, Permits Division.

4. Gastric Lavage

- a. The actual lavage of the turtle must not exceed 3 minutes.
- b. Once the samples have been collected, water must be turned off and water and food allowed to drain until all flow has stopped. The posterior of the turtles must be elevated slightly to assist in drainage.

- d. Equipment (e.g., lavage tubes) that comes in contact with sea turtles must be cleaned and disinfected before use on another animal.
- e. Researchers must thoroughly clean equipment prior to disinfection (viruses can remain protected in organic matter, the disinfectant can't get to them if they're protected in this matter).
- f. Disinfectants must be used according to label directions; however, exposure time should be increased for rough and/or porous items. (A dip and rinse is not sufficient.) Disinfection can be compromised (incomplete) if items are contaminated with debris and/or have rough or porous surfaces.
- g. Care must be taken that disinfecting solutions are clean and active and that proper rinsing occurs after disinfection.
- h. A separate set of equipment must be used for infected and non-infected animals.

c. Instrument Tagging and Marking

1. TDRs, VHF, sonic or satellite tags, crittercams:

- a. Total combined weight of all transmitter attachments must not exceed 5% of the body mass of the animal.
- b. Each attachment must be made so that there is no risk of entanglement. The transmitter attachment must either contain a weak link (where appropriate) or have no gap between the transmitter and the turtle that could result in entanglement. The lanyard length (if used) must be less than 1/2 of the carapace length of the turtle. It must include a corrodible, breakaway link that will corrode and release the tag-transmitter after the tag-transmitter life is finished.
- c. Researchers must make attachments as hydrodynamic as possible.
- d. Adequate ventilation around the head of the turtle must be provided during the attachment of satellite tags or attachment of radio/sonic tags if attachment materials produce fumes. To prevent skin or eye contact with harmful chemicals used to apply tags, turtles must not be held in water during the application process.

2. Painting of Carapace

- a. Researchers must use non-toxic paints that do not generate heat or contain xylene or toluene.
- b. For turtles \leq approximately 4 years old, paint must be applied without crossing suture lines (margins) if the paint will remain on the shell for 3 months or more.
- c. For juvenile turtles $>$ approximately 4 years old, paint must be applied without crossing suture lines (margins) if the paint will remain on the shell for 1 year or more.
- d. For adult turtles, paint must be applied without crossing suture lines (margins) if the paint will remain on the shell for 2 years or more.

f. Non-Target Species

1. Bycatch: All incidentally captured species (e.g., fishes) must be released alive as soon as possible.
2. Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV; e.g., seagrass) Coral Communities, Live or Hard and Live Bottom Habitat
 - a. Researchers must take all practicable steps to identify SAV, coral communities, and live/hard bottom habitats and avoid setting gear in such areas.

Researchers must use strategies to identify SAV, coral, and live or hard bottom types and avoid adverse impacts to EFH, including the use of tools such as charts, GIS, sonar, fish finders, or other electronic devices to help determine characteristics and suitability of bottom habitat prior to using gear.

If research gear is lost, diligent efforts would be made to recover the lost gear to avoid further damage to benthic habitat and impacts related to "ghost fishing."

- b. *Sea grasses*. Researchers must avoid conducting research over, on, or immediately adjacent to any non-listed sea grass species. If these non-listed species cannot be avoided, then the following avoidance/minimization measures must be implemented-
 - i. In order to reduce the potential for sea grass damage, anchors must be set by hand when water visibility is acceptable.

Anchors must be placed in unvegetated areas within seagrass meadows or areas having relatively sparse vegetation coverage. Anchor removal must be conducted in a manner that would avoid the dragging of anchors and anchor chains.

- ii. Researchers must take great care to avoid damaging any sea grass species and if the potential for anchor or net drag is evident researchers must suspend research activities immediately.
 - iii. Researchers must be careful not to tread or trample on seagrass and coral reef habitat.
 - c. No gear may be set, anchored on, or pulled across coral or hard/live bottom habitats.
3. Hawaiian Monk Seals. To minimize disturbance of Hawaiian monk seals the Permit Holder must:
 - a. Consult with the NMFS monk seal research program and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) at Midway for approval of any land-based activities to avoid harassment of monk seals;
 - b. Not land on shore where monk seals are present. Researchers must use another local beach or remain at least 150 feet from monk seals at all times;
 - c. Not enter the water when monk seals are present, and if approached by a seal, leave the area; and
 - c. Report any opportunistic monk seal sightings to: Thea Johanos, NMFS Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center, Marine Mammal Research Program, 1601 Kapiolani Boulevard, Suite 1110, Honolulu, HI 96814-4700; phone (808)944-2174; email Thea.Johanos-Kam@noaa.gov; fax (808)944-2200.
4. Humpback Whales
If a humpback whale is observed in the area, Researchers and vessels must maintain a distance of at least 91.4 meters (100 yards) and aircraft must maintain a distance of at least 300 meters (1,000 feet).

C. Qualifications, Responsibilities, and Designation of Personnel

1. At the discretion of the Permit Holder, the following Researchers may participate in the conduct of the permitted activities in accordance with their qualifications and the limitations specified herein:

- a. Principal Investigator (PI) – George Balazs
 - b. Co-Investigator(s) – Marc Rice, Stacy Hargrove, and Thierry Work, DVM.
 - c. Research Assistants – personnel identified by the Permit Holder or Principal Investigator and qualified to act pursuant to Conditions C.2, C.3, and C.4 of this permit
2. Individuals conducting permitted activities must possess qualifications commensurate with their roles and responsibilities. The roles and responsibilities of personnel operating under this permit are as follows:
- a. The Permit Holder is ultimately responsible for activities of individuals operating under the authority of this permit. Where the Permit Holder is an institution/facility, the Responsible Party is the person at the institution/facility who is responsible for the supervision of the PI.
 - b. The PI is the individual primarily responsible for the taking, import, export and related activities conducted under the permit. The PI must be on site during activities conducted under this permit unless a Co-Investigator named in Condition C.1 is present to act in place of the PI.
 - c. Co-Investigators (CIs) are individuals who are qualified to conduct activities authorized by the permit without the on-site supervision of the PI. CIs assume the role and responsibility of the PI in the PI's absence.
 - d. Research Assistants (RAs) are individuals who work under the direct and on-site supervision of the PI or a CI. RAs cannot conduct permitted activities in the absence of the PI or a CI.
3. Personnel involved in permitted activities must be reasonable in number and essential to conduct of the permitted activities. Essential personnel are limited to:
- a. Individuals who perform a function directly supportive of and necessary to the permitted activity (including operation of vessels or aircraft essential to conduct of the activity);
 - b. Individuals included as backup for those personnel essential to the conduct of the permitted activity; and
 - c. Individuals included for training purposes.
4. 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.

5. Permitted activities may be conducted aboard vessels or aircraft, or in cooperation with individuals or organizations, engaged in commercial activities, provided the commercial activities are not conducted simultaneously with the permitted activities, except with written approval pursuant to Condition B.3.
6. The Permit Holder may request authorization from the Chief, Permits Division to add personnel to this permit as indicated below. The Permit Holder cannot require or receive direct or indirect compensation in return for requesting authorization for such person to act as a PI, CI, or RA under the permit.
 - a. Where the Permit Holder is an institution/facility, the Responsible Party or PI may designate additional CIs provided a copy of the letter designating the individual, which specifies their duties under the permit, and a copy of the individual's qualifications to conduct and oversee the specified duties, is provided to the Permits Division on the day of designation and confirmed by mail.
 - b. The Responsible Party may request a change of PI. The request must include a description of the individual's qualifications to conduct and oversee the activities authorized under this permit.
 - c. Submit personnel requests via one of the following:
 - through the online system at <https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov>,
 - by email attachment to the permit analyst for this permit, or
 - by hard copy mailed or faxed to the Chief, Permits Division.

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 engaged in a permitted activity; when a protected species is in transit incidental to a permitted activity; and when a protected species taken under such permit is in the possession of such persons.
3. A duplicate copy of this permit must be attached to the container, package, enclosure, or other means of containment in which a protected species or protected species part is placed for purposes of storage, transit, supervision or care.

E. Reports

1. The Permit Holder must submit written annual, final, and incident reports to the Permits Division.

- a. Reports should be submitted by one of the following:
 - through the online system at <https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov>
 - by email attachment to the permit analyst for this permit
 - by hard copy mailed or faxed to the Chief, Permits Division.
 - b. You must contact your permit analyst for a reporting form if you do not submit reports through the online system.
2. Incident reports: must be submitted within two weeks of serious injury and mortality events or exceeding authorized takes, as specified in Conditions A.2 and B.5.a.1.f.iii.
- a. The incident report must include a complete description of the events and identification of steps that will be taken to reduce the potential for additional serious injury and research-related mortality or exceedence of authorized take.
 - b. In addition to the written report, the Permit Holder must contact the Permits Division by phone (301-427-8401) as soon as possible, but no later than within two business days of the incident.
 - c. The Permits Division may grant authorization to resume permitted activities based on review of the incident report and in consideration of the Terms and Conditions of this permit.
3. Annual reports: must be submitted by March 31st each year for which the permit is valid.
- Reports describing activities conducted during the previous permit year (January 1st to December 31st) must follow the format specified by the Permits Division, including a tabular accounting of takes and a narrative description of activities and effects.
4. Final report: must be submitted by July 31, 2017, or, if the research concludes prior to permit expiration, within 180 days of completion of the research.
- a. The final report summarizing activities over the life of the permit must follow the format specified by the Permits Division.
5. Research results must be published or otherwise made available to the scientific community in a reasonable period of time. Copies of technical reports, conference abstracts, papers, or publications resulting from permitted research must be submitted the Permits Division.

F. Notification and Coordination

1. The Permit Holder must provide written notification of planned field work at least two weeks prior to initiation of each field trip/season. If there will be multiple field trips/seasons in a permit year, a single summary notification may be submitted per year.
 - a. Notification must include the:
 - locations of the intended field study and/or survey routes
 - estimated dates of activities
 - number and roles of participants (for example: PI, CI, veterinarian, boat driver, safety diver, animal restrainer, Research Assistant "in training").
 - b. Notification must be sent to the following Assistant Regional Administrator for Protected Resources:

Pacific Islands Region, NMFS, 1601 Kapiolani Blvd., Suite 1110, Honolulu, HI 96814-4700; phone (808)944-2200; fax (808)973-2941.
2. To the maximum extent practical, the Permit Holder must coordinate permitted activities with activities of other Permit Holders conducting the same or similar activities on the same species, in the same locations, or at the same times of year to avoid unnecessary disturbance of animals. The appropriate Regional Office(s) listed in F.1.b may be contacted for information about coordinating with other Permit Holders.

G. Observers and Inspections

1. NMFS may review activities conducted pursuant to 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, NMFS 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 regulation prescribed under section 4 of the ESA;
 - b. In a case in which a violation of the terms and conditions of the permit is found;
 - c. In response to a written request⁴ 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; and
 - e. If NMFS determines that the authorized activities will operate to the disadvantage of threatened or endangered species or are otherwise no longer consistent with the purposes and policy in Section 2 of the ESA.
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.


I. Penalties and Permit Sanctions

1. A person who violates a provision of this permit, the ESA, or the regulations at 50 CFR 222-226 is subject to civil and criminal penalties, permit sanctions, and forfeiture as authorized under the ESA, 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. 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. 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 ESA, and applicable regulations in any enforcement actions.

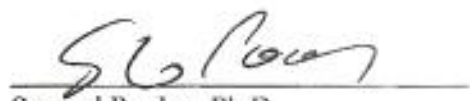
⁴ The Permit Holder may request changes to the permit related to: the objectives or purposes of the permitted activities; the species or number of animals taken; and the location, time, or manner of taking or importing protected species. Such requests must be submitted in writing to the Permits Division in the format specified in the application instructions.

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 Parts 222-226, and all restrictions and requirements under the ESA;
 - 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.


James H. Lecky
Director, Office of Protected Resources
National Marine Fisheries Service

JAN 26 2012
Date Issued


Samuel Pooley, Ph.D.
Director
National Marine Fisheries Service
Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center
Responsible Party

1/31/2012
Date Effective

FILE COPY

Attachment 1: NMFS Marine Mammal Regional Stranding Coordinators

<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/health/coordinators.htm>

HEADQUARTERS COORDINATOR:

Dr. Teri Rowles, National Coordinator
Office of Protected Resources
Marine Mammal Division, F/PR2
National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA
1315 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3226
Phone (301) 427-8402; Fax (301) 427-2522

REGIONAL COORDINATOR:

HI, Guam,	David Schofield, Pacific Islands Region
American Samoa	1601 Kapiolani Blvd., Rm 1110
Northern Mariana Islands	Honolulu, HI 96814
	Phone (808) 944-2269; Fax (808) 973-2941

Attachment 2: List of Authorized Recipients of Biological Samples

Biological samples authorized for collection or acquisition in Table 1 may be transferred to the following Authorized Recipients for the specified disposition:

Sample Type	Disposition	Authorized Recipient
Tissue, blood	Analysis	Dr. Peter Dutton NOAA, NMFS, SWFSC
Tissue	Analysis	Dr. Jeffrey Seminoff NOAA, NMFS, SWFSC
Tissue, blood, keratin	Analysis, curation	Dr. Jennifer Keller NIST, Hollings Marine Lab
FP tumors	Analysis	Dr. Thierry Work, DVM National Wildlife Health Center, Hawaii Field Station
Blood	Analysis	Dr. Robert Morris, DVM Makai Animal Clinic

The Permit Holder may request approval of additional Authorized Recipients for analysis and curation of samples related to the permit objectives by submitting a written request to the Permits Division. The request must specify the name and location of the facility or individual, the types of samples to be sent, and the purpose (curation or type of analysis).