

Issued and signed MBNMS Permits, Amendments and Authorizations (2/2/2022 to 4/27/2023)

***Report created for the
May 19, 2023***

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting

MULTI-2017-004-A2

Permit Type: Research

Permit Holder Names (Affiliation): Aimee Keller (NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service, Northwest Fisheries Science Center)

Project Title: West Coast Groundfish Bottom Trawl Survey

Permitted Activity: Alteration of the seafloor (submerged lands) within the sanctuaries for the purpose of bottom trawl groundfish surveys to provide a measure of change in abundance, distribution and condition of groundfish stocks along the West Coast from May through October each year the permit is in effect, except as specified in the special terms and conditions of the permit and in Attachment 1.

Project Location(s): Within OCNMS, GFNMS, CBNMS, MBNMS, and CINMS, between 180 and 4,200 ft (30 and 700 fm) on the continental shelf and upper slope, except as listed under the special terms and conditions and in Attachment 1.

Permitted dates: April 30, 2023 to April 30, 2027

Comments/Notes: GFNMS/CBNMS Lead

MULTI-2022-008

Permit Type: Research

Permit Holder Names (Affiliation): Kasey Cantwell (NOAA Ocean Exploration)

Project Title: NOAA Ocean Exploration U.S. West Coast Expeditions

Permitted Activity: Discharging or depositing into the sanctuaries remotely operated vehicle (ROV) gravel ballast, expendable bathythermographs (XBTs) and autonomous underwater vehicles(AUVs); Drilling into or otherwise altering the submerged lands of the sanctuaries with temperature probes, temporary and minor disturbances associated with ROV and AUV operations and collection of biological and geological samples; Abandoning gravel used as ballast on ROVs and XBTs on the submerged lands of the sanctuaries; Moving, removing, taking, collecting, catching, harvesting, disturbing, breaking, cutting, or otherwise injuring, or attempting to move, remove, take, collect, catch, harvest, disturb, break, cut, or otherwise injure, any sanctuary resource located more than 3,000 feet below the sea surface within the Davidson Seamount Management Zone; Possessing any Sanctuary resource, the source of which is more than 3,000 feet below the sea surface within the Davidson Seamount Management Zone.

Project Location(s): Throughout CINMS, MBNMS, GFNMS, CBNMS and OCNMS in waters deeper than 200 meters.

Permitted dates: April 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023

Comments/Notes: CINMS Lead

MBNMS-2023-004

Permit Type: Research

Permit Holder Name (Affiliation): Elizabeth Carpenter (FISHBIO) and Daniel Gossard (Monterey Bay Seaweeds)

Project Title: Dispersal enhancement techniques for bull kelp gametophyte replenishment in northern California.

Permitted Activity: Placement on the submerged lands of cinder blocks; Alteration of the submerged lands to drill up to 14 bolts in rocky reef substrate and hammer up to 14 stakes (rebar or plastic) in sandy substrate; Discharge of epoxy used to secure the bolts in the rocky reefs; and Discharge and recovery/retrieval of slides, cinder blocks, bolts, stakes, and all other associated hardware.

Project Location(s): between Pescadero Point and Pescadero Rocks in Stillwater Cove, Monterey, CA, which is within MBNMS.

Permitted dates: March 24, 2023 through July 1, 2024

Comments/Notes: Permittee has a CDFW SCP

MULTI-2022-006-A1

Permit Type: Research

Permit Holder Names (Affiliation): James Behrens (University of California at San Diego, Scripps Institution of Oceanography)

Project Title: Coastal Data Information Program (CDIP) Waverider buoys in MBNMS and CBNMS.

Permitted Activity: This permit is limited to alteration of the submerged seafloor by deploying and retrieving seven (7) research moorings, discharge of seven (7) buoys with instrument packages and batteries and the associated moorings, and maintenance of the buoys and moorings. The permit also authorizes the abandonment of anchors of three moorings (CDIP 142, CDIP 157, and CDIP 029) approximately every 5 (five) years and one last abandonment of the anchor at CDIP 254 (see special terms and conditions for specific information). The moorings deployed for the Point Cabrillo buoy (CDIP 158) and the Pajaro beach buoys will be fully recoverable, i.e. nothing will be abandoned at those stations.

Project Location(s): on soft substrate in the following location(s): (NDBC=National Data Buoy Center)

1. San Francisco Bar buoy (NDBC Station 46237, CDIP 142): within 0.5 nautical miles of 37.7881, -122.6315, Depth= 17 m, in MBNMS;
2. Point Santa Cruz buoy (NDBC Station 46269, CDIP 254): within 0.5 nautical miles of 36.9344, -122.0338, Depth= 20 m, in MBNMS, for one year (i.e. this station will be decommissioned by January 1, 2024);
3. Pajaro Beach buoy (NDBC Station {number to be determined by NDBC after deployment}, CDIP 266): within 0.25 nautical miles of 36.8449, -121.8247, Depth= 15 m, in MBNMS;
4. Pajaro Beach South buoy (NDBC Station {number to be determined by NDBC after deployment}, CDIP 267): within 0.25 nautical miles of 36.8380, -121.8202, Depth= 15 m, in MBNMS, for approximately one year;
5. Point Cabrillo buoy (NDBC Station 46240, CDIP 158): within 0.5 nautical miles of 36.6263, -121.9071, Depth= 17 m, in MBNMS;
6. Point Sur buoy (NDBC Station 46239, CDIP 157): within 1 nautical mile of 36.3348, -122.1039, Depth= 369 m, in MBNMS; and
7. Point Reyes buoy (NDBC Station 46214, CDIP 029): within 1 nautical mile of 37.9367, -123.4629, Depth= 550 m, in CBNMS.

Permitted dates: March 13, 2023 through July 1, 2027

Comments/Notes: MBNMS Lead; Previous permits: MULTI-2019-003-A1, MBNMS-2013-003, MBNMS-2013-003-A1, MBNMS-2013-003-A2, CBNMS-2015-001, CBNMS-2015-001-A1, CBNMS-2015-001-A2, CBNMS-2015-001-A3, MULTI-2018-001, MULTI-2019-003 and MULTI-2022-006.

MBNMS-2023-001

Permit Type: Research

Permit Holder Name (Affiliation): Jennifer Yin (Stanford University)

Project Title: Measuring mixing at McAbee kelp forest using multi-scale turbulence instruments

Permitted Activity: Placement on the soft submerged lands of MBNMS for an acoustic doppler current profiler (ADCP), a thermistor mooring, a stainless-steel frame, a bundle of cables connecting the cameras on the frame to the mooring, and anchors for the ADCP, frame, and mooring; Alteration of the submerged lands to position up to eight sand anchors; and Discharge and recovery/retrieval of camera frame, ADCP, stainless-steel frame, cables, surface and subsurface floats, mooring components, anchors, and line.

Project Location(s): The permitted activity is allowed in and on the soft submerged lands of the sanctuary at approximately 36°36'55.94"N, 121°53'47.07"W offshore of McAbee Beach, Monterey, CA

Permitted dates: February 27, 2023 through September 30, 2023

Comments/Notes: Permittee has a CDFW SCP; previous permits: MBNMS-2020-005 and MBNMS-2022-011

MBNMS-2020-003-A1

Permit Type: Research

Permit Holder Name (Affiliation): Kerstin Wasson (Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research)

Project Title: To conduct a variety of long-term monitoring programs in Elkhorn Slough

Permitted Activity: Alteration of and placement on submerged lands of MBNMS for deploying beach seines, anchors, traps and pots, PVC pipes, and stakes and out planting oysters on clam shells, cultch or tiles and collecting seagrass shoots; discharge of bait within traps, and temporary discharge of settlement tiles, water quality sondes and floats attached to traps for various research and long-term monitoring projects to inform conservation and management strategies to better protect estuarine ecosystems and approximately ten (10) low overflights annually by uncrewed aircraft systems (UAS) at no less than 30 meters above sea level (ASL) within the NOAA regulated overflight zone (NROZ) overlapping Elkhorn Slough in order to obtain aerial imagery and digital elevation models of estuarine habitats.

Project Location(s): Sites in Elkhorn Slough within MBNMS, including, but not limited to, Seal Bend, Vierra Beach and Kirby Park

Permitted dates: February 13, 2023 through February 13, 2026

Comments/Notes: The majority of the permitted activities (except the UAS flights) have been permitted in the past under MBNMS-2007-009 (A1 and A2) and the original permit, MBNMS-2020-003. This permit amendment MBNMS-2020-003-A1 extends the expiration date by three years and includes updated special terms and conditions. Both otter trawls and sediment core collections were removed from the listed permitted activities in the original permit. Whereas, the out planting of hatchery-raised oysters was added to the listed permitted activities.

MBNMS-2022-023

Permit Type: Research

Permit Holder Name (Affiliation): Timothy Pilegard and Bridgit Boulahanis (Bedrock Ocean Exploration, PBC)

Project Title: Research and Development of Bedrock Ocean Exploration's unmanned underwater vehicle (UUV).

Permitted Activity: Temporary discharge of up to five UUVs during daylight hours for up to five days per month; and Abandonment of 385-gram emergency ballast weights if the ballast weights must be utilized as part of the emergency procedures.

Project Location(s): 1. Within a 1,500-meter (m) radius of 36.7207, -121.8267 (offshore of CEMEX plant in Marina, CA); Within a 500-m radius of 36.6152, -121.8691 (offshore of the Monterey Tides Hotel and Monterey State Beach in Monterey, CA); Within a 500-m radius of 36.8028, -121.7924 (offshore of Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute in Moss Landing, CA); and Within a 2,000-m radius of 36.7918, -121.8382 (over Monterey Canyon and offshore of Salinas River State Beach in Moss Landing, CA)

Permitted dates: February 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023

Comments/Notes: pre-survey notifications are required

MBNMS-2022-024

Permit Type: Research

Permit Holder Name (Affiliation): Thomas Connolly (Moss Landing Marine Laboratories)

Project Title: Geomorphological feedback processes in Elkhorn Slough, CA

Permitted Activity: Placement on and in the submerged lands of MBNMS for anchors for up to two moorings. Discharge and recovery/retrieval of all mooring components (including chains, floats, mooring components, anchors, and line).

Project Location(s): Elkhorn Slough, CA.

Permitted dates: January 27, 2023 through September 1, 2023

Comments/Notes: MBNMS staff reached out to ESNERR staff to ensure the moorings would not conflict with ESNERR's research in Elkhorn Slough. Kerstin Wasson indicated she had no concerns except to relay the moorings need to be firmly anchored due to the strong currents in the two locations of interest (email on December 30, 2022). This information was passed along to the permittee.

MBNMS-2022-015

Permit Type: Research

Permit Holder Names (Affiliation): Kaycee Coleman and David Aragon (Rutgers University)

Project Title: Sea Water Ocean Topography (SWOT) by gliders

Permitted Activity: Conducting low overflights at no less than 800 feet above sea level (ASL) by manned aircraft within NOAA regulated overflight zones (NROZs) in MBNMS, GFNMS and CINMS.

Project Location(s): The permitted activity is allowed in offshore waters in MBNMS with deployment of the gliders from a vessel approximately 5 nautical miles or more from Moss Landing, CA.

Permitted dates: February 1, 2023 through June 1, 2023

Comments/Notes: Permittees will contact appropriate agencies (for example. national marine sanctuaries, California Department of Fish and Wildlife Service [CDFW] and Point Blue Conservation Science [for Farallon Islands and other protected areas], Año Nuevo Natural Reserve [University of California, Santa Cruz], California State Parks, Channel Islands National

Park, U.S Navy, and U.S. Air Force) of planned aerial surveys prior to low overflights and acquire the necessary permits, such as a CDFW Flyover Authorization.

If you are interested in learning more about a specific permit, amendment or authorization action, please contact:

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