# Issued and signed MBNMS Permits, Amendments and **Authorizations** (2/3/2020 to 4/1/2021)

# Report created for the

April 16, 2021

# Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting

MULTI-2017-010-A4 **Permit Type:** Research

Permit Holder Names (Affiliation): Dr. Mark Carr and Dr. Pete Raimondi (University of

California, Santa Cruz)

Project Title: Partnership for Interdisciplinary Study of Coastal Oceans (PISCO)

Project Location(s): GFNMS and MBNMS

Permitted Activity: Alteration of the submerged lands and discharge related to the installation, maintenance, and recovery of scientific instrumentation and equipment to conduct large scale, long-term subtidal and intertidal monitoring studies of coastal oceanographic processes, and rocky intertidal and kelp forest communities throughout the Sanctuaries.

Permitted dates: March 19, 2021 to April 1, 2024

Comments/Notes: Multiple Sanctuary permit for which MBNMS is the processing lead.

Permittees have CDFW SCP and have had ONMS permits dating back to 1999.

MBNMS-2020-030 **Permit Type:** Education

**Permit Holder Name (Affiliation):** Edward Charles (Silverback Films)

Project Title: Low overflight activities conducted in Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary under National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) permit issued to Silverback Films for the project "Our Planet on the Move."

Project Location(s): offshore NOAA regulated overflight zones in MBNMS

Permitted Activity: Flying Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) at no less than 50 feet Above Sea Level (ASL) within offshore NOAA regulated overflight zones to film primarily gray whales and orca in MBNMS as authorized by National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) permit No. 25417. See Special Terms and Conditions for further details.

Permitted dates: April 13, 2021 to May 31, 2022

Comments/Notes: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) issued permit No.25417

#### MULTI-2021-002

Permit Type: Research and Education

Permit Holder Name (Affiliation): John O'Sullivan (Monterey Bay Aquarium)

Project Title: Substrate and deep sea invertebrate collections in Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS), including within Davidson Seamount Management Zone (DSMZ), and

Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (CINMS)

**Project Location(s):** 

#### Deep sea coral collections (MBNMS and CINMS):

Throughout MBNMS and CINMS, except within state and federal marine reserves or marine conservation areas, and as specified in the Permitted Activity Description and the Special Terms and Conditions below.

#### Whale falls (MBNMS):

- The shoreline area of operations are defined by the coastline area from Carmel Bay (Monastery Beach) to Davenport within MBNMS.
- Distance offshore for collecting drifting whales will not exceed 55 km.
- Anchoring beached whales outside of California State Marine Protected Areas and California State Parks unless the permittee acquires necessary permits.
- Approximate sink site locations are:
  - Site #1 (Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI) site Whale 1018) 36.772°N, 122.083°W
  - Site #2 (MBARI site Whale 1820) 36.708°N, 122.105°W
  - Site #3 (MBARI's Monterey Accelerated Research System (MARS) site) 36.7123° N, 122.1868° W
  - Site #4 (MBARI site Whale 385m) 36.790°N, 121.887 °W

### Substrate collection (MBNMS):

Throughout MBNMS, outside of California State Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and California State Parks unless the permittee acquires necessary permits. Permittee will coordinate with the City of Monterey prior to collecting substrate at Del Monte beach.

### **Permitted Activity:**

<u>Deep sea coral collections (MBNMS and CINMS) for Monterey Bay Aquarium's Deep Experience Exhibit:</u>

- Alteration of submerged lands of MBNMS and CINMS for landing the ROV and collection of biological and geological samples, as follows:
  - Collection of sponges and corals by the watch lead or ROV pilot after consultation with the Lead Scientist
  - Collection of invertebrates, other than sponges and corals
  - Collection for up to 95 kilograms per year of rock, shell, and benthic rubble
- Placement of structures, i.e. up to five (5) passive homing beacons, on the submerged lands of MBNMS.
- Take (within limits outlined in this amendment) and possession of sanctuary resources within Davidson Seamount Management Zone.

#### Whale falls (MBNMS):

To support the collection of invertebrate fauna of the genus Osedax (bone eating worms) for exhibit as part of the Monterey Bay Aquarium's Deep Experience Exhibit:

- Placing and recovering two (2) to three (3) sand anchors with lines per whale to keep the whale on the beach while venting;
- Placing one (1) to six (6) railroad wheels per whale for up to three (3) whales over the period of the permit on the submerged lands of the Sanctuary (maximum of 18 railroad wheels);
- Abandonment of one (1) to six (6) railroad wheels per whale for up to three (3) whales
  over the period of the permit on the submerged lands of the Sanctuary (maximum of 18
  railroad wheels);

- Discharging and recovering one (1) acoustic beacon per whale for up to three (3) whales over the period of the permit;
- Discharging and recovering nylon straps used to attach the wheels and beacons to each whale:
- Placing and recovering up to two (2) "bone cams" per year on the submerged lands of the Sanctuary to document post-sinking utilization of the whale;
- Incidentally attracting any white shark within the sanctuary while towing a whale carcass from the shoreline to a sink site.

#### Substrate collection (MBNMS):

Alteration of the submerged lands to collect up to 200 kilograms (440 pounds) of substrate annually with hand tools for public educational activities and scientific research. In addition, up to a total of 200 cubic feet of sand/mud can be collected for the Deep Sea Exhibit.

Permitted dates: March 10, 2021 through March 1, 2026

**Comments/Notes:**Permittee has a valid California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Scientific Collecting Permit (SCP) SC-2026 which is valid through 6/25/21. This MULTI merges 3 previous issued to the permittee: MULTI-2019-002-A1, MBNMS-2002-033-A4 and MBNMS-2018-013-A1

# MBNMS-2021-004

Permit Type: SUP

Permit Holder Name (Affiliation): Kelley Sims (Big Indie Knives, Inc)

**Project Title:** Low overflights in the NOAA regulated overflight zone offshore of Big Sur for the

project "All the Old Knives

**Project Location(s):** Soberanes Point, Rocky Creek Bridge, Bixby Bridge, and Little Sur River. **Permitted Activity:** Flying a Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) at no less than 70 feet Above Sea Level (ASL) within the NOAA regulated overflight zone located offshore of Big Sur to capture aerial photography at four (4) permitted activity locations along Highway 1.

Permitted dates: March 11, 2021 through March 12, 2021

**Comments/Notes:** The permittee will or has filed Plan of Activities (POC) with FAA, CA Film Commission, Ventana Wildlife Society, Monterey County Sheriff's Department, CHP; Palo Colorado Fire Brigade, Big Sur Fire Brigade, Big Sur Residents & Businesses, CA State Lands Commission and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and is acquiring proper permits and authorizations.

## MBNMS-2020-002-A1

Permit Type: Education

**Permit Holder Name (Affiliation):** Sarah Conner (Wild Space Productions)

**Project Title:** Low overflight activities conducted in Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary under National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) or United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) permits issued to Wild Space Productions and bolt installation for the Netflix series on National Parks

**Project Location(s):** NOAA Regulated Overflight Zones in MBNMS as indicated in the "Permitted Activity Description" and "Special Terms and Conditions" in this permit.

**Permitted Activity:** Flying Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) at no less than 50 feet Above Sea Level (ASL) within all four of the NOAA Regulated Overflight Zones in order to collect aerial images of wildlife and landscapes in MBNMS as authorized by National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) or United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) permits issued to Wild Space Productions and Alteration of submerged lands to place up to two (2) bolts outside of

California state Marine Protected Area (MPAs) to mark the center of the time-lapse camera tripod consistently.

Permitted dates: March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2022

Comments/Notes: Footage will be provided to use as educational materials by NOAA; MBNMS

extended the duration of the original permit by one year through February 28, 2022

#### MBNMS-2019-029-A1

Permit Type: SUP

Permit Holder Name (Affiliation): Sarah Conner (Wild Space Productions)

Project Title: Netflix series on National Parks

**Project Location(s):** NOAA Regulated Overflight Zones in MBNMS as indicated in the "Permitted Activity Description" and "Special Terms and Conditions" in this permit.

**Permitted Activity:** Flying Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) at no less than 50 feet Above Sea Level (ASL) within all four of the NOAA Regulated Overflight Zones in order to collect aerial images of landscapes in MBNMS. Overflights with UAS can be conducted for up to 8 days and Placement and recovery of tripods on the submerged lands to collect underwater time-lapse imagery for up to 21 days.

Permitted dates: March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2022

**Comments/Notes:** MBNMS extended the duration of the original permit by one year through February 28, 2022; The permitted activity was updated to reflect the remaining balance of permitted overflights with UAS to collect scenic images within the NOAA regulated overflight zones.

#### MBNMS-2018-039-A2

Permit Type: Research

Permit Holder Name (Affiliation): Jan Freiwald (Reef Check California)

Project Title: Monterey Bay Urchin Experiments.

Project Location(s): Pacific Grove Marine Gardens State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA)

and Tankers Reef **Permitted Activity:** 

Urchin research at Pacific Grove Marine Gardens State Marine Conservation Area:

Alteration of the submerged lands for the installation and removal of a total of approximately twenty (20) anchors, either epoxy/bolt anchors or earth anchors, each with one (1) associated PVC identification tag for up to twenty (20) tags to coordinate urchin monitoring and manipulation activities on the target reefs. If the bolt anchors cannot be removed without damaging the surrounding natural area, they may be abandoned; Placing a tripod with weights attached to each leg on the submerged lands which can be optionally attached to a line or tape with a weight with a line and surface buoy; Discharge and recovery of zip ties and buoys with up to 50 feet of line attached to a weight to help navigate to the targets; and Discharge of epoxy to install bolts.

#### Urchin research at Tankers Reef:

Alteration of the submerged lands for the installation and removal of a total of approximately 65 eyebolts, each with one (1) associated PVC identification tag. If bolts cannot be removed without damaging the surrounding natural area, they may be abandoned; Placing lead core line, plastic clothesline and dacron line on the submerged lands; Discharge and recovery of zip ties and plastic flagging tape; and Discharge of epoxy to install bolts.

Permitted dates: February 12, 2021 through April 1, 2024

**Comments/Notes:** California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Scientific Collecting Permit (SCP) 2018-005486 and its amendment was approved by CDFW for research within the

Pacific Grove Marine Gardens State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA) and expires 8/21/2021. The permittee plans to request an amendment of the SCP to extend the expiration date.

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

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