

Dated: December 4, 2007.

William Corso,

Deputy Assistant Administrator, Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

[FR Doc. E7-23906 Filed 12-10-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-JE-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Availability of Seats for the Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council

AGENCY: National Marine Sanctuary Program (NMSPP), National Ocean Service (NOS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce (DOC).

ACTION: Notice and request for applications.

SUMMARY: The Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary (SBNMS or sanctuary) is seeking applicants for the following vacant seats on its Sanctuary Advisory Council (council): (1) *Diving* (Member and Alternate); (2) *Maritime Heritage* (Member and Alternate). Applicants are chosen based upon their particular expertise and experience in relation to the seat for which they are applying; community and professional affiliations; philosophy regarding the protection and management of marine resources; and possibly the length of residence in the area affected by the sanctuary. Applicants who are chosen as members should expect to serve 2-3 year terms, pursuant to the council's Charter.

DATES: Applications are due by January 10, 2008.

ADDRESSES: Application kits may be obtained from *Elizabeth.Stokes@noaa.gov*, SBNMS, 175 Edward Foster Road, Scituate, MA 02066. Tel: 781-545-8026 X 201. Completed applications should be sent to the same address.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: For further questions contact: *Nathalie.Ward@noaa.gov*, External Affairs Coordinator. Telephone: 781-545-8026, X 206.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council was established in March 2001 to assure continued public participation in the management of the Sanctuary. The Advisory Council's 23 members represent a variety of local user groups, as well as the general public, plus seven local, state and federal government

agencies. Since its establishment, the council has played a vital role in advising the Sanctuary and NOAA on critical issues and is currently focused on the sanctuary's new five-year Management Plan.

The Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary encompasses 842 square miles of ocean, stretching between Cape Ann and Cape Cod. Renowned for its scenic beauty and remarkable productivity, the sanctuary supports a rich diversity of marine life including 22 species of marine mammals, more than 30 species of seabirds, over 60 species of fishes, and hundreds of marine invertebrates and plants.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1431, *et seq.* (Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog Number 11.429 Marine Sanctuary Program)

Dated: November 30, 2007.

Daniel J. Basta,

Director, National Marine Sanctuary Program, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XC58

Marine Mammals; File No. 1039-1916

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice; denial of permit.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that a request for a scientific research permit [File No. 1039-1916] submitted by Ann Zoidis, Cetos Research Organization, 11 Des Isle Avenue, Bar Harbor, Maine has been denied.

ADDRESSES: The application and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s):

Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301)713-2289; fax (301)427-2521;

Pacific Islands Region, NMFS, 1601 Kapiolani Blvd., Rm 1110, Honolulu, HI 96814-4700; phone (808)973-2935; fax (808)973-2941; and

Northeast Region, NMFS, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930-2298; phone (978)281-9300; fax (978)281-9394.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jaclyn Daly or Carrie Hubbard, (301)713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On September 17, 2007, a notice was published in the **Federal Register** (72 FR 52862) that an application had been filed by the above named individual. The requested permit has been denied subject to the provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the regulations governing the taking and importing of marine mammals (50 CFR part 216), the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR 222-226).

The applicant requested authorization to conduct multiple activities, including suction-cup tagging, on cetaceans in Hawaiian waters and the Gulf of Maine. The purpose of the research would have been to determine abundance, distribution, habitat use, and foraging and social behavior of ESA and non-ESA listed species. Overall, the scope of the proposed research was too broad to determine if the objectives could be met by the applicant and if the manner in which the research would be conducted was consistent with the MMPA and ESA.

Dated: December 4, 2007.

P. Michael Payne,

Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XD79

Incidental Takes of Marine Mammals During Specified Activities; Black Abalone Research Surveys at San Nicolas Island, Ventura County, CA

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice; proposed incidental take authorization; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS has received an application from Dr. Glenn VanBlaricom (Dr. VanBlaricom) for an Incidental Harassment Authorization (IHA) to take small numbers of marine mammals, by harassment, incidental to the