

Specified Activities

USMC's proposed training operations involve the use of live (explosive) and inert (non-explosive) ordnance, and small boat maneuvers. These activities would occur at the in-water bombing targets Brant Island (BT-9) and Rattan Bay (BT-11) located in Pamlico Sound, North Carolina (NC).

Munitions firing training conducted on the water ranges includes air-to-surface (firing from aircraft to surface water targets) and surface-to-surface (firing from ship or boat to surface targets). The number of sorties that conduct these missions may vary from year to year. The deployment of live ordnance would only occur at BT-9; all munitions fired at BT-11 would be inert with the exception of a signal charge in practice bombs.

Surface-to-Surface Firing

Gunnery exercise is the only category of surface-to-surface activity currently conducted at BT-9 and BT-11. During this exercise, a small boat, typically operated by Special Boat Team personnel, uses a machine gun to attack a surface target that simulates another ship, boat, swimmer, floating mine or near-shore land targets. Boats conducting surface-to-surface firing activities will typically use 7.62 millimeter (mm) or .50 caliber (cal) machine guns; 40 mm grenade machine guns; or G911 concussion hand grenades. This exercise is usually a live-fire exercise, but blanks may be used so that the boat crews can practice their ship handling skills. BT-9 is the most common target used for gunnery exercises. A target is not used for the gunnery exercises employing the G911 Concussion grenade, as the goal of this specific training is to learn how to throw the grenade into the water.

Air-to-Surface Firing

There are four categories of air-to-surface activities conducted at the MCAS Cherry Point bombing targets: Mine laying, bombing, gunnery, and rocket exercises.

- **Mine Laying:** These activities involve a fixed-wing aircraft deploying inert mine shapes in an offensive or defensive pattern. Mine laying operations are conducted in the waters around BT-9. Mine laying exercises could include the use of Mark (MK)-62/63, MK-76, BDU-45, or Bomb Dummy Unit (BDU)-48 inert training shapes. Each training shape weighs 500/1000, 25, 500, and 10 (lbs.) (227/454, 11, 227, and 4.5 kg), respectively.

- **Bombing Exercise:** During these exercises, fixed-wing aircraft (two-four

craft) deliver bombs against surface maritime targets with the goal of destroying or disabling enemy ships or boats. These exercises occur during day and night. Air-to-surface bombing exercises employ either unguided or precision-guided munitions. Unguided munitions include MK-76 and BDU-45 inert training bombs, as well as the MK-80 series of inert bombs (no cluster munitions are authorized). Precision-guided munitions consist of laser-guided bombs (inert) and laser-guided training rounds (inert).

- **Gunnery Exercise:** Rotary-wing (and tilt-wing) gunnery exercises involve CH-53, UH-1, CH-46, MV-22, or H-60 rotary-wing aircraft with mounted 7.62 mm or .50 cal machine guns. Each gunner expends approximately 800 rounds of 7.62 mm or 200 rounds of .50 cal ammunition per exercise. Fixed-wing gunnery exercises involve two aircraft that begin descent to the target from an altitude of approximately 914 meters (m) (3,000 feet [ft]) while still several miles away. Within a distance of 1,219 m (4,000 ft) from the target, each aircraft fires a burst of approximately 30 rounds before descending to a minimum altitude of 305 m (1,000 ft) and then breaks off and repositions for another strafing run. This continues until each aircraft expends its exercise ordnance allowance of approximately 250 rounds. Typically fixed-wing gunnery exercises involve F/A-18 with Vulcan M61A1/A2, 20 mm cannon, and AV-8 with GAU-12, 25 mm cannon.

- **Rocket Exercise:** Fixed- and rotary-wing aircraft crews launch rockets at surface maritime targets during rocket exercises with the goal of destroying or disabling enemy ships or boats. Rocket exercises may occur day or night. These operations employ 2.75-inch (in) and 5-in rockets.

A suite of proposed mitigation and monitoring measures for marine mammals that would be applied during specific training activities includes: (1) Establishing and monitoring exclusion zones for marine mammals, (2) conducting range sweeps during the morning of each exercise day prior to range operations, and (3) conducting a cold pass by an aircraft immediately prior to ordnance delivery at the bombing targets.

Information Solicited

Interested persons may submit information, suggestions, and comments concerning USMC's request (see **ADDRESSES**). NMFS will consider all information, suggestions, and comments related to the request during the development of proposed regulations governing the incidental taking of

marine mammals by the USMC, if appropriate.

Dated: October 1, 2020.

Donna Wieting,

*Director, Office of Protected Resources,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 2020-22022 Filed 10-5-20; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XA532]

Marine Mammals; File No. 23807; Correction

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

ACTION: Notice; receipt of application for permit amendment; correction.

SUMMARY: On September 28, 2020, NMFS published a notice in the **Federal Register** announcing that NMFS had received an application for an amendment to Permit No. 23807 from Plimsoll Productions Limited, 51-55 Whiteladies Road, Bristol, BS8 2LY, United Kingdom (Responsible Party: Anuschka Schofield). That document did not reflect that filming may also occur up to 3 miles offshore from Colleton County, SC. This document corrects this error. All other information is unchanged.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Erin Markin or Carrie Hubard, (301) 427-8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The notice of receipt for a permit amendment (85 FR 60767; September 28, 2020) did not reflect that filming activities will occur up to 3 miles offshore of Colleton County, SC. In fact, the permit holder has requested to film up to 3 miles offshore from Charleston and Colleton Counties.

All other information contained in the document is unchanged.

Correction

In the **Federal Register** of September 28, 2020, in FR Doc. 2020-21334, on page 60767, in the second column, in the second paragraph under the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** heading, the third sentence is corrected to read as follows:

In addition, the permit holder is requesting to expand the filming area to up to 3 miles offshore from Charleston and Colleton Counties.

Dated: September 30, 2020.

Julia Marie Harrison,
Chief, Permits and Conservation Division,
Office of Protected Resources, National
Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2020-22032 Filed 10-5-20; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XA539]

Marine Mammals; File No. 23802

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

ACTION: Notice; receipt of application.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that University of Florida, Aquatic Animal Health Program, College of Veterinary Medicine, 2015 SW 16th Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32608 (Responsible Party: Michael Walsh, D.V.M.), has applied in due form for a permit to import, export, and receive marine mammal parts for scientific research.

DATES: Written, telefaxed, or email comments must be received on or before November 5, 2020.

ADDRESSES: The application and related documents are available for review by selecting "Records Open for Public Comment" from the "Features" box on the Applications and Permits for Protected Species (APPS) home page, <https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov>, and then selecting File No. 23802 from the list of available applications. These documents are also available upon written request via email to NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov.

Written comments on this application should be submitted via email to NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov. Please include File No. 23802 in the subject line of the email comment.

Those individuals requesting a public hearing should submit a written request via email to NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov. The request should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this application would be appropriate.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Shasta McClenahan or Jennifer Skidmore, (301) 427-8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject permit is requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (MMPA; 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.*), the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222-226), and the Fur Seal Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1151 *et seq.*).

The applicant proposes to receive, import, and export marine mammal parts to (1) analyze diagnostic samples; and (2) discover, investigate, and determine baseline levels for marine mammal health, infectious disease, microbiome, genetics, toxins, contaminants, nutrition, and reproduction. An unlimited number of samples from up to 700 individual cetaceans and 400 individual pinnipeds, excluding walrus, annually, may be received domestically and imported or exported world-wide. The requested duration of the permit is 5 years.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), an initial determination has been made that the activity proposed is categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, NMFS is forwarding copies of the application to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Dated: September 30, 2020.

Julia Marie Harrison,
Chief, Permits and Conservation Division,
Office of Protected Resources, National
Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2020-22028 Filed 10-5-20; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Technical Information Service

National Technical Information Service Advisory Board

AGENCY: National Technical Information Service.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the next meeting of the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) Advisory Board (the Advisory Board).

DATES: The Advisory Board will meet on Thursday, November 12, 2020 from 1:00 p.m. to approximately 4:30 p.m., Eastern Time, via teleconference.

ADDRESSES: The Advisory Board meeting will be via teleconference.

Please note attendance instructions under the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Daniel Ramsey, (703) 605-6703, DRamsey@ntis.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Advisory Board is established by Section 3704b(c) of Title 15 of the United States Code. The charter has been filed in accordance with the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App.). The Advisory Board reviews and makes recommendations to improve NTIS programs, operations, and general policies in support of NTIS' mission to advance Federal data priorities, promote economic growth, and enable operational excellence by providing innovative data services to Federal agencies through joint venture partnerships with the private sector.

The meeting will focus on a review of the progress NTIS has made in implementing its data mission and strategic direction. A final agenda and summary of the proceedings will be posted on the NTIS website as soon as they are available (<http://www.ntis.gov/about/advisorybd.aspx>).

The teleconference will be via controlled access. Members of the public interested in attending via teleconference or speaking are requested to contact Mr. Ramsey at the contact information listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section above not later than Friday, November 6, 2020. If there are sufficient expressions of interest, up to one-half hour will be reserved for public oral comments during the session. Speakers will be selected on a first-come, first-served basis. Each speaker will be limited to five minutes. Questions from the public will not be considered during this period.

Speakers who wish to expand upon their oral statements, those who had wished to speak but could not be accommodated on the agenda, and those who were unable to attend are invited to submit written statements by emailing Mr. Ramsey at the email address provided in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section above.

Dated: September 24, 2020.

Gregory Capella,
Deputy Director.

[FR Doc. 2020-22024 Filed 10-5-20; 8:45 am]

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