

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Danielle Jayewardene, NMFS Pacific Islands Regional Office (PIRO) Protected Resources Division, [danielle.jayewardene@noaa.gov](mailto:danielle.jayewardene@noaa.gov), 808-725-5143.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****Background**

On September 10, 2014, we, NMFS, listed 15 Indo-Pacific coral species as threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) (79 FR 53851; September 10, 2014). The 15 listed species are *Acropora globiceps*, *Acropora jacquelineae*, *Acropora lokani*, *Acropora pharaonis*, *Acropora retusa*, *Acropora rudis*, *Acropora speciosa*, *Acropora tenella*, *Anacropora spinosa*, *Euphyllia paradivisa*, *Isopora crateriformis*, *Montipora australiensis*, *Pavona diffluens*, *Porites napopora*, and *Seriatopora aculeata*. The final listing rule describes the background of the listing action for these species and provides a summary of our conclusions regarding their status. For additional background and information about these species, the reader is referred to our species web pages (available at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/corals#by-species>).

NMFS is required by section 4(f) of the ESA to develop and implement recovery plans for the conservation and survival of federally listed species unless the Secretary finds that such a plan will not promote the conservation of the species. Recovery means that listed species and their ecosystems are restored, and their future secured, so that the protections of the ESA are no longer necessary. The ESA specifies that recovery plans are to include (1) a description of site-specific management actions necessary to achieve the plan's goals for the conservation and survival of the species; (2) objective, measurable criteria which, when met, would result in the species being removed from the list; and (3) estimates of the time and costs required to carry out the actions and achieve the plan's conservation goals. Under section 4(f) of the ESA, public notice and an opportunity for public review and comment are also provided during recovery plan development.

This notice serves as the first public notice and opportunity for public input early in the process. Once a recovery plan has been drafted, it will be announced in the **Federal Register** and available on our website (see **ADDRESSES** section) for public review and comment before being finalized.

**Recovery Planning Workshop Announcement**

From Wednesday May 5, 2021 through Thursday May 27, 2021, NMFS will hold a virtual workshop in four sessions to help inform our recovery planning for these 15 coral species (see **DATES** section). We are inviting experts and stakeholders in specific topic areas, including the species' biology/ecology, threats to the species and the species' habitat, the recovery planning process itself, and coral and coral reef conservation and management. These experts and stakeholders will help us to identify potential actions to address the threats to the species, identify gaps in knowledge and associated research needs, as well as begin developing recovery criteria for the species. Identified experts and stakeholders include representatives of Federal and state agencies, scientific experts, and individuals from conservation partners and nongovernmental organizations.

NMFS will provide a moderator to manage the workshop as well as note takers to document input received. We are seeking facts and information; we will not be asking for consensus recommendations on how to recover these 15 coral species. NMFS will prepare a summary of the workshop, noting the main points raised by the participants.

This workshop will be open to the public, and a public comment period will be provided at the end of each session. If you plan to attend the workshop as an interested member of the public, please contact Danielle Jayewardene at the address listed above by April 21, 2021, so we can ensure sufficient online connectivity for participants and interested parties during our logistics planning.

**Agenda**

- May 5/May 6 Session I will focus on introducing ESA recovery planning for the listed Indo-Pacific coral species.
- May 12/May 13 Session II will focus on recovery approaches for the listed Indo-Pacific coral species.
- May 19/May 20 Session III will focus on recovery criteria for the listed Indo-Pacific coral species.
- May 26/May 27 Session IV will focus on recovery actions for the listed Indo-Pacific coral species.

The workshop is accessible to persons with disabilities. Send requests for accessibility accommodations by April 21, 2021 to Danielle Jayewardene, [danielle.jayewardene@noaa.gov](mailto:danielle.jayewardene@noaa.gov), 808-725-5143.

**Authority:** 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*

Dated: March 19, 2021.

**Donna S. Wieting,**

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

[FR Doc. 2021-06081 Filed 3-23-21; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[RTID 0648-XA959]

**Marine Mammals; File No. 25581**

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

**ACTION:** Notice; receipt of application.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that Freedive Pictures, Ltd, St. Stephens Avenue Bristol, United Kingdom, BS1 1YL, (Responsible Party: Sophie Morgan), has applied in due form for a permit to conduct commercial or educational photography on marine mammals.

**DATES:** Written, telefaxed, or email comments must be received on or before April 23, 2021.

**ADDRESSES:** These documents are available upon written request via email to [NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov](mailto:NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov).

Written comments on this application should be submitted via email to [NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov](mailto:NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov). Please include File No. 25581 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](mailto: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, Ph.D. or Erin Markin, Ph.D., (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.*) and the regulations governing the taking and importing of marine mammals (50 CFR part 216).

The applicant proposes to film marine mammals in Hawaii, California, and Alaska for a film showcasing the wonders of the Pacific Ocean. Above water or underwater filming may occur from land, vessels, or an unmanned aircraft system. Species to be filmed in the day or night include up to 1,750 humpback whales (*Megaptera novaeangliae*; Hawaii distinct

population segment), 200 gray whales (*Eschrichtius robustus*), 100 killer whales (*Orcinus orca*), 200 harbor porpoises (*Phocoena phocoena*), 200 Dall's porpoises (*Phocoenoides dalli*), 800 bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*), 1,000 spinner dolphins (*Stenella longirostris*), 1,500 short-beaked common dolphins (*Delphinus delphis*), 1,500 long-beaked common dolphin (*Delphinus capensis*), 600 Pacific white sided dolphin (*Lagenorhynchus obliquidens*), 300 pantropical spotted dolphin (*Stenella attenuata*), 300 harbor seals (*Phoca vitulina*), and 2,000 California sea lions (*Zalophus californianus*), annually. The permit would be valid for two 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: March 19, 2021.

**Amy Sloan,**

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

[FR Doc. 2021-06056 Filed 3-23-21; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Office of the Secretary

[Transmittal No. 21-29]

### Arms Sales Notification

**AGENCY:** Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Department of Defense (DoD).

**ACTION:** Arms sales notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Defense is publishing the unclassified text of an arms sales notification.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Karma Job at [karma.d.job.civ@mail.mil](mailto:karma.d.job.civ@mail.mil) or (703) 697-8976.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This 36(b)(1) arms sales notification is published to fulfill the requirements of section 155 of Public Law 104-164 dated July 21, 1996. The following is a copy of a letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Transmittal 21-29 with attached Policy Justification.

Dated: March 19, 2021.

**Aaron T. Siegel,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*

**BILLING CODE 5001-06-P**