SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish a notice of permit applications received to conduct activities regulated under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978. NSF has published regulations under the Antarctic Conservation Act in the Code of Federal Regulations. This is the required notice of permit applications received.

DATES: Interested parties are invited to submit written data, comments, or views with respect to this permit application by January 20, 2023. This application may be inspected by interested parties at the Permit Office, address below.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to Permit Officer, Office of Polar Programs, National Science Foundation, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, Virginia 22314 or ACApermits@nsf.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Andrew Titmus, ACA Permit Officer, at the above address, 703–292–4479.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Science Foundation, as directed by the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95–541, 45 CFR 671), as amended by the Antarctic Science, Tourism and Conservation Act of 1996, has developed regulations for the establishment of a permit system for various activities in Antarctica and designation of certain animals and certain geographic areas as requiring special protection. The regulations establish such a permit system to designate Antarctic Specially Protected Areas.

Application Details

Permit Application: 2023–026


Activity for Which Permit is Requested: Enter Antarctic Specially Protected Area. The applicant seeks an ACA permit for the purposes of marine transit of U.S. Antarctic Program chartered vessels through Antarctic Specially Protected Areas (ASPA) to gather professional video footage, still photographs, and to interview scientists in support of National Science Foundation (NSF) directed news and public outreach projects and releases. Visits would occur to ASPAs in conjunction with valid scientific activities for the express purposes of gathering footage and information on scientific research, general scenic locations, and interviews with scientists working in the field. With historic huts only tripods or monopods with flat bottomed rubber bases would be used. All visits would

Location: ASPA 145—Port Foster, Deception Island, South Shetland Islands; ASPA 152—Western Bransfield Strait; ASPA 153—Eastern Dallmann Bay.

Dates of Permitted Activities: February 1, 2023–January 31, 2028.

Permit Application: 2023–027


Activity for Which Permit is Requested: Enter Antarctic Specially Protected Area. The applicant seeks an ACA permit for the purposes of recreational and educational visits to several historic huts in the vicinity of McMurdo Station. Visits would occur at Scott’s hut at Cape Evans (ASPA 155), Shackleton’s hut at Cape Royds (ASPA 157), Scott’s Discovery hut at Hut Point (ASPA 158), and at Cape Adare (ASPA 159). Access to sites would be by tracked vehicle, helicopter, or on foot as appropriate. All visits would be conducted in accordance with the management plan for each specific site. Procedures for monitoring numbers of U.S. Antarctic Program visitors throughout the season would be implemented.

Location: ASPA 155—Cape Evans, Ross Island; ASPA 157—Backdoor Bay, Cape Royds, Ross Island; ASPA 158—Hut Point, Ross Island; ASPA 159—Cape Adare, Borchgrevink Coast.

Dates of Permitted Activities: February 1, 2023–January 31, 2028.

Permit Application: 2023–028


Activity for Which Permit is Requested: Enter Antarctic Specially Protected Area. The applicant seeks an ACA permit for the purposes of entering Antarctic Specially Protected Areas (ASPA) to gather professional video footage, still photographs, and to interview scientists in support of National Science Foundation (NSF) directed news and public outreach projects and releases. Visits would occur to ASPAs in conjunction with valid scientific activities for the express purposes of gathering footage and information on scientific research, general scenic locations, and interviews with scientists working in the field. With historic huts only tripods or monopods with flat bottomed rubber bases would be used. All visits would

Location: ASPA 145—Port Foster, Deception Island, South Shetland Islands; ASPA 152—Western Bransfield Strait; ASPA 153—Eastern Dallmann Bay.

Dates of Permitted Activities: February 1, 2023–January 31, 2028.

Permit Application: 2023–027