

Dates of Permitted Activities:
December 1, 2024–November 30, 2029.

Alina Pavao,

Administrative Assistant, Office of Polar Programs.

[FR Doc. 2024–25351 Filed 10–30–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–P

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Notice of Permit Applications Received Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Notice of permit applications received.

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 December 2, 2024. This application may be inspected by interested parties at the Permit Office, address below.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to Permit Office, 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: 2025–021

1. *Applicant:* Sujatha Bagal, National Geographic Society, 1145 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20036

Activity for Which Permit is Requested: Waste Management. The

applicant seeks an Antarctic Conservation Act permit in association with Waste Management activities in Antarctica. The applicant proposes to conduct a multidisciplinary research project in the Weddell Sea involving the use of a Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS), a Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV), and a benthic camera (drop cam). For RPAS use, flights will only occur under fair weather conditions and be operated by an experienced pilot. No flights would occur in the vicinity of wildlife, and no flights would occur over Antarctic Specially Protected Areas or Historic Sites and Monuments. The dropcam would be deployed to a max depth of 3,500 m for up to four hours. A biodegradable anchor would be released to the environment with each camera deployment. All visits ashore would follow Visitor Site Guidelines where applicable.

Location: Weddell Sea, Antarctica.

Dates of Permitted Activities:
December 14, 2024–January 4, 2025.

Permit Application: 2025–020

2. *Applicant:* Ari S. Friedlaender, Institute for Marine Sciences, UC Santa Cruz, 115 McAllister Way, Santa Cruz, CA 95003.

Activity for Which Permit is Requested: Waste Management. The applicant proposes to conduct research around the Antarctic Peninsula to determine the ecological role of cetaceans. Sensor tags would be used to collect data on the underwater movement and behavior of the whales. The applicant would collect skin and blubber biopsy samples to gain a better understanding of the identity, population structure, and health of the whales. The applicant would operate Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) to collect photographs of individual whales for health assessment purposes. The applicant would collaborate with Antarctic tour operators that would provide platforms to the applicant's research team in order to gather data during time periods that are undersampled. The applicant is seeking a waste permit to cover any accidental releases that may occur if the biopsy darts, tags, and/or remotely piloted aircraft are lost. The research teams would be comprised of experienced researchers and RPAS pilots. The applicant would minimize the risk of generating waste and losing any equipment due to human error. The applicant would also conduct activities under conditions (weather, sea state, etc.) allowing the applicant and team to maintain visual contact with instrumentation and equipment as well

as aid in retrieval as needed. Multi-sensor, suction cup tags would be attached to whales. When they are shed, they float and are retrieved using radio telemetry tracking tools. While tag failure is rare, a lost tag would constitute waste in the form of 300 grams of syntactic foam, 100 grams of electronics and 20 grams of silicon suction cups. Biopsy sampling is done with a crossbow firing a floating dart, made of aluminum and carbon fiber, that bounces off the whale's body after extracting a tiny plug of tissue. The biopsy bolt tips are a 40 mm stainless steel barrel and the bolts also contain a 5x2cm foam float that is used to aid in dart retrieval. The bolts are highly visible and remain at the surface for retrieval. An observer would maintain visual contact with the bolt until retrieval. The successful retrieval rate is very high (only 3 bolts lost in over 500 sampling events). The UAS/RPAS would be operated by experienced pilots according to protocols designed to ensure safe operations and to minimize the risk of loss. The commercial, off-the-shelf aircraft are powered by lithium polymer batteries and do not require any fuels. Loss of aircraft would result in a minor amount of plastic and metal waste from the frame and camera as well as non-toxic (no lead or cadmium) lithium polymer batteries.

Location: Antarctic Peninsula Region.

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POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. MC2025–151 and K2025–149; MC2025–152 and K2025–150; MC2025–153 and K2025–151; MC2025–154 and K2025–152; MC2025–155 and K2025–153; MC2025–156 and K2025–154; MC2025–157 and K2025–155; MC2025–158 and K2025–156]

New Postal Products

AGENCY: Postal Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commission is noticing a recent Postal Service filing for the Commission's consideration concerning a negotiated service agreement. This notice informs the public of the filing, invites public comment, and takes other administrative steps.

DATES: *Comments are due:* November 1, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments electronically via the Commission's Filing Online system at <http://www.prc.gov>. Those who cannot submit comments electronically should contact the person identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section by telephone for advice on filing alternatives.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David A. Trissell, General Counsel, at 202-789-6820.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

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I. Introduction

Pursuant to 39 CFR 3041.405, the Commission gives notice that the Postal Service filed request(s) for the Commission to consider matters related to Competitive negotiated service agreement(s). The request(s) may propose the addition of a negotiated service agreement from the Competitive product list or the modification of an existing product currently appearing on the Competitive product list.

The public portions of the Postal Service's request(s) can be accessed via the Commission's website (<http://www.prc.gov>). Non-public portions of the Postal Service's request(s), if any, can be accessed through compliance with the requirements of 39 CFR 3011.301.¹

Section II identifies the docket number(s) associated with each Postal Service request, if any, that will be reviewed in a public proceeding as defined by 39 CFR 3010.101(p), the title of each such request, the request's acceptance date, and the authority cited by the Postal Service for each request. For each such request, the Commission appoints an officer of the Commission to represent the interests of the general public in the proceeding, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505 and 39 CFR 3000.114 (Public Representative). Section II also establishes comment deadline(s) pertaining to each such request.

The Commission invites comments on whether the Postal Service's request(s) identified in Section II, if any, are consistent with the policies of title 39. Applicable statutory and regulatory requirements include 39 U.S.C. 3632, 39 U.S.C. 3633, 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR part 3035, and 39 CFR part 3041.

¹ See Docket No. RM2018-3, Order Adopting Final Rules Relating to Non-Public Information, June 27, 2018, Attachment A at 19-22 (Order No. 4679).

Comment deadline(s) for each such request, if any, appear in Section II.

Section III identifies the docket number(s) associated with each Postal Service request, if any, to add a standardized distinct product to the Competitive product list or to amend a standardized distinct product, the title of each such request, the request's acceptance date, and the authority cited by the Postal Service for each request. Standardized distinct products are negotiated service agreements that are variations of one or more Competitive products, and for which financial models, minimum rates, and classification criteria have undergone advance Commission review. See 39 CFR 3041.110(n); 39 CFR 3041.205(a). Such requests are reviewed in summary proceedings pursuant to 39 CFR 3041.325(c)(2) and 39 CFR 3041.505(f)(1). Pursuant to 39 CFR 3041.405(c)-(d), the Commission does not appoint a Public Representative or request public comment in proceedings to review such requests.

II. Public Proceeding(s)

1. *Docket No(s).*: MC2025-151 and K2025-149; *Filing Title*: USPS Request to Add Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 529 to the Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing Materials Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date*: October 24, 2024; *Filing Authority*: 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR 3035.105, and 39 CFR 3041.310; *Public Representative*: Elsie Lee-Robbins; *Comments Due*: November 1, 2024.

2. *Docket No(s).*: MC2025-152 and K2025-150; *Filing Title*: USPS Request to Add Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 530 to the Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing Materials Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date*: October 24, 2024; *Filing Authority*: 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR 3035.105, and 39 CFR 3041.310; *Public Representative*: Maxine Bradley; *Comments Due*: November 1, 2024.

3. *Docket No(s).*: MC2025-153 and K2025-151; *Filing Title*: USPS Request to Add Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 531 to the Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing Materials Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date*: October 24, 2024; *Filing Authority*: 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR 3035.105, and 39 CFR 3041.310; *Public Representative*: Jennaca Upperman; *Comments Due*: November 1, 2024.

4. *Docket No(s).*: MC2025-154 and K2025-152; *Filing Title*: USPS Request to Add Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 408 to the

Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing Materials Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date*: October 24, 2024; *Filing Authority*: 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR 3035.105, and 39 CFR 3041.310; *Public Representative*: Katalin Clendenin; *Comments Due*: November 1, 2024.

5. *Docket No(s).*: MC2025-155 and K2025-153; *Filing Title*: USPS Request to Add Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 532 to the Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing Materials Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date*: October 24, 2024; *Filing Authority*: 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR 3035.105, and 39 CFR 3041.310; *Public Representative*: Katalin Clendenin; *Comments Due*: November 1, 2024.

6. *Docket No(s).*: MC2025-156 and K2025-154; *Filing Title*: USPS Request to Add Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 533 to the Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing Materials Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date*: October 24, 2024; *Filing Authority*: 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR 3035.105, and 39 CFR 3041.310; *Public Representative*: Gregory Stanton; *Comments Due*: November 1, 2024.

7. *Docket No(s).*: MC2025-157 and K2025-155; *Filing Title*: USPS Request to Add Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 534 to the Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing Materials Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date*: October 24, 2024; *Filing Authority*: 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR 3035.105, and 39 CFR 3041.310; *Public Representative*: Gregory Stanton; *Comments Due*: November 1, 2024.

8. *Docket No(s).*: MC2025-158 and K2025-156; *Filing Title*: USPS Request to Add Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 535 to the Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing Materials Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date*: October 24, 2024; *Filing Authority*: 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR 3035.105, and 39 CFR 3041.310; *Public Representative*: Gregory Stanton; *Comments Due*: November 1, 2024.

III. Summary Proceeding(s)

None. See Section II for public proceedings.

This Notice will be published in the **Federal Register**.

Jennie L. Jbara,

Primary Certifying Official.

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