

***Issued MBNMS Permits, Amendments and Authorizations  
(11/27/2019 to 2/6/2019)***

***Report created for the***

***February 21, 2020***

***Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting***

**MBNMS-2020-002**

**Permit Type:** Education

**Permit Holder Name (Affiliation):** Sarah Conner (Wild Space Productions)

**Project Title:** Low overflight activities conducted in Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary under National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) or United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) permits issued to Wild Space Productions and bolt installation for the Netflix series on National Parks

**Project Location(s):** NOAA Regulated Overflight Zones in MBNMS as indicated in the "Permitted Activity Description" and "Special Terms and Conditions" in this permit.

**Permitted Activity:** Flying Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) at no less than 50 feet Above Sea Level (ASL) within all four of the NOAA Regulated Overflight Zones in order to collect aerial images of wildlife and landscapes in MBNMS as authorized by National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) or United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) permits issued to Wild Space Productions and Alteration of submerged lands to place up to two (2) bolts outside of California state Marine Protected Area (MPAs) to mark the center of the time-lapse camera tripod consistently.

**Permitted dates:** January 31, 2020 through February 28, 2021

**Comments/Notes:** Footage will be provided to use as educational materials by NOAA

**MBNMS-2019-029**

**Permit Type:** SUP

**Permit Holder Name (Affiliation):** Sarah Conner (Wild Space Productions)

**Project Title:** Netflix series on National Parks

**Project Location(s):** NOAA Regulated Overflight Zones in MBNMS as indicated in the "Permitted Activity Description" and "Special Terms and Conditions" in this permit.

**Permitted Activity:** Flying Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) at no less than 50 feet Above Sea Level (ASL) within all four of the NOAA Regulated Overflight Zones in order to collect aerial images of landscapes in MBNMS. Overflights with UAS can be conducted for up to 11 days and Placement and recovery of tripods on the submerged lands to collect underwater time-lapse imagery for up to 21 days.

**Permitted dates:** January 31, 2020 through February 28, 2021

**Comments/Notes:** Fee assessed

### **MBNMS-2019-038**

**Permit Type:** Research

**Permit Holder Name (Affiliation):** Niko Kaplanis (University of California, Santa Cruz)

**Project Title:** A comparison of structure-from-motion (SfM) photogrammetry and traditional long-term rocky intertidal monitoring survey methods

**Project Location(s):** Scott Creek Multi-Agency Rocky Intertidal Network (MARINe) study site

**Permitted Activity:** Flying an Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) within the Santa Cruz NOAA Regulated Overflight Zone in order to collect low altitude aerial imagery of one (1) specific rocky intertidal survey site for evaluating how a structure-from-motion (SfM) survey may be used to complement existing long-term biological monitoring at rocky intertidal field sites. The UAS may be flown at a minimum of 5 meters Above Ground Level (AGL) above the rocky reef exposed at low tide. The UAS may be used during no more than two (2) field days.

**Permitted dates:** no more than two (2) field days between daylight hours from January 5, 2020 and January 11, 2020

**Comments/Notes:** Access to this study site by the MARINe group is covered under MBNMS permit MULTI-2017-010-A3 and CDFW permit S-183160003-18316-001.

### **MBNMS-2019-035**

**Permit Type:** Research

**Permit Holder Name (Affiliation):** Joseph Sisneros (University of Washington)

**Project Title:** Changes in Saccular Hair Cell Density During Ontogeny of the Plainfin Midshipman Fish

**Project Location(s):** Monterey Bay

**Permitted Activity:** Alteration of the submerged lands to conduct approximately five (5) otter trawls of approximately 10 minutes of bottom time each, to collect plainfin midshipman fish (*Porichthys notatus*) for researching how auditory hair cell receptor density changes during ontogeny (development) in midshipman

**Permitted dates:** one (1) day between 12:01 AM on January 21, 2020 and 11:59 PM on January 23, 2020

**Comments/Notes:** CDFW SCP-12979

### **MBNMS-2018-013-A1**

**Permit Type:** Research

**Permit Holder Name (Affiliation):** John O'Sullivan and George Peterson (Monterey Bay Aquarium)

**Project Title:** Whale Falls in Monterey Bay: How sinking whales provide a food source for uniquely developed species in the deep sea.

**Project Location(s):**

The shoreline area of operations are defined by the coastline area from Carmel Bay (Monastery Beach) to Davenport.

Distance offshore for collecting drifting whales will not exceed 55 km.

Approximate sink site locations are:

Site #1 (Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI) site Whale 1018)

36.772°N, 122.083°W

Site #2 (MBARI site Whale 1820) 36.708°N, 122.105°W

Site #3 (MBARI's Monterey Accelerated Research System (MARS) site) 36.7123° N, 122.1868° W

Site #4 (MBARI site Whale 385m) 36.790°N, 121.887 °W

**Permitted Activity:** To support the collection of invertebrate fauna of the genus *Osedax* (bone eating worms) for exhibit as part of the Monterey Bay Aquarium's upcoming Deep Experience

Exhibit: Placing one (1) to three (3) railroad wheels per whale for up to three (3) whales over the period of the permit on the submerged lands of the Sanctuary (maximum of nine (9) railroad wheels); Abandonment of one (1) to three (3) railroad wheels per whale for up to three (3) whales over the period of the permit on the submerged lands of the Sanctuary (maximum of nine (9) railroad wheels); Discharging and recovering one (1) acoustic beacon per whale for up to three (3) whales over the period of the permit; Discharging and recovering nylon straps used to attach the wheels and beacons to each whale; Placing and recovering up to two (2) "bone cams" per year on the submerged lands of the Sanctuary to document post-sinking utilization of the whale; and Incidentally attracting any white shark within the sanctuary while towing a whale carcass from the shoreline to a sink site.

**Permitted dates:** December 20, 2019 through December 20, 2023

**Comments/Notes:** Site #1 is within Sanctuary Ecologically Significant Area (SESA) #6 and Site #3 is within SESA #7, no sinking within California State MPAs; amended to add Site #4

### **MBNMS-2019-033**

**Permit Type:** Research

**Permit Holder Name (Affiliation):** David Weller (Southwest Fisheries Science Center)

**Project Title:** Collect aerial images with unmanned aerial systems (UAS) to count gray whales and estimate body condition and nutritional status

**Project Location(s):** The UAS will be launched/landed from the Piedras Blancas Light Station and the Granite Canyon Marine Pollution Studies Laboratory and the UAS operations areas will be within visual line of sight of the flight team, at lateral distances of up to 1000m (4280 feet) from the launch site for the hexacopter and octocopter and up to 1850m (6700 feet or 1 nautical mile) for the larger vertical take-off and landing (VTOL) fixed-wing.

**Permitted Activity:** Flying an Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) at no less than 100 feet (30 meters) above sea level (ASL) within the NOAA Regulated Overflight Zone along the Big Sur coast in order to collect aerial images of gray whales to estimate their body condition and nutritional status. See Special Terms and Conditions for further details.

**Permitted dates:** December 16, 2019 through October 31, 2024

**Comments/Notes:** In 2017, ONMS issued permit number MBNMS-2017-008 to John Durban of Southwest Fisheries Science Center for the project entitled: Collect aerial images with unmanned aerial systems (UAS) to estimate the body condition and nutritional status of gray whales but John left SWFSC this year and ONMS permits are not transferable. SWFSC did add the Granite Canyon Marine Pollution Studies Laboratory this year.

### **MULTI-2019-002-A1**

**Permit Type:** Research and Education

**Permit Holder Name (Affiliation):** John O'Sullivan (Monterey Bay Aquarium)

**Project Title:** Deep sea coral collections in Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS), including within Davidson Seamount Management Zone, and Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (CINMS); How a live coral exhibit can motivate the public to understand the need to protect these unique deep water habitats and how corals held ex-situ can give insight into captive growth (husbandry) and by-catch survival.

**Project Location(s):** Throughout MBNMS and CINMS, except within federal marine reserves or marine conservation areas, and as specified in the Special Terms and Conditions

**Permitted Activity:** The following activities are authorized by this permit to showcase the unique animals, threats, research, education, and conservation topics associated with animals in the deep-sea environment through the Monterey Bay Aquarium's multi-year Deep Exhibition:

- Alteration of submerged lands of the sanctuaries for landing the ROV and collection of biological and geological samples, as follows:

- Collection of sponges and corals by the watch lead or ROV pilot after consultation with the Lead Scientist
  - Collection of invertebrates, other than sponges and corals
  - Collection for up to 95 kilograms per year of rock, shell, and benthic rubble
- Placement of structures, i.e. up to three (3) passive homing beacons, on the submerged lands of MBNMS for up to 8 months per year on Sur Ridge.
- Take (within limits outlined in this amendment) and possession of sanctuary resources within Davidson Seamount Management Zone.

**Permitted dates:** December 11, 2019 through December 20, 2020

**Comments/Notes:** Permittee has a valid California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Scientific Collecting Permit (SCP) SC-2026 which is valid through 6/25/21. Amendment processed to add requested deployments and recovery of up to three (3) passive beacons for up to eight (8) months per year on Sur Ridge in MBNMS.

### **MBNMS-2019-019**

**Permit Type:** Research

**Permit Holder Name (Affiliation):** Chris Scholin (Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute)

**Project Title:** Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI) Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Program

**Project Location(s):** within NOAA Regulated Overflight Zones offshore of Moss Landing and Santa Cruz /Davenport

**Permitted Activity:** Flying an Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) at no less than 60 meters above sea level (ASL) within specific NOAA Regulated Overflight Zones in MBNMS (with deviations only for launching and landing/recovery) to support MBARI's Research, Marine Operations, and Education and Outreach efforts.

**Permitted dates:** December 2, 2019 through December 31, 2020

**Comments/Notes:** N/A

### **MBNMS-2019-034**

**Permit Type:** SUP

**Permit Holder Name (Affiliation):** Bonnie Gallanter (Valkyr Productions, LLC)

**Project Title:** Promotional video shoot for a new car by Valkyr Productions around Bixby Bridge

**Project Location(s):** Big Sur NOAA Regulated Overflight Zone: Westward of Highway 1 for up to 3 miles in either direction of Bixby Bridge.

**Permitted Activity:** Low overflights at no less than 197 feet Above Sea Level (ASL) with one (1) Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) within the Big Sur NOAA Regulated Overflight Zone in MBNMS to capture aerial photography at one (1) permitted activity locations along Highway 1 for up to two (2) days of flights and up to approximately 10 flights per day.

**Permitted dates:** December 2 through December 10, 2019. Planned aerial photography will be collected on December 2 and 3, 2019. December 4 to 10, 2019 are weather days.

**Comments/Notes:** Fee assessed

### **MBNMS-2019-009-A1**

**Permit Type:** Assist in Sanctuary Management

**Permit Holder Name (Affiliation):** Peggy Stap (Marine Life Studies, Whale Entanglement Team)

**Project Title:** Derelict Crab Pot Retrieval

**Project Location(s):** In Monterey Bay proper outside of Moss Landing

**Permitted Activity:** Alteration of submerged lands of the sanctuaries for landing the ROV, removing lost crab pots, and incidental contact of the seafloor with a grapple, while catching the

lines in the water column, in order to remove lost fishing gear from MBNMS for a total of ten (10) days during the off season of crab fishing.

**Permitted dates:** November 28, 2019 to November 1, 2020

**Comments/Notes:** A Designated Retriever may retrieve lost or abandoned trap gear in an area starting 15 calendar days after the commercial Dungeness crab fishing season closes in that area pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 8276.

If you are interested in learning more about a specific permit, amendment or authorization action, please contact:

**Sophie De Beukelaer**

Permit Coordinator and GIS Specialist  
Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary  
99 Pacific Street, Building 455A  
Monterey CA 93940  
Phone: (831) 647-1286  
**[sophie.debeukelaer@noaa.gov](mailto:sophie.debeukelaer@noaa.gov)**