



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XD236]

Marine Mammals and Endangered Species

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

ACTION: Notice; issuance of permits.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that permits have been issued to the following entities under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) and the Endangered Species Act (ESA), as applicable.

ADDRESSES: The permits and related documents are available for review upon written request via email to NMFS.PrIComments@noaa.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jennifer Skidmore (Permit No. 26774 and 27233), Courtney Smith, Ph.D. (Permit No. 27057), Sara Young (Permit No. 26767), Carrie Hubard (Permit No. 27193), and Shasta McClenahan, Ph.D. (Permit No. 27066); at (301) 427-8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notices were published in the **Federal Register** on the dates listed below that requests for a permit had been submitted by the below-named applicants. To locate the **Federal Register** notice that announced our receipt of the application and a complete description of the activities, go to <https://www.federalregister.gov> and search on the permit number provided in Table 1 below.

Table 1 -- Issued Permits

Permit No.	RTID	Applicant	Previous Federal Register Notice	Issuance Date
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26767	0648-XC905	Sarah Kienle, Ph.D., Baylor University, One Bear Place No. 97388, Waco, TX 76798	88 FR 21183, April 10, 2023	July 11, 2023
26774	0648-XC992	John P. Wise, Sr., Ph.D., University of Louisville, 500 S. Preston Street, Suite 1319, Louisville, KY 40202	88 FR 30281, May 11, 2023	July 3, 2023
27057	0648-XC785	Howard Rosenbaum, Ph.D., Wildlife Conservation Society, 2300 Southern Blvd., Bronx, NY 10460	88 FR 19617, April 3, 2023	July 12, 2023
27066	0648-XC836	NMFS Northeast Fisheries Science Center, 166 Water Street, Woods Hole, MA 02543 (Responsible Party: Jon Hare, Ph.D.)	88 FR 15981, March 15, 2023	July 24, 2023
27193	0648-XC841	MeatEater, Inc., 131 Discovery Drive Bozeman, MT 59718, (Responsible Party: Jason Roehrig)	88 FR 17184, March 22, 2023	July 24, 2023
27233	0648-XD020	David Portnoy, Ph.D., Texas A&M University, 6300 Ocean Drive, Unite 5892, Corpus Christi, TX 78412	88 FR 31248, May 16, 2023	July 17, 2023

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

As required by the ESA, as applicable, issuance of these permit was based on a finding that such permits: (1) were applied for in good faith; (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of such endangered species; and (3) are consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in Section 2 of the ESA.

Authority: The requested permits have been issued under the MMPA of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the regulations governing the taking and importing of marine mammals (50 CFR part 216), the ESA of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222-226), as applicable.

Dated: August 8, 2023.

Julia M. Harrison,

Chief, Permits and Conservation Division,

Office of Protected Resources,

National Marine Fisheries Service.

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