



## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XF514]

#### Marine Mammals and Endangered Species

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

**ACTION:** Notice; issuance of permits, permit amendments, and permit modifications.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that permits, permit amendments, and permit modifications have been issued 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](mailto:NMFS.PrIComments@noaa.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Courtney Smith, Ph.D. (File No. 26599), Sara Young (File No. 28810), Erin Markin, Ph.D. (File No. 29010), and Shasta McClenahan, Ph.D. (File No. 29182); at (301) 427-8401.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** 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. Notices were published in the **Federal Register** on the dates listed below that requests had been submitted. 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 for the file number provided in table 1 below.

**Table 1 -- Issued Permits, Permit Amendments, and Permit Modifications**

File No.	Version No.	RTID	Applicant	Previous <b>Federal Register</b> Notice	Issuance Date
26599	01	0648-XC426	Florian Graner, Ph.D., Sea-Life Productions, 4021 Beach Drive, Freeland, WA 98249	87 FR 65040, October 27, 2022	December 9, 2025
28810	N/A	0648-XE875	NMFS Marine Mammal Laboratory, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115 (Responsible Party: Nancy Friday)	90 FR 35284, July 25 2025	January 9, 2026
29010	01	0648-XF251	Caribbean Oceanic Restoration and Education Foundation, 2608 Fish Bay, St. John, VI 00830 (Responsible Party: Rebecca Gibbel, DVM)	90 FR 52357, November 20, 2025	January 22, 2026
29182	N/A	0648-XF380	Shayna Orens, Cornell University, 235 Hungerford Hill Rd, Ithaca, NY 14850	90 FR 57952, December 15, 2025	January 23, 2026

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 permits 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.

Dated: February 13, 2026.

**Shannon Bettridge,**

*Chief, Marine Mammal and Sea Turtle Conservation Division,*

*Office of Protected Resources,*

*National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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