



# MARINE MAMMAL COMMISSION

2 April 2018

Ms. Jolie Harrison, Chief  
Permits and Conservation Division  
Office of Protected Resources  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
1315 East-West Highway  
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3225

Re: Permit Application No. 22062  
(Patricia Fair, Ph.D.,  
Medical University of South Carolina)

Dear Ms. Harrison:

The Marine Mammal Commission (the Commission), in consultation with its Committee of Scientific Advisors on Marine Mammals, has reviewed the above-referenced permit application with regard to the goals, policies, and requirements of the Marine Mammal Protection Act (the MMPA). Dr. Fair is requesting authorization to import, receive, possess, and/or export samples from common bottlenose dolphins during a five-year period.

Dr. Fair proposes to import, receive, possess, and/or export blubber and skin samples from up to 100 bottlenose dolphins per year. Samples would be obtained from live dolphins collected during permitted research activities in Ecuador. The purpose is to assess the exposure of bottlenose dolphins from the El Morro Mangrove and Wildlife Refuge to persistent organic pollutants. The Commission believes that the proposed activities are consistent with the purposes and policies of the MMPA and therefore recommends that the National Marine Fisheries Service issue the permit, as requested.

Kindly contact me if you have any questions concerning the Commission's recommendation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Peter O. Thomas".

Peter O. Thomas, Ph.D.,  
Executive Director