



# MARINE MAMMAL COMMISSION

11 July 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. 22292  
(Icon Films)

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). Icon Films is requesting authorization to conduct filming activities on killer whales and harbor seals in Alaska for an *Animal Planet* documentary on Chinook salmon and predation by marine mammals.

Icon Films is requesting authorization to photograph and videotape killer whales and harbor seals off Seward, Alaska, during a 4-day period. Individuals of any age class and either sex could be harassed. Dr. John Maniscalco would serve as an on-site advisor and boat captain. The filmmakers would implement various measures to minimize impacts on marine mammals and also would be required to abide by the National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) standard permit conditions. The Commission believes that the proposed activities are consistent with the purposes and policies of the MMPA and recommends that NMFS 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