



MARINE MAMMAL COMMISSION

16 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. 22294
(Plimsoll Productions)

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). Plimsoll Productions is requesting authorization to conduct filming activities on common bottlenose dolphins in Florida.

Plimsoll Productions is requesting authorization to photograph and videotape bottlenose dolphins in Indian River Lagoon, Florida, during a 14-day period. Individuals of any age class and either sex could be harassed. Mr. Austin Mahan would serve as an on-site advisor and Ms. Brandy Nelson has served as an off-site advisor. 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