



MARINE MAMMAL COMMISSION

16 March 2020

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. 22382
(SeaWorld, LLC)

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). SeaWorld, LLC is requesting to import one female, non-releasable Pacific white-sided dolphin from the Vancouver Aquarium in Vancouver, Canada to be housed at SeaWorld of Texas in San Antonio, Texas for the purpose of public display. SeaWorld of Texas (1) is open to the public on a regularly scheduled basis with access that is not limited or restricted other than by charging an admission fee, (2) offers an educational program based on professionally recognized standards, and (3) holds an exhibitor's license¹ issued by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) under the Animal Welfare Act. In addition, the facility would abide by standards set forth by the International Air Transport Association for transporting the dolphin from Canada.

The Commission believes that the proposed activities are consistent with the purposes and policies of the MMPA and 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

cc: Dr. Barbara Kohn, APHIS

¹ Exhibitor License 74-C-0180 has been issued to SeaWorld of Texas.