



MARINE MAMMAL COMMISSION

23 September 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 Amendment Application No. 23807
(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 amendment application with regard to the goals, policies, and requirements of the Marine Mammal Protection Act (the MMPA). Plimsoll Productions is authorized to conduct filming activities on common bottlenose dolphins in South Carolina for a wildlife series documenting behavioral adaptations of species to be available for online streaming in 2022.

Plimsoll Productions requested to increase the number of takes of bottlenose dolphins in order to film them following and feeding from shrimp trawl vessels (see the amendment application for details). It also requested to expand its filming area to other coastal waters of South Carolina. 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