



# MARINE MAMMAL COMMISSION

22 July 2022

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. 20648  
(Heidi Pearson, Ph.D.,  
University of Alaska Southeast)

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 humaneness and *bona fide* criteria of the Marine Mammal Protection Act (the MMPA). The Commission believes that the proposed activities meet these requirements and recommends that the National Marine Fisheries Service issue the permit amendment, contingent on inclusion of the current permit conditions. 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