

22 September 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 Application No. 26596

(Robin Baird, Ph.D.,

Cascadia Research Collective)

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 humaneness¹ and *bona fide* criteria of the Marine Mammal Protection Act. <u>The Commission</u> believes that the proposed activities meet these requirements and <u>recommends</u> 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,

Peter O. Thomas, Ph.D., Executive Director

Peter o Thomas

¹ The Commission understands that researchers authorized to remotely deploy bolt tags will be trained on the most up-to-date operation and deployment protocols for the Tag Attachment Device (TADpole) system prior to using those tags in the field.