



MARINE MAMMAL COMMISSION

7 February 2023

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. 22156
(Douglas Nowacek, Ph.D.,
Duke University Marine Laboratory)

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 applications¹ with regard to the humaneness and *bona fide* criteria of the Marine Mammal Protection Act. The Commission believes that the proposed activities meet these requirements and recommends that the National Marine Fisheries Service issue the amendments, 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

¹ Published in the *Federal Register* on 12 January 2023 (88 Fed. Reg. 2070) and 24 January 2023 (88 Fed. Reg. 4156).