

taken from the McClintock Channel population, Northwest Territories, Canada, for personal use.

Notice is hereby given that on December 9, 1997, as authorized by the provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, *as amended* (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) the Fish and Wildlife Service authorized the requested permit subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

On September 25, 1997, a notice was published in the **Federal Register**, Vol. 62, No. 186, Page 50394, that an application had been filed with the Fish and Wildlife Service by Wilton Hardesty, Gunnison, CO for a permit (PRT-832902) to import a sport-hunted polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) trophy, taken from the Davis Strait population, Northwest Territories, Canada, prior to April 30, 1994, for personal use.

Notice is hereby given that on December 16, 1997, as authorized by the provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, *as amended* (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) the Fish and Wildlife Service authorized the requested permit subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

On September 25, 1997, a notice was published in the **Federal Register**, Vol. 62, No. 186, Page 50394, that an application had been filed with the Fish and Wildlife Service by the Seattle Aquarium, Seattle, WA for a permit (PRT-834418) to take for the purpose of public display one female northern sea otter (*Enhydra lutris lutris*) recovered by the Fish and Wildlife Service as an orphaned pup near Kodiak, AK.

Notice is hereby given that on November 20, 1997, as authorized by the provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, *as amended* (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) the Fish and Wildlife Service authorized the requested permit subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

Documents and other information submitted for these applications are available for review by any party who submits a written request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Rm 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203. Phone (703) 358-2104 or Fax (703) 358-2281.

Dated: December 31, 1997.

MaryEllen Amtower,

Acting Chief, Branch of Permits, Office of Management Authority.

[FR Doc. 98-199 Filed 1-5-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Issuance of Permit for Marine Mammals

On September 25, 1997, a notice was published in the **Federal Register**, Vol. 62, No. 186, Page 50394, that an application had been filed with the Fish and Wildlife Service by Mote Marine Laboratory, for a permit (PRT-834406) to opportunistically take manatees (*Trichechus manatus*) for scientific research of the manatee cellular immune system.

Notice is hereby given that on November 26, 1997, as authorized by the provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, *as amended* (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) the Fish and Wildlife Service authorized the requested permit subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

Documents and other information submitted for these applications are available for review by any party who submits a written request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Rm. 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203. Phone (703) 358-2104 or Fax (703) 358-2281.

Dated: December 19, 1997.

MaryEllen Amtower,

Acting Chief, Branch of Permits, Office of Management Authority.

[FR Doc. 98-201 Filed 1-5-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Denial of Permit for Marine Mammals

On July 31, 1997, a notice was published in the **Federal Register**, Vol. 62, No. 147, Page 41072, that an

application had been filed with the Fish and Wildlife Service by Bruce Shoeneweis for a permit (PRT-831928) to import a sport-hunted polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) trophy, taken from the McClintock Channel population, Northwest Territories, Canada for personal use.

Notice is hereby given that on December 3, 1997, as authorized by the provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, *as amended* (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) the Fish and Wildlife Service denied the requested permit.

Documents and other information submitted for these applications are available for review by any party who submits a written request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Rm 430, Arlington, Virginia 22203. Phone (703) 358-2104 or Fax (703) 358-2281.

Dated: December 19, 1997.

MaryEllen Amtower,

Acting Chief, Branch of Permits, Office of Management Authority.

[FR Doc. 98-202 Filed 1-5-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Letters of Authorization To Take Marine Mammals

AGENCY: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

ACTION: Notice of issuance of Letters of Authorization to take marine mammals incidental to oil and gas industry activities.

SUMMARY: In accordance with section 101(a)(5) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, *as amended*, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service implementing regulations [50 CFR 18.27(f)(3)], notice is hereby given that Letters of Authorization to take polar bears incidental to oil and gas industry exploration, development, and production activities have been issued to the following companies:

Company	Activity	Location	Date issued
ARCO Alaska, Inc	Exploration	Colville River	December 9, 1997.
ARCO Alaska, Inc	Exploration	Kuparuk River Unit	December 9, 1997.
Northern Geophysical	Exploration	Hemisprings, Fish Creek, Sag River	December 16, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mr. John W. Bridges at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Marine Mammals

Management Office, 1011 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, Alaska 99503, (800) 362-5148 or (907) 786-3810.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Letters of Authorization were issued in accordance with U.S. Fish and Wildlife