



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE

Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary

991 Marine Dr., The Presidio
San Francisco, CA 94129

November 21, 2012

Mr. Gerry McChesney
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service,
Farallon National Wildlife Refuge
1 Marshlands Road
Fremont, CA 94555

Dear Mr. McChesney:

This letter authorizes overflights over the sanctuary of altitudes less than 1,000 feet (within overflight restriction zones) to conduct resource protection activities and marine mammal, sea turtle, and sea bird disturbance that directly supports resource protection activities, both within the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary (GFNMS or Sanctuary) for the purpose of conducting hazing trials on western gulls. This authorization is effective through **Nov 25, 2013** in accordance with managerial Permit GFNMS-2009-001-A1. Specifically, low overflights and marine mammal, sea turtle, and sea bird disturbance are allowed so the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service can acquire technical knowledge on the most appropriate hazing techniques and mitigation measures to incorporate into the development of a house mice eradication program on the Farallon Islands.

All activities are to be conducted in accordance with this authorization letter (authorization), Permit GFNMS-2009-001-A1 (attached), and the application received October 5, 2012. The application is incorporated into this authorization and made a part hereof; provided, however, that if there are any conflicts between the request and the terms and conditions of this authorization and/or Permit GFNMS-2009-001-A1, the terms and conditions of this authorization and/or Permit GFNMS-2009-001-A1 shall be controlling.

The permittee shall submit a copy of the final "Fall Field Trial Plan", prepared by Island Conservation and the USFWS, to GFNMS staff prior to commencing the authorized activity. In addition, per the conditions of this authorization, a report shall be submitted to the GFNMS by **October 1, 2013** with a summary of all activities conducted, the types of data collected, and the geographic coordinates of the various hazing activities. All equipment authorized for use under this authorization shall be removed no later than the expiration date of this authorization. Requests for authorization extension should be submitted in writing a minimum of 30 days prior to expiry. The report shall be sent to:

Max Delaney
Permit Coordinator
Gulf of the Farallones NMS
991 Marine Drive
San Francisco, CA 94129
Email: max.delaney@noaa.gov



All persons participating in the authorized activity must be under the supervision of the permittee, and the permittee is responsible for any violation of this authorization, the NMSA, and sanctuary regulations for activities conducted under, or in junction with, this authorization. The permittee must assure that all persons performing activities under this authorization letter are fully aware of the conditions herein.

This authorization does not relieve the responsibility to comply with all other federal, state and local laws and regulations. Particularly, this authorization does not allow disturbance of marine mammals or seabirds protected under provisions of the Endangered Species Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act, or Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Authorization for incidental or direct harassment of species protected by these acts must be secured from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or NOAA Fisheries, depending upon the species affected.

No activity authorized by this authorization shall disturb or impact any historical or marine archaeological resources of the sanctuary. If historical or marine archaeological resources are encountered at any time, the permittee shall cease all further activities under this authorization and immediately contact the GFNMS Superintendent at 415-561-6622 x 301.

Please assure that participating personnel are informed of these terms and keep a copy of this letter and permit GFNMS-2009-001-A1. Should you have any questions, please contact Max Delaney by telephone at 415-970-5255 or via email at max.delaney@noaa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maria Brown". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Maria" and last name "Brown" clearly distinguishable.

Maria Brown
Superintendent

Attachments: Permit GFNMS-2009-001-A1

