



# Ocean Exploration and Research

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## Project Instructions: EX-21-04, 2021 North Atlantic Stepping Stones: New England and Corner Rise Seamounts (ROV and Mapping)

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**Platform:** NOAA Ship *Okeanos Explorer*  
**Project Number:** EX-21-04  
**Project Title:** 2021 North Atlantic Stepping Stones: New England and Corner Rise Seamounts  
**Project Dates:** June 30-July 29, 2021

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**Dated:** 06/09/2021

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**Dated:** 6/9/2021

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**Dated:** 6/09/2021

**Approved by:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Captain Nicholas Chrobak  
Commanding Officer  
NOAA Marine Operations Center — Atlantic

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**Dated:** \_\_\_\_\_

# I. Overview

## A. Brief Summary and Project Period

**June 30-July 29, 2021**

**Starting and ending in Newport, Rhode Island**

**EX-21-04, 2021 North Atlantic Stepping Stones: New England and Corner Rise Seamounts (ROV and Mapping)**

This document contains project instructions specific to EX-21-04. For the annual cross-expedition details, see the “[NOAA Ship \*Okeanos Explorer\* FY21 Field Season Instructions](#).” This expedition will commence on June 30, 2021, in Newport, Rhode Island, and conclude on July 29, 2021, in Newport, Rhode Island. Operations will be conducted 24 hours per day and consist of remotely operated vehicle (ROV) dives, mapping operations (primarily overnight), and full shore-based participation via telepresence.

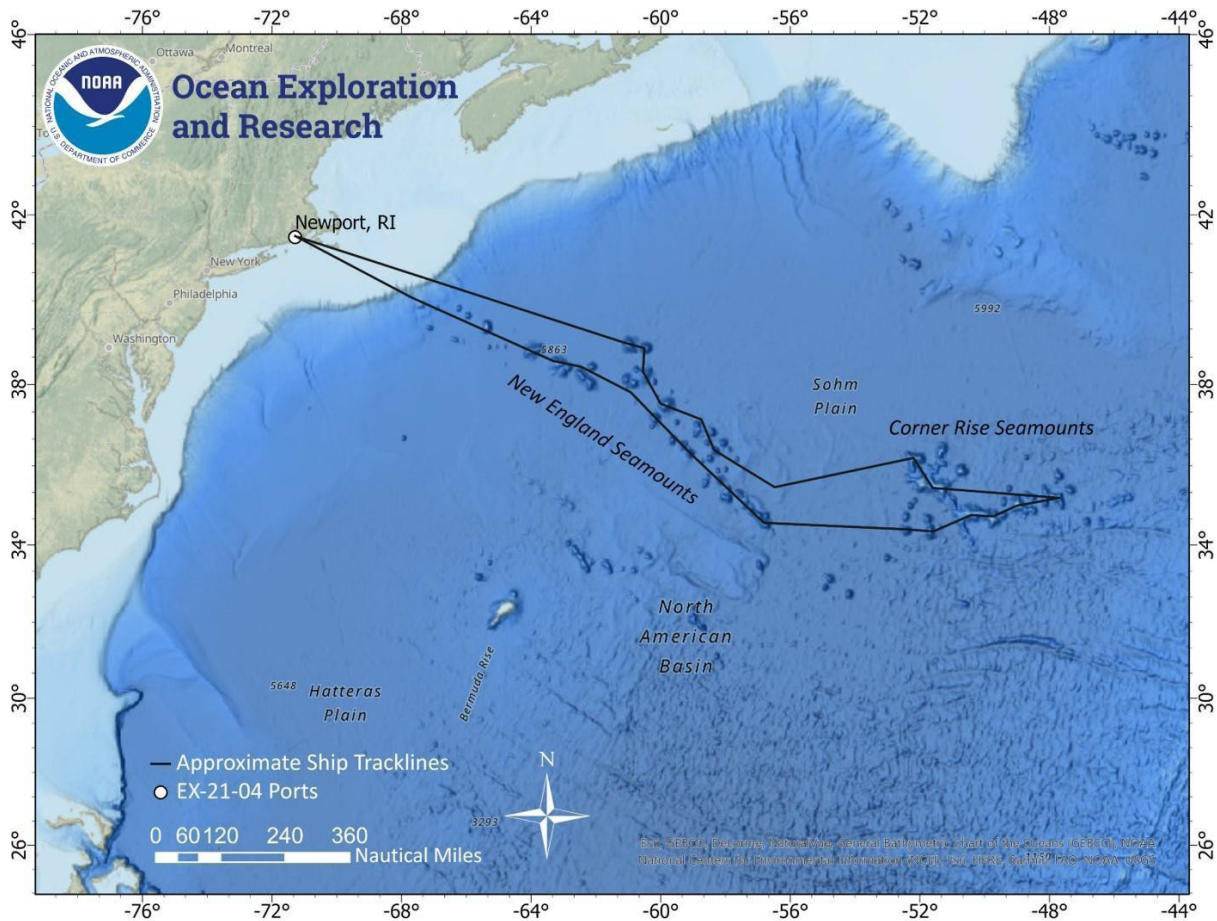
Operations will include use of the ship’s deepwater mapping systems (Kongsberg EM 304 multibeam, EK60/EK80 split-beam sonars, Knudsen 3260 Chirp sub-bottom profiler, and Teledyne acoustic Doppler current profiler), expendable bathythermographs (XBTs) in support of multibeam sonar mapping operations, and conductivity, temperature, depth profiler (CTD) casts; OER’s two-body ROV system (*Deep Discoverer* and *Seirios*); and a high-bandwidth satellite connection for continuous ship-to-shore communications. Operations will focus on exploring deep waters (greater than 250 m for ROV operations and greater than 200 m for mapping operations) in U.S. waters off the northern U.S. East Coast and in the high seas with a focus on the New England and Corner Rise Seamounts region.

## B. Days at Sea

Of the 30 days at sea (DAS) scheduled for this expedition, 30 DAS are funded by a NOAA Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research allocation. This project is estimated to exhibit a high operational tempo due to 24-hour operations, which include daily ROV dives, overnight mapping operations, CTD casts, and continuous shoreside participation via telepresence.

## C. Operating Area

EX-21-04 will focus operations in U.S. waters off the Northern U.S. East Coast and the high seas focusing on the New England and Corner Rise Seamounts region. Mapping and ROV operations will be conducted at depths between 250 and 6,000 m. **Figure 1** shows the general operating area for the expedition.



**Figure 1.** Map showing the general operating area for EX-21-04. Note that the expedition track is subject to change based on survey results, field conditions, and discretion of the commanding officer.

## D. Summary of Objectives

EX-21-04 operations will involve a transit east/southeastward followed by focused ocean mapping and ROV operations in U.S. waters off the East Coast and on the high seas, in deep water (greater than 250 m for ROV operations and greater than 200 m for mapping operations). This expedition will collect critical baseline information to support priority NOAA science, partner, and management needs.

Mission objectives for EX-21-04 include a variety of objectives focused on science, mapping, education, outreach, and data management. Overarching objectives that span the entire Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) field season are covered in the [“NOAA Ship \*Okeanos Explorer\* FY21 Field Season Instructions.”](#) Additional objectives specific to EX-21-04 follow:

# 1. Science Objectives

- a. Train a new expedition coordinator in all expedition-related roles.
- b. Dive on underexplored areas within the New England and Corner Rise Seamounts.
- c. Identify and map vulnerable marine habitats — particularly high-density deep-sea coral and sponge communities and chemosynthetic communities.
- d. Explore areas relevant to resource managers such as Essential Fish Habitat (EFH), Habitat Areas of Particular Concern (HAPC), the Sargasso Sea Commission Area of Collaboration, and the Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monument.
- e. Explore the diversity and distribution of benthic habitats, including fish habitats, deep-sea coral and sponge communities, and chemosynthetic communities:
  - i. Collect data on habitat size and extent, animal diversity, and density.
  - ii. Focus close-up imaging operations on potential new, rare, and poorly documented animals, as well as dominant members of the communities.
  - iii. Collect and preserve biological samples of potential new species, new records, dominant community members if not easily recognized, and other animals to aid in site characterization.
  - iv. Investigate biogeographic patterns of deep-sea ecosystems and connectivity across the Atlantic basin.
  - v. Document substrate types as it relates to characterizing habitat suitability.
  - vi. Support transatlantic connectivity studies.
- f. Investigate the geology of the seamounts in the northwest region of the Atlantic basin:
  - i. Collect and preserve geological specimens that can be used to age a feature, provide additional insight into the geological context of the region, or improve knowledge of marine minerals and potential future or past geohazards.
- g. Acquire a foundation of ROV, sonar, and oceanographic data to better understand the characteristics of the water column and fauna that live there.
- h. Continue to refine specimen processing procedures, including integration and subsequent testing of new genetic subsampling protocols of the Biorepository at the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution.
- i. Ground-truth acoustic data using video imagery and characterize associated habitat.
- j. Engage a broad spectrum of the scientific community and public in telepresence-based exploration.
- k. Create and provide input into standard science products to provide a foundation of publicly accessible data and information products to spur further exploration, research, and management activities.
- l. Continue to test ArcOnline access and utility for field use on ROV expeditions.
- m. Continue to test the new ethanol emergency procedures.

- n. Test the quality of the ethanol now stored in the new ejectable O2 Deck container before and after each ROV expedition.
- o. Use the OER Ethanol Test Guide's (Appendix F) detailed instructions on how to test the ethanol, calculate the measurements, and record the results.
- p. Update the internal OER Ethanol Test Guide as procedures are refined.
- q. Acquire data to support priority science and management needs in support of NOAA's Deep Sea Coral Research and Technology Program, Greater Atlantic Regional Office and the Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monument.
- r. Collect sun photometer measurements as part of surveys of opportunity.

## 2. Remote Science and Exploration Command Center Objectives

- a. Provide operational support and training to scientists and managers to enable remote participation in at-sea operations.
- b. Continue to test best practices for hosting internet-1-based live interactions.
- c. Test and refine operating procedures and products.
- d. Continue testing of the new version of SeaTube.
- e. Test and troubleshoot new methods of distributing video to shore.
- f. Exploration command centers will not be supported during this expedition.

## 3. ROV Engineering Objectives

- a. Conduct daytime ROV dives on exploration targets.
- b. Complete engineering objectives during ROV dives.
- c. Continue training of engineers and pilots.
- d. Continue system maintenance, documentation, and training.
- e. Test and continue to refine new ROV midwater exploration procedures.

## 4. Video Engineering Objectives

- a. Test terrestrial and high-speed satellite links.
- b. Support telepresence-enabled ROV operations.
- c. Collect/create all standard video products.
- d. Facilitate live outreach events between ship and shore.

## 5. Acoustic Mapping Objectives

- a. Collect high-resolution mapping data from sonars in priority areas as dictated by operational needs and science and management community input.
- b. Collect mapping data in support of Seabed 2030, Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monument, and ongoing collaborations between NOAA, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, and the U.S. Geological Survey.



- c. Support ROV operations with mapping products and expertise.
- d. Conduct mapping operations during transit, with possible further development of exploration targets.
- e. Collect XBT casts as data quality requires during mapping operations.
- f. Create daily standard mapping products.

## 6. Data Management Objectives

- a. Provide a foundation of publicly accessible data and information products to spur further exploration, research, and management activities.
- b. Provide daily products to shore for operational decision-making purposes.
- c. Test and troubleshoot new methods of remote operations with onshore sample data manager.
- d. Formalize data management standard operating procedures.
- e. Continue to work on the Global Foundation for Ocean Exploration (GFOE) network integration and develop standard operating procedures.
- f. Complete sensor reports for each dive.
- g. Perform Sample Data Management (SDM) via a remote login to the SDM laptop and a teleconference connection to the Wet lab. Testing of this configuration will be performed during the previous expedition.
- h. Continue to implement abbreviated sample naming convention for physical samples collected using the ROV (i.e., biological and geological) in sample labels, dive summary forms, and the expedition report:
  - i. Primary samples:
    - 1. Biological: EX\*\*\*\*\_D\*\*\_\*\*B (e.g. EX1903L2\_D01\_01B)
    - 2. Geological: EX\*\*\*\*\_D\*\*\_\*\*G (e.g. EX1903L2\_D01\_01G)
    - 3. Associated samples: EX\*\*\*\*\_D\*\*\_\*\*B\_A\*\* (e.g. EX1903L2\_D01\_01B\_A01)
    - 4. Subsamples: EX\*\*\*\*\_D\*\*\_\*\*B\_S\*\* (e.g. EX1903L2\_D01\_01B\_S01)

## 7. Outreach Objectives

- a. Host live virtual events and interactions with audiences on shore, including live interactions.
- b. Engage the general public in ocean exploration through social media and live video and timely content (dive updates, topical essays and web logs, highlight videos, video clips, still imagery, and mapping products) on OER's website.

## 8. Ship Objectives

- a. Continue training new deck department personnel in ROV launch and recovery.



- b. Develop and maintain proficiency with small boat operations for new and long-term crew.
- c. Conduct CTD operations as requested and able.
- d. Conduct Aft Conn Training.
- e. Review ROV Emergency Procedures.
- f. Allocate time for man overboard (MOB) drills/maneuvering drills (weather permitting).
- g. Conduct dive operations (weather permitting).
- h. Perform additional safety training.

## E. Participating Institutions

- NOAA, Deep Sea Coral Research and Technology Program, 1315 East-West Hwy, Silver Spring, MD 20910 USA
- NOAA, National Center for Coastal and Ocean Science, 1305 East-West Hwy, Silver Spring, MD 20910 USA
- NOAA, National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI), Stennis Space Center, MS, 39529 USA
- Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930 USA
- Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monument, U.S. Fish and Wildlife North Atlantic-Appalachian Region, 300 Westgate Center Drive, Hadley, MA 01035 USA
- University of Rhode Island Inner Space Center, 215 South Ferry Road, Narragansett, RI 02882 USA
- University of Maine, Darling Marine Center, 193 Clarks Cove Road, Walpole, ME 04573 USA
- U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Woods Hole Coastal and Marine Science Center, Woods Hole, MA 02532 USA
- U.S. Geological Survey, Pacific Coastal and Marine Science Center, 2885 Mission Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060 USA

See “[NOAA Ship \*Okeanos Explorer\* FY21 Field Season Instructions](#)” for institutions that consistently participate throughout the field season.

## F. Personnel (Mission Party)

Mission personnel (see **Table 1**) will arrive in Newport, Rhode Island, on June 20, 2021, and shelter in place for seven days from June 21 to June 28, 2021. Mission personnel will join the ship on June 28, 2021, after the shelter-in-place (SIP) period and two negative COVID-19 tests. Mission personnel will then be aboard for the duration of the expedition (June 28-July 29, 2021). Some personnel will depart on July 30, 2021, and others will stay aboard for the



expedition that follows (EX-21-05). The expedition will also be supported by shoreside personnel (see **Table 2**).

**Table 1.** Seagoing mission personnel: This list is tentative until travel is booked. Any deviations will be communicated to the operations officer.

#	Name (Last, First)	Title	Date Aboard	Date Disembark	Gender	Affiliation	Nationality
1	Cantwell, Kasey	Expedition Coordinator	06/10*	07/29	F	OER	USA
2	Galvez, Kimberly	Expedition Coordinator in Training	06/28	07/29	F	OER (CNSP <sup>1</sup> )	USA
3	Waller, Rhian	Science Lead	06/28	07/29	F	UCAR <sup>2</sup>	USA
4	Hoy, Shannon	Mapping Lead	06/10*	07/29	F	OER (CNSP)	USA
5	Freitas, Daniel	Mapping Watch Lead	06/28	07/29	M	UCAR	USA
6	Ritter, Chris	GFOE Team Lead	06/28	07/29	M	GFOE	USA
7	Kennison, Sean	ROV Engineer	06/10*	07/29	M	GFOE	USA
8	Jensen, Anya	ROV Engineer	06/10*	07/29	F	GFOE	USA
9	Mefford, Jon	ROV Engineer	06/10*	07/29	M	GFOE	USA
10	Carlson, Josh	ROV Engineer	06/28	07/29	M	GFOE	USA
11	Murphy, Lars	ROV Engineer	06/10*	07/29	M	GFOE	USA
12	Unema, Levi	ROV Engineer	06/28	07/29	M	GFOE	USA
13	Durbin, Mark	Data Manager	06/10*	07/29	M	GFOE	USA
14	Meyers, Jim	Data Manager	06/28	07/29	M	GFOE	USA
15	Wright, Chris	Data Manager	06/10*	07/29	M	GFOE	USA
16	Howard, Art	Videographer	06/28	07/29	M	GFOE	USA
17	Brian, Roland	Video Engineer	06/10*	07/29	M	GFOE	USA
18	Narrow, Emily	Videographer	06/28	07/29	F	GFOE	USA

<sup>1</sup> Cherokee Nation Strategic Programs

<sup>2</sup> University Corporation for Atmospheric Research

\*Personnel aboard from the previous expedition, EX-21-03.



**Table 2.** Shoreside support personnel and key contacts

#	Name (Last, First)	Title	Affiliation	Nationality
1	Chaytor, Jason	Science Lead	USGS	USA
2	Mizell, Kira	Science Lead	USGS	USA
3	Crum, Emily	Web Coordinator	OER (CNSP <sup>1</sup> )	USA
4	Rabenold, Christa	Engagement Coordinator	OER (UCAR <sup>2</sup> )	USA
5	Cromwell, Megan	Sample Data Manager	NCEI	USA
6	Lienesch, Anna	Sample Data Manager 2	NCEI	USA
7	Newman, Madalyn	Sample Data Manager 3	NCEI/NGI/MSU <sup>3</sup>	USA
8	Jackson, Jonathan	Sample Data Manager 4	NCEI/NGI/MSU	USA
9	Gottfried, Susan	Sample Data Manager 5	NCEI/NGI/MSU	USA

<sup>1</sup> Cherokee Nation Strategic Programs

<sup>2</sup> University Corporation for Atmospheric Research

<sup>3</sup> NCEI/Northern Gulf Institute/Mississippi State University

## 1. Foreign National Guests (FNGs) Access to OMAO Facilities and Platforms

Foreign national access to *Okeanos Explorer* or other federal facilities will not be required for this expedition.

## G. Administrative

### 1. Points of Contact

**Table 3.** Points of contact

Operations	Name, Title	Office	Address	Phone/Fax	Email
Marine Operations Center, Atlantic	CAPT Nicholas Chrobak, Commanding Officer	Marine Operations Center, Atlantic	439 West York Street Norfolk, VA 23510-1145	(757) 441-6776/ (757) 441-6495	<a href="mailto:co.moc.atlantic@noaa.gov">co.moc.atlantic@noaa.gov</a>
Marine Operations Center, Atlantic	LCDR Fionna Matheson, Chief of Operations	Marine Operations Center, Atlantic	439 West York Street Norfolk, VA 23510-1145	(757) 441-6842/ (757) 441-6776	<a href="mailto:Chiefops.MOA@noaa.gov">Chiefops.MOA@noaa.gov</a>
NOAA Ship Okeanos	CDR Nicole Manning,	NOAA Ship Okeanos	NOAA Ship Okeanos Explorer	(401) 439-7848	<a href="mailto:CO.Explorer@noaa.gov">CO.Explorer@noaa.gov</a>



Explorer (primary)	Commanding Officer	Explorer	Attn: Name or Department 47 Chandler Street Newport, RI 02841		
NOAA Ship Okeanos Explorer (primary)	LT Bryan Pestone, NOAA Operations Officer	NOAA Ship Okeanos Explorer	NOAA Ship Okeanos Explorer Attn: Name or Department 47 Chandler Street Newport, RI 02841	(808) 659-9179 x221	<a href="mailto:ops.explorer@noaa.gov">ops.explorer@noaa.gov</a>
Mission (primary)	Kasey Cantwell, Expedition Coordinator and Operations Chief	NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Research	1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910	(301) 717-7776	<a href="mailto:kasey.cantwell@noaa.gov">kasey.cantwell@noaa.gov</a>
Mission (primary)	Kimberly Galvez, Expedition Coordinator (training)	NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Research	1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910	(305) 951-6956	<a href="mailto:kimberly.galvez@noaa.gov">kimberly.galvez@noaa.gov</a>
Mission (primary)	Shannon Hoy, Mapping Lead	NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Research	24 Colovos Road Durham, NH 03824	(202) 880-2725	<a href="mailto:shannon.hoy@noaa.gov">shannon.hoy@noaa.gov</a>
Mission (other)	Rachel Medley, Chief, Expedition and Exploration Division	NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Research	1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910	(301) 789-3075	<a href="mailto:rachel.medley@noaa.gov">rachel.medley@noaa.gov</a>
Mission (other)	Gene Fisher Director (Acting)	NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Research	1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910	(301) 452-7366	<a href="mailto:genene.fisher@noaa.gov">genene.fisher@noaa.gov</a>

## 2. Diplomatic Clearances

None required.

## 3. Shipments

The *Okeanos Explorer* operations officer should be notified of any shipments to the ship. Send an email describing the shipment (including size and number of items) to

[OPS.Explorer@noaa.gov](mailto:OPS.Explorer@noaa.gov).

For shipments to arrive while in port in Newport, Rhode Island, at the start of the expedition, **shipments should arrive no later than June 25, 2021**, and be shipped to the following address:

NOAA Ship Okeanos Explorer

Attn: [Name or Department]  
47 Chandler Street  
Newport, RI 02841

Please note the ship's name **must** be used in the above address or the package may be lost.

For shipments to arrive while in port in Newport, Rhode Island, after the expedition from July 30 to August 11, 2021, **shipments should arrive no later than August 09, 2021**, and should be shipped to the following address:

NOAA Ship Okeanos Explorer  
Attn: [Name or Department]  
47 Chandler Street  
Newport, RI 02841

Please note the ship's name **must** be used in the above address or the package may be lost.

During the port call in Newport, Rhode Island, deliveries will be conducted contact-free in compliance with OMAO's COVID-19 protocols to maintain the bubble between expeditions.

## 4. Dietary Restrictions

During EX-21-04 the mission team has:

- 3 vegetarians
- 1 individual who cannot eat shellfish or pork

## 5. COVID-19 Contingency Plan for Scientific Party

In accordance with the "NOAA OER COVID-19 Field Operations Guidelines and Expectations" (see summary in Appendix E), all mission personnel must have received a negative COVID-19 test prior to travel to the port of call. Any mission personnel who test positive will be disqualified from sailing, and backup personnel will be activated as mission objectives and priorities dictate.

If any mission personnel test positive for COVID-19 during the OMAO-required shelter-in-place period:

- NOAA Marine Health Services will notify the individuals who test positive that they are not cleared to board the ship. OER will reimburse the individual for 14 days of shelter-in-place lodging to complete their isolation and for a COVID-19 test to confirm they are negative prior to returning home.
  - Current planned hotel stay:  
Residence Inn by Marriott

325 W. Main Road.  
Middletown, RI 02842

- The expedition coordinator will be notified of any mission personnel who are not cleared to sail (but they will not be told why).
- The expedition coordinator will notify the OER operations chief.
- The expedition coordinator will determine, in consultation with the ship’s commanding officer, OER operations chief, and appropriate parties, whether the mission will continue without the uncleared personnel.

If any mission personnel develop COVID-19-like symptoms while underway, [OMAO protocols](#) will be strictly followed. The expedition coordinator (or designee if they are unable to fulfill this role) will remain the primary point of contact for all mission personnel. Additional support with onshore logistics for impacted mission personnel will be provided by:

LT Carl Noblitt, NOAA  
Operations Deputy, Expeditions and Exploration Division  
NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Research  
1315 East West Highway  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
Cell: (240)507-4437

## II. Operations

The expedition coordinator is responsible for ensuring mission personnel are trained in planned operations and are knowledgeable about expedition objectives and priorities. The commanding officer is responsible for ensuring all operations conform to the ship’s accepted practices and procedures.

### A. Project Itinerary

**Table 4** summarizes the expedition itinerary. All times and dates are subject to prevailing conditions and the discretion of the commanding officer. Locations are approximate. Final ROV dive sites will be delivered to the bridge at night for the next day’s ROV dive.

Additional items may be added to the itinerary as expedition plans are further developed.

**Table 4.** Expedition itinerary: This is an approximate itinerary and is subject to change based on objective completion, weather, and logistical needs. See **Table 5** for ROV dive details.

Date	Activities
06/20	Mission personnel not already aboard travel to location for SIP in Newport, Rhode



	Island.
06/21 - 06/27	Mission personnel not already aboard SIP in Newport, Rhode Island. Personnel will conduct COVID testing on 6/24.
06/28	Mission personnel not already aboard will joining the ship. Underway preparations and training. Mobilization. Mission personnel will need laptop computers added to the wireless network. Vessel familiarization meeting (~45 minutes) with mission personnel who have not sailed on <i>Okeanos Explorer</i> within last year. COVID bubble will not be broken from prior expedition.
06/29	Underway preparations and training. Mobilization. Alternative date for vessel familiarization meeting.
06/30	Depart Newport, Rhode Island at 0900. Pre-project meeting to be held with the ship at 14:30 in combination with daily operations meeting. Welcome aboard briefings, drills, and underway mapping.
07/01	Transit day, mapping.
07/02	Dive 1, overnight mapping.
07/03	Dive 2, overnight mapping.
07/04	Dive 3, overnight mapping. Independence Day holiday.
07/05	Dive 4, overnight mapping.
07/06	Dive 5, overnight mapping.
07/07	Dive 6, overnight mapping.
07/08	Dive 7, overnight mapping.
07/09	Dive 8, overnight mapping.
07/10	Transit day, overnight mapping.
07/11	Dive 9, overnight mapping.
07/12	Dive 10, overnight mapping.
07/13	Dive 11, overnight mapping.
07/14	Dive 12, overnight mapping.
07/15	Dive 13, overnight mapping.
07/16	Dive 14, overnight mapping.
07/17	Dive 15, overnight mapping.
07/18	Dive 16, overnight mapping.



07/19	Dive 17, overnight mapping.
07/20	Transit day, mapping.
07/21	Dive 18, overnight mapping.
07/22	Dive 19, overnight mapping.
07/23	Dive 20, overnight mapping.
07/24	Dive 21, overnight mapping.
07/25	Dive 22, overnight mapping.
07/26	Dive 23, overnight mapping.
07/27	Dive 24, overnight mapping.
07/28	Dive 25, overnight mapping.
07/29	Return to port. COVID bubble breaks. Standard demobilization anticipated. Anticipate USFWS CITES inspection.
07/30	Standard demobilization anticipated. Backup date for USFWS CITES inspection.
07/31	Standard demobilization anticipated. Most crew will depart or have departed at this point.

## B. Staging and Destaging

Minimal staging is expected as all mission equipment will already be aboard. Standard preparation for ROV expeditions is anticipated, which includes hydraulic crane use, the ability to place a transponder overboard and ping the USBL, high-voltage operations, and crane and A-frame operations to potentially dunk *Deep Discoverer* and *Seirios* overboard. A dunk test is not currently planned, but may be needed prior to departing.

Minimal demobilization is expected. Standard demobilization for ROV expeditions is anticipated, which may include hydraulic crane use and high-voltage operations. Depending on the FY21 *Okeanos Explorer* schedule, *Deep Discoverer* and *Seirios* may be craned off the ship and transported to Quonset for maintenance.

## C. Operations to Be Conducted

### 1. ROV Dives

**Table 5.** List of planned ROV dive sites for EX-21-04: Note, this is an approximate itinerary and is subject to change based on community input, survey results, field conditions, and discretion of the commanding officer. Please note that the position information for each dive is tentative until the dive planning call, which is held one day before each scheduled ROV dive. A living document with the most accurate information about the dive locations is shared with the ship and the shore based science team and can be found here:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1XQ3hZK9PwnHcw1i4V2rosrJyyZMK4AaX6dTTYwTT3P0/edit?usp=sharing>

Dive #	Date	Location	Latitude	Longitude	Depth (m)	Dive Focus
1	7/02	Asterias Seamount	38° 55.057'N	65° 18.932'W	3,690	Benthic
2	7/03	Atlantis II Seamount Deep	38° 32.854'N	63° 26.342'W	4,298	Benthic
3	7/04	Atlantis II Seamount Shallow	38° 27.422'N	63° 13.332'W	2,803	Benthic
4	7/05	Gosnold Seamount	38° 0.931'N	62° 9.912'W	2,248	Benthic
5	7/06	Vogl Seamount	37° 11.882'N	60° 10.646'W	2,394	Benthic
6	7/07	Baby Seamount	36° 17.295'N	59° 5.418'W	2,678	Benthic
7	7/08	Hodgson Seamount	35° 31.358'N	58° 38.432'W	3,180	Benthic
8	7/09	Unmapped Twins	35° 8.998'N	57° 58.348'W	2,931	Benthic
9	7/11	Justus Seamount	34° 22.159'N	52° 25.456'W	3,193	Benthic
10	7/12	Dumbbell Guyot	34° 20.697'N	51° 40.670'W	2,335	Benthic
11	7/13	Milne-Edwards Point	34° 32.092'N	50° 41.821'W	3,571	Benthic
12	7/14	Yakutat Deep	35° 12.655'N	47° 57.280'W	2,760	Benthic
13	7/15	Yakutat Shallow	35° 4.564'N	48° 9.953'W	1,470	Benthic
14	7/16	MacGregor Seamount	34° 58.566'N	49° 0.341'W	1,419	Benthic
15	7/17	Unmapped Seamount	35° 53.498'N	50° 42.605'W	2,984	Benthic
16	7/18	Corner Rise 1	36° 1.303'N	51° 26.400'W	3,583	Benthic
17	7/19	Corner Rise 2	36° 7.243'N	52° 8.408'W	3,291	Benthic
18	7/21	Michael/Allegheny Seamount	36° 34.867'N	58° 25.883'W	4,804	Benthic



19	7/22	Baby Manning Seamount	38° 3.612'N	60° 12.364'W	3,435	Benthic
20	7/23	San Pablo Seamount	38° 51.435'N	60° 29.491'W	2,089	Benthic
21	7/24	Sheldrake Seamount	38° 25.361'N	62° 8.769'W	4,830	Benthic
22	7/25	Kelvin Seamount	38° 53.954'N	63° 57.503'W	2,600	Benthic
23	7/26	Retriever Seamount	39° 50.301'N	66° 14.051'W	2,137	Benthic
24	7/27	Monument Seamount	39° 50.197'N	66° 55.538'W	2,206	Benthic
25	7/28	Water column in Monument	39° 55.271'N	67°26.781'W	2,000	Midwater

## 2. CTD Casts

No CTD casts are planned for this expedition, but if a CTD cast is desired and operationally feasible, it will be scoped with the operations officer and senior survey technician in advance.

## 3. Telepresence/Outreach Events

- a. Three live video feeds will be used throughout the expedition to provide situational awareness for onshore personnel and to engage scientists and the public.
- b. A small number of live interactions are planned during this expedition, but details and confirmations are TBD. Little impact on the ship to support this activity is anticipated.

## 4. In-Port Events

- a. No in port public events are planned for this expedition.

## 5. Special/Unusual Operations or Requests

There are no special or unusual operations or requests for this expedition.

## D. SCUBA Dive Plan

All SCUBA dives are to be conducted in accordance with the requirements and regulations of the [NOAA Diving Program](#) and require the approval of the ship's commanding officer. No SCUBA science dives are planned during EX-21-04, but the ship may plan training, safety drills, or maintenance dives.

## E. Applicable Restrictions

The expedition is being planned and conducted by NOAA as an agency of the U.S. federal government in partnership with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and its Superintendent of the Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monument. This expedition does not require a permit to work in the Monument.





## 1. Sampling Operations

Sampling of Anthipatharian and Scleractinian corals outside of U.S. waters will be completed under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) permit #21US07208E/9. A CITES permit was received on June 8, 2021 from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. A full copy of the permit can be found in Appendix C.

## III. Hazardous Materials

### A. Policy and Compliance

See the [“NOAA Ship Okeanos Explorer FY21 Field Season Instructions.”](#)

### B. Inventory

**Table 7.** Inventory of hazardous materials that will be aboard for EX-21-04

Item	Use	Approximate Locations
95% UPS denatured ethanol (275 gal)	Sample preservation	02 Deck, port side ethanol storage container
Formaldehyde (2 gal) to be buffered into 10% buffered formalin	Sample preservation	Wet lab, under the chemical hood
Bleach (1 qt)	Sterilization and sample preservation	Wet lab cabinet under sink
Magnesium chloride (500 g)	Sample preservation	Wet lab under hood
Sodium phosphate (1 kg)	Sample preservation	Wet lab under hood
AquaShield	Underwater lubricant	ROV workshop fire cabinet, pit
Dow Corning 4	Electrical insulating compound	ROV workshop fire cabinet, pit
Fluid film spray	Silicone lubricant	ROV workshop fire cabinet
Isopropanol alcohol (2 gal)	Solvent	ROV workshop fire cabinet
Scotchkote	Electrical insulating compound	ROV workshop fire cabinet
3M silicone spray	Silicone lubricant	ROV workshop fire cabinet
Synthetic AW hydraulic oil, ISO-22	Amsoil (AWG-05)	Hanger, pit, vehicles
Tap Magic cutting fluid	Cutting/machining lubricant	ROV workshop fire cabinet
Tap Magic heavyweight cutting fluid	Cutting/machining lubricant	ROV workshop fire cabinet
Tuff Coat M	Marine lubricant	Winch room
Dow Corning Molykote 111	Valve lubricant and sealant	ROV workshop Fire cabinet, pit

WD40	Lubricant	ROV workshop fire cabinet
Loktite	Bolt adhesive	ROV workshop fire cabinet
Shell Diala S2	Vitrea	Hanger, vehicles
Por-15	Paint kit	ROV workshop fire cabinet
Aeroshell 41	Hydraulic fluid	Hanger, ROV Deep Discoverer
Ultratane	Butane fuel	ROV workshop fire cabinet
Rust-oleum	Protective enamel	ROV workshop fire cabinet
Flux-Off	Soldering flux remover	ROV workshop fire cabinet
Propane	Torch fuel	ROV workshop fire cabinet
Adhesive Pliobond 25	General adhesive	Tool room
AP 120 Metal Prep	Degreaser/cleaner for metal surfaces	Pit
Butane fuel	Torch refill	Tool room
PVC cement	Adhesive for PFV plastic piping	Tool room
Phosphoric acid	Ferrous metal rust removal	Tool room
Pipetite paste	Plumbing sealant	Tool room/pit
Spindle oil 10, ROS PT	Lubricant/compensation oil	Tool room
DC557	Silicon grease	Tool room/pit
Tether potting catalyst	Two part epoxy catalyst	Pit
Tether potting compound	Two part epoxy ingredient	Pit
ThermaPlex bearing grease	Lubricant	Pit
Tritech Seaking	Compensator oil for sonar head	Pit

## IV. Equipment

A detailed list of equipment provided by the ship and OER can be found in the [“NOAA Ship Okeanos Explorer FY21 Field Season Instructions.”](#)

# Appendix A. Additional Information

None



# Appendix B. Data Management Plan

## Okeanos Explorer Mission EX2104 Data Management Plan

Report Date: 2021-04-30

### 1. General Description of Data to be Managed

#### 1.1 Name and Purpose of the Data Collection Project:

2021 North Atlantic Stepping Stones: New England and Corner Rise Seamounts (ROV and Mapping)

EX2104 will focus operations in U.S. waters off of the Northern U.S. East Coast and the high seas focusing on the New England and Corner Rise Seamounts region. The cruise will start and end in Newport, Rhode Island between June 30 and July 29, 2021. Operations will be conducted 24 hours per day and consist of remotely operated vehicle (ROV) dives, mapping operations, and full shore-based participation via telepresence.

#### 1.2 Summary Description of the data to be collected:

Data from the deepwater mapping systems (Kongsberg EM304 multibeam, EK60/EK80 split beam sonars, Knudsen 3260 Chirp sub-bottom profiler, and Teledyne acoustic Doppler current profiler), expendable bathythermograph (XBTs) in support of multibeam sonar mapping operations, conductivity, temperature, depth profiler (CTD) casts, Okeanos Explorer two-body ROV system (Deep Discoverer and Seirios), and a high-bandwidth satellite connection for continuous ship-to-shore communications.

#### 1.3 Keywords or phrases that could be used to discover the data:

Asterias Seamount, Atlantis II Seamount, Baby Seamount, Baby Manning Seamount, Benthic habitats, CTD, chemosynthetic communities, coral and sponge communities, Corner Rise Seamounts, Dumbbell Guyot, EM304, Essential Fish Habitats, EFH, expedition, exploration, explorer, Goode Peak, Gosnold Seamount, habitat areas of particular concern, HAPC, Hodgson Seamount, Justus Seamount, Kelvin Seamount, MacGregor Seamount, mapping survey, marine education, Michael/Allegheny Seamount, Milne-Edwards Ridge, Monument Seamount, multibeam, multibeam backscatter, multibeam sonar, multi-beam sonar, Nashville Seamount, National Marine Sanctuaries, National Ocean Mapping Exploration and Characterization, New England, Newport, noaa, noaa fleet, NOMECS, Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monument, Northern U.S. East Coast, ocean, ocean discovery, ocean education, ocean exploration, ocean exploration and research, ocean literacy, ocean research, oceans, OER, okeanos, okeanos explorer, R337, Retriever Seamount, Rhode Island, science, scientific computing system, scientific mission, scientific research, San Pablo Seamount, Sheldrake



Seamount, SCS, sea, sea acceptance trials, Seabed 2030, single beam sonar, singlebeam sonar, single-beam sonar, site characterization, sonar anomalies, Southeastern US Continental Margin, South Atlantic Bight, Southeast Deep-sea Coral Initiative, stewardship, sub-bottom profile, systematic exploration, technology, Terrain Relative Navigation, transformational research, TRN, undersea, underwater, Unmapped Twins, Vogl Seamount, vulnerable marine habitats, Washington Canyon, water column backscatter

**1.4 If this mission is part of a series of missions, what is the series name?**

Okeanos ROV Cruises

**1.5 Planned or Actual Temporal Coverage of the data:**

Start Date: 2021-06-30 and End Date: 2021-07-29

**1.6 Actual or Planned Geographic Coverage of the data:**

Northernmost Boundary: 42 and Southernmost Boundary: 34

Westernmost Boundary: -72 and Easternmost Boundary: -47

**1.7 What data types will be created or captured and submitted for archive?**

Bottom Backscatter, Cruise Plan, Cruise Summary, Dive Summary Reports, EK60 Split Beam Data, EK80 Split Beam Data, Highlight Images, Launch and Recovery Locations, Multibeam (image), Multibeam (processed), Multibeam (product), Multibeam (raw), Navigational Data, Raw Video (digital), Sample Analysis Reports, SCS Output (compressed), SCS Output (native), Seafloor Imagery, Sound Velocity Profile, Sub-Bottom Profile data, Temperature data, Water Column Backscatter, XBT (raw)

**1.8 What platforms will be employed?**

NOAA Ship Okeanos Explorer, Deep Discoverer ROV, Seirios Camera Platform

**2 Points of Contact for this Data Producing Project**

Overall POC: Dr. Kimberly Galvez, [kimberly.galvez@noaa.gov](mailto:kimberly.galvez@noaa.gov), Kasey Cantwell, [kasey.cantwell@noaa.gov](mailto:kasey.cantwell@noaa.gov)

Title: Training Expedition Coordinator, Expedition Coordinator

Affiliation: NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Research

Phone: (305) 951-6956 (K. Galvez), (301) 717-7776 (K. Cantwell)

**3 Points of Contact for Managing the Data**

Data POC: Megan Cromwell, Chris Ritter

Data POC Title: Stewardship Data Management, Onboard and shoreside data management

Data POC Email: [megan.cromwell@noaa.gov](mailto:megan.cromwell@noaa.gov), [chris.ritter@tgfoe.org](mailto:chris.ritter@tgfoe.org)



## 4 Resources

### 4.1 Have resources for management of these data been identified?

Yes

### 4.2 Approximate percentage of the budget devoted to data management. (specify % or unknown)

Unknown

## 5 Data Lineage and Quality

### 5.1 What is the processing workflow from collection to public release?

Delivered to NCEI for data stewardship will be: SCS data, in its native format as well as an archive-ready, documented, and compressed NetCDF3 format; water column profile data and navigation data, in ASCII format; and EM304 and EK60/80 output data and metadata along with water column profiles used for calibration in a bagit format.

Low-res ROV Video will be synched to a shoreside repository server at the University of Rhode Island (URI) Inner Space Center, and full-res ROV video will be copied to hard-drive and delivered to URI for backup and to NCEI for stewardship.

### 5.2 What quality control procedures will be employed?

Quality control procedures for the data from the Kongsberg EM304 is handled at UNH CCOM/JHC. Raw (level-0) bathymetry files are cleaned/edited into new data files (level-1) and converted to a variety of products (level-2). Data from sensors monitored through the SCS are archived in their native format and are not quality controlled. Data from CTD casts and XBT firings are archived in their native format.

## 6 Data Documentation

### 6.1 Does the metadata comply with the Data Documentation Directive?

Yes

#### 6.1.1 If metadata are non-existent or non-compliant, please explain:

Not Applicable

### 6.2 Where will the metadata be hosted?

Organization: An ISO format collection-level metadata record will be generated during pre-cruise planning and published in the NOAA OneStop catalog and an OER Web Accessible Folder (WAF) hosted at NCEI-MS for public discovery and access.

URL: [https://data.noaa.gov/waf/NOAA/NESDIS/ncei/oer/iso\\_u/xml/](https://data.noaa.gov/waf/NOAA/NESDIS/ncei/oer/iso_u/xml/)



Metadata Standard: ISO 19115-2 Geographic Information with Extensions for Imagery and Gridded Data will be the metadata standard employed.

### **6.3 Process for producing and maintaining metadata:**

Metadata will be generated via xml editors or metadata generation tools.

## **7 Data Access**

### **7.1 Do the data comply with the Data Access Directive?**

Yes

#### **7.1.1 If the data will not be available to the public, or with limitations, provide a valid reason.**

Not Applicable

#### **7.1.2 If there are limitations, describe how data are protected from unauthorized access.**

Account access to mission systems are maintained and controlled by the Program. Data access prior to public accessibility is documented through the use of Data Request forms and standard operating procedures.

### **7.2 Name and URL of organization or facility providing data access.**

Organization: NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI)

URL: <https://www.ncei.noaa.gov>

### **7.3 Approximate delay between data collection and dissemination. By what authority?**

Hold time: Data are considered immediately publicly accessible as soon as possible after the mission, unless there are documented restrictions.

Hold authority: not applicable

### **7.4 Prepare a Data Access Statement**

No data access constraints, unless data are protected under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

## **8 Data Preservation and Protection**

### **8.1 Actual or planned long-term data archive location:**

Data from this mission will be preserved and stewarded through the NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information. Refer to the Okeanos Explorer Data Management Plan at NOAA's EDMC DMP Repository for detailed descriptions of the processes, procedures, and partners involved in this collaborative effort.

### **8.2 If no archive planned, why?**

Not Applicable

**8.3 If any delay between data collection and submission to an archive facility, please explain.**

The EM304 output data is a new format not currently read by NCEI archive systems. The new file format is being added to the system capability. There will be an unknown delay for the archive of these .kml files. All other data will be archived within 60-90 days of receipt.

**8.4 How will data be protected from accidental or malicious modification or deletion?**

Data management standard operating procedures minimizing accidental or malicious modification or deletion are in place aboard the Okeanos Explorer and will be enforced.

**8.5 Prepare a Data Use Statement**

Data use shall be credited to NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Research.





## Appendix C. Licenses, Permits, and Environmental Compliance

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Office of Ocean Exploration and Research (OER) is required to include in its planning and decision-making processes appropriate and careful consideration of the potential environmental consequences of actions it proposes to fund, authorize, and/or conduct. The companion manual for NOAA Administrative Order 216-6A describes the agency's specific procedures for NEPA compliance.

An environmental review memorandum was completed for OER expeditions on NOAA Ship *Okeanos Explorer* in 2021 in accordance with Section 4 of the companion manual in the form of a categorical exclusion worksheet. Based on this review, a categorical exclusion was determined to be the appropriate level of NEPA analysis necessary, as no extraordinary circumstances exist that require the preparation of an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

As required under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), OER conducted an informal consultation with NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Office of Protected Resources to request their concurrence with OER's biological evaluation determining that OER's operations on *Okeanos Explorer* conducted in 2021 may affect, but are not likely to adversely affect, ESA-listed marine species. In a Letter of Concurrence dated February 3, 2021, the chief of the ESA Interagency Cooperation Division in the NMFS Office of Protected Resources wrote that NMFS concurs with OER's determination.

OER is in the process of receiving an Introduction from the Sea certificate under CITES from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service which is required for the vessel to transport specimens collected outside of U.S. waters into the United States. Submission for this certificate was requested on March 5, 2021, as noted in the Applicable Restrictions/Sampling Operations section of these instructions. Once received, the certificate will be included in the appropriate documents.

In addition, OER consulted with the NMFS Greater Atlantic Fisheries Office (GARFO) on potential impacts of operations to essential fish habitat (EFH) in the greater Atlantic region under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. OER received a letter of acknowledgement from GARFO on March 10, 2021, that covers expedition activities from April 1, 2021, through September 31, 2021.

The ESA Section 7 Letter of Concurrence and a Letter of Acknowledgement from GARFO are in the ["NOAA Ship \*Okeanos Explorer\* FY2021 Field Season Instructions."](#)



## United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
International Affairs  
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: IA  
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

June 03, 2021

Kasey Cantwell  
NOAA  
1315 East West Hwy SSMC3, #10229  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Kasey Cantwell:

A multiple use Introduction from the Sea certificate has been established under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) for biological samples from five coral species including: *Leiopathes* species, *Bathypathes* species, *Lophelia pertusa*, *Madrepora oculata*, and *Desmophyllum dianthus*.

The master file number is 07208E and it expires June 02, 2022.

The certificate may be copied for multiple shipments. You must retain the original. You must fill in Block 11 (Quantity) for each shipment prior to entry to the United States from the high seas. Block 11.A-E must be reported in total number of samples per shipment. Each time you enter the United States from the high seas, your shipment must be accompanied by one of these certificates. Permits must be validated by USFWS prior to entry to the United States.

It is the permittee's responsibility to comply with the conditions of the certificate and to keep the multiple use certificate updated. Please see the following conditions:

1. Samples collected from wild-caught animals: Samples collected from wild-caught animals may be imported provided the conditions of 2 through 5 and 7 through 9 are met.
2. Animals may only be captured in cooperation with local wildlife authorities (e.g., samples may be collected in parks/nature reserves only with the knowledge and consent of the park/reserve manager). No samples may be obtained from animals that are permanently removed from the wild for the sole purpose of collecting samples, or for other than scientific or management purposes approved and carried out by appropriate wildlife authorities.
3. No remuneration, either financial or in-kind, may be offered for the taking of animals from the wild (i.e., killing, trapping) or for the collection of samples from free-ranging wildlife. This condition does not preclude legitimate collection and transportation expenses (e.g., hiring staff, freight costs), but does prohibit the paying of bounties or incentive pay for taking of animals from the wild, or the collection of samples from animals in the wild. Explicit written approval for collection from wild animals must be obtained from appropriate wildlife authorities and retained in the applicant's files for a period of 5 years and must be supplied upon the Division of Scientific Authority's request.
4. No animals may be killed intentionally for the purpose of collecting samples.
5. Care must be taken when handling live animals to minimize any possibility of injury. If, for any reason, any wild or captive-held animal dies or incurs a debilitating injury as a result of being restrained for sample collection, or while having the sample collected, further collection of samples must be suspended until methods are evaluated and, if appropriate, modified to prevent further incidences of injury or death. If two or more animals die or incur debilitating injuries within a 6-month period, sample collection must be suspended and the Division of Scientific Authority contacted in writing within 7 days of the death of the second individual. Before further

Page 1 of 2



sampling will be authorized a written account of the details of the event, and recommendations to resolve the situation, must be submitted for a review of sampling procedures (point of contact: Dr. Rosemarie Gnam, Chief, Division of Scientific Authority, MS: IA, 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041-3803; tel. 703-358-1708; fax 703-358-2276).

6. In the event that samples are collected from salvage<sup>1</sup>: Samples collected from salvaged dead wild animals may be imported provided: (a) the collection of the samples occurs in a manner that does not disrupt other animals' movements or behavior during a critical phase of their activities or life cycle, and (b) provided the conditions below are met. (<sup>1</sup>Salvage is defined as the collection of samples from dead animals that were not killed intentionally or that died of causes unrelated either to the collection of samples or the capture of the animal for the purpose of obtaining samples).
7. The applicant must maintain a record of all samples imported under this permit which must be made available to the Division of Scientific Authority upon request. This record should include for each import: the species and type(s) of specimens, date(s) collected, the date shipped, the location(s) of collection and name of person who collected the sample(s), conditions under which samples were collected (salvage or wild-caught), authorizing government agency, and any mortalities or debilitating injuries that may have occurred as a result, directly or indirectly, of the collection activities.
8. The applicant must maintain copies of all CITES permits used to obtain and import all specimens and these documents must be made available to the Division of Scientific Authority upon request.

**Reporting requirement:** On a yearly basis, the applicant must provide USFWS with a report that contains a record of all samples imported under this permit since the last reporting period. All reporting periods must be clearly stated. The report must include the primary reason for the collection and the name and organizational affiliation of all individuals who conducted the sampling, as well as a copy of all relevant sample collection permits issued by the authorizing government agency, or individual in the case of private landowners. The report must include any mortalities or debilitating injuries that may have occurred as a result, directly or indirectly, of the collection activities. Finally, the report must include for each sample in each import: (a) the species and type of sample collected (e.g., blood, tissue etc.); (b) date of sample collection; (c) date of sample shipment and where the sample was shipped; and (d) the collection location.

**Updating Master Files:** It is your responsibility to keep your Introduction from the Sea certificate updated. As you add or delete raw material to your project, you must inform the Division of Management Authority. If you need to renew or amend your Introduction from the Sea certificate, use the application form available at <http://www.fws.gov/forms/3-200-31.pdf>, to provide the updated information along with the required \$100.00 processing fee.



Sincerely,

MICHELLE  
TURTON



Digital signed by MICHELLE TURTON  
Date: 2011.06.03 15:04:36 -0500

Michelle Turton, Biologist  
Branch of Permits  
Division of Management Authority





FORM 3-201A (1/87)		 <b>CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> EXPORT PERMIT <input type="checkbox"/> RE-EXPORT CERTIFICATE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER CERTIFICATE (see block 9)	Page 1 of 4 1. Original Permit/Certificate No. <b>21US07208E/9</b> 2. Valid until <b>2022-06-02</b>						
3. Permittee (name and address, country) NOAA 1315 EAST WEST HWY SSMC3, #10229 SILVER SPRING, MD 20910 U.S.A.		4. Consignee (name and address, country) HIGH SEAS									
5. Special Conditions ALL APPLICABLE FOREIGN, LOCAL, STATE, OR OTHER FEDERAL LAWS, INCLUDING THOSE REQUIRING PERMITS, MUST BE OBSERVED.  PERMIT MAY BE COPIED FOR MULTIPLE SHIPMENTS. PERMITTEE TO RETAIN ORIGINAL.  PERMITTEE MUST COMPLETE BLOCK(S) 11 (QUANTITY) PRIOR TO EACH SHIPMENT.  CONDITIONS CONTINUE ON PAGE 3 AND 4.		5a. Purpose of Transaction S		6. U.S. Management Authority Department of the Interior U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE DIVISION OF MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY BRANCH OF PERMITS, MS: IA 5275 LEESBURG PIKE FALLS CHURCH VA 22041-3803   <b>2021-06-03</b> Issuing Date United States Management Authority AUTHORITY: Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 USC 1531 et. seq.)							
7/8. Common Name and Scientific name (genus and species) of Animal or Plant		9. Description of Part or Derivative, including identifying marks or numbers (age/sex if live)		10. Appendix No. and Source							
A. Common Name BLACK CORAL  Scientific Name LEIOPATHES SPECIES		9. INTRODUCTION FROM THE SEA: FRAGMENT OR BRANCH OF CORAL.		10. 2 W 11. Quantity (including units) NO 11a. Total Exported/Quota							
12. Country of Origin HIGH SEAS		Permit/Certificate No.		Date of Issue							
12a. Country of Last Re-export		Re-export Certificate No.		Date of Issue							
12b. Breeding Operation No.		12c. Pre-Convention: Date of Acquisition									
B. Common Name BLACK CORAL  Scientific Name BATHYPATHES SPECIES		9. INTRODUCTION FROM THE SEA: FRAGMENT OR BRANCH OF CORAL.		10. 2 W 11. Quantity (including units) NO 11a. Total Exported/Quota							
12. Country of Origin HIGH SEAS		Permit/Certificate No.		Date of Issue							
12a. Country of Last Re-export		Re-export Certificate No.		Date of Issue							
12b. Breeding Operation No.		12c. Pre-Convention: Date of Acquisition									
13. Export / Re-export Endorsement: The official who inspects shipment upon exportation / re-exportation must enter the total quantities of specimens being exported / re-exported in this block.		14. Bill of Lading/Air Way-Bill Number  Port of Exportation / Re-exportation  Total No. of Shipping Containers		15. This document valid only with inspecting official's ORIGINAL stamp, signature and date in this block.  _____ Inspecting Official's Stamp, Signature and Date							
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		Department of the Interior U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE DIVISION OF MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY BRANCH OF PERMITS, MS: IA 5275 LEESBURG PIKE FALLS CHURCH VA 22041-3803		Page 2 of 4											
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6. U.S. Management Authority		FALLS CHURCH VA		2021-06-03											
PLACE		Issuing Date													
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C. Common Name		9. INTRODUCTION FROM THE SEA: FRAGMENT OR BRANCH OF CORAL.		10. 2 W											
TUFT CORAL				11. Quantity (including units)		NO									
Scientific Name				11a. Total Exported/Quota											
LOPHELIA PERTUSA															
12. Country of Origin	Permit/Certificate No.	Date of Issue	12b. Breeding Operation No.												
HIGH SEAS															
12a. Country of Last Re-export	Re-export Certificate No.	Date of Issue	12c. Pre-Convention: Date of Acquisition												
D. Common Name		9. INTRODUCTION FROM THE SEA: FRAGMENT OR BRANCH OF CORAL.		10. 2 W											
CORAL				11. Quantity (including units)		NO									
Scientific Name				11a. Total Exported/Quota											
MADREPORA OCOLATA															
12. Country of Origin	Permit/Certificate No.	Date of Issue	12b. Breeding Operation No.												
HIGH SEAS															
12a. Country of Last Re-export	Re-export Certificate No.	Date of Issue	12c. Pre-Convention: Date of Acquisition												
E. Common Name		9. INTRODUCTION FROM THE SEA: FRAGMENT OR BRANCH OF CORAL.		10. 2 W											
CORAL				11. Quantity (including units)		NO									
Scientific Name				11a. Total Exported/Quota											
DESMOPHYLLUM DIANTHUS															
12. Country of Origin	Permit/Certificate No.	Date of Issue	12b. Breeding Operation No.												
HIGH SEAS															
12a. Country of Last Re-export	Re-export Certificate No.	Date of Issue	12c. Pre-Convention: Date of Acquisition												
F. Common Name		9. XXXXXX		10. XXX XXX											
XXXXXX				11. Quantity (including units)		XXX									
Scientific Name				11a. Total Exported/Quota		XXXXXX									
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C															
D															
E															
F															
		Total No. of Shipping Containers													



	<b>SPECIAL PERMIT CONDITIONS</b>	Department of the Interior U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Division of Management Authority Falls Church, VA 22041 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	Page 3 of 4  1. Original Permit/Certificate No.  21US07208E/9
5/6. THIS PERMIT IS ISSUED UNDER AUTHORITY OF THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) BY:			
<u>Falls Church, VA</u> Place	<u>06/03/2021</u> Issuing Date	United States Management Authority	
<b>PERMITTEE: NMFS PACIFIC ISLANDS REGIONAL OFFICE</b>			
<b>Block 5: Special Permit Conditions</b>			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Samples collected from wild-caught animals: Samples collected from wild-caught animals may be imported provided the conditions of 2 through 5 and 7 through 9 are met.</li> <li>2. Animals may only be captured in cooperation with local wildlife authorities (e.g., samples may be collected in parks/nature reserves only with the knowledge and consent of the park/reserve manager). No samples may be obtained from animals that are permanently removed from the wild for the sole purpose of collecting samples, or for other than scientific or management purposes approved and carried out by appropriate wildlife authorities.</li> <li>3. No remuneration, either financial or in-kind, may be offered for the taking of animals from the wild (i.e., killing, trapping) or for the collection of samples from free-ranging wildlife. This condition does not preclude legitimate collection and transportation expenses (e.g., hiring staff, freight costs), but does prohibit the paying of bounties or incentive pay for taking of animals from the wild, or the collection of samples from animals in the wild. Explicit written approval for collection from wild animals must be obtained from appropriate wildlife authorities and retained in the applicant's files for a period of 5 years and must be supplied upon the Division of Scientific Authority's request.</li> <li>4. No animals may be killed intentionally for the purpose of collecting samples.</li> <li>5. Care must be taken when handling live animals to minimize any possibility of injury. If, for any reason, any wild or captive-held animal dies or incurs a debilitating injury as a result of being restrained for sample collection, or while having the sample collected, further collection of samples must be suspended until methods are evaluated and, if appropriate, modified to prevent further incidences of injury or death. If two or more animals die or incur debilitating injuries within a 6-month period, sample collection must be suspended and the Division of Scientific Authority contacted in writing within 7 days of the death of the second individual. Before further sampling will be authorized a written account of the details of the event, and recommendations to resolve the situation, must be submitted for a review of sampling procedures (point of contact: Dr. Rosemarie Gnam, Chief, Division of Scientific Authority, MS: IA, 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041-3803; tel. 703-358-1708; fax 703-358-2276).</li> </ol>			
15. EXPORT/RE-EXPORT/IMPORT ENDORSEMENT: I, the inspecting official, certify that the information provided above is accurate. This document is valid only with inspecting official's ORIGINAL stamp, signature and date in this block.			
_____ Inspecting Official's Stamp, Signature and Date			





SPECIAL PERMIT  
CONDITIONS

Department of the Interior  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Division of Management Authority  
Falls Church, VA 22041  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Page 4 of 4

1. Original Permit/Certificate No.

211IS07208E/9

5/6. THIS PERMIT IS ISSUED UNDER AUTHORITY OF THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT

C. 1531 et seq.) BY:

Falls Church, VA  
Place

06/03/2021  
Issuing Date



United States Management Authority

PERMITTEE: NMFS PACIFIC ISLANDS REGIONAL OFFICE

**BLOCK 5: Special Permit Conditions**

6. In the event that samples are collected from salvage<sup>1</sup>: Samples collected from salvaged dead wild animals may be imported provided: (a) the collection of the samples occurs in a manner that does not disrupt other animals' movements or behavior during a critical phase of their activities or life cycle, and (b) provided the conditions below are met. (<sup>1</sup>Salvage is defined as the collection of samples from dead animals that were not killed intentionally or that died of causes unrelated either to the collection of samples or the capture of the animal for the purpose of obtaining samples).
7. The applicant must maintain a record of all samples imported under this permit which must be made available to the Division of Scientific Authority upon request. This record should include for each import: the species and type(s) of specimens, date(s) collected, the date shipped, the location(s) of collection and name of person who collected the sample(s), conditions under which samples were collected (salvage or wild-caught), authorizing government agency, and any mortalities or debilitating injuries that may have occurred as a result, directly or indirectly, of the collection activities.
8. The applicant must maintain copies of all CITES permits used to obtain and import all specimens and these documents must be made available to the Division of Scientific Authority upon request.
9. **Annual Report:** On a yearly basis, the applicant must provide USFWS with a report that contains a record of all samples imported under this permit since the last reporting period. All reporting periods must be clearly stated. The report must include the primary reason for the collection and the name and organizational affiliation of all individuals who conducted the sampling, as well as a copy of all relevant sample collection permits issued by the authorizing government agency, or individual in the case of private landowners. The report must include any mortalities or debilitating injuries that may have occurred as a result, directly or indirectly, of the collection activities. Finally, the report must include for each sample in each import: (a) the species and type of sample collected (e.g., blood, tissue etc.); (b) date of sample collection; (c) date of sample shipment and where the sample was shipped; and (d) the collection location.

15. EXPORT/RE-EXPORT/IMPORT ENDORSEMENT: I, the inspecting official, certify that the information provided above is accurate. This document is valid only with inspecting official's ORIGINAL stamp, signature and date in this block.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Inspecting Official's Stamp, Signature and Date



# United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
Washington, D.C. 20244

## GENERAL WILDLIFE PERMIT CONDITIONS

In addition to any special conditions identified on the face of the permit, the following conditions must be met:

1. Sections 13.21 through 13.28 and sections 13.41 through 13.50 of Title 50 Code of Federal Regulations (see attached) are additional conditions of this permit.
2. All applicable foreign, local, State, tribal or Federal laws, including those requiring permits, must be observed.
3. Living specimens must be handled and shipped so as to minimize risk of injury, damage to health or cruel treatment (for mammals and birds, *see* 50 CFR 14.101-14.172 for additional information on specific regulatory requirements). The permittee must ensure that living specimens to be shipped or transferred are healthy.
4. Container or package containing authorized wildlife must be plainly marked on the outside with both the name and address of shipper and consignee and an accurate description of the contents including common and scientific name and number of specimens within (alternative marking requirements are identified in 50 CFR 14.82).
5. For activities other than import or export, permittee must carry a copy of permit while conducting authorized activities. The original permit must be returned to the Division of Management Authority if the permittee has not used it or if permittee is requesting renewal or amendment.
6. Permit number must be printed on all documents and advertisements involving activities conducted under this permit.

### For permits authorizing import, export or re-export:

7. Import, export or re-export of pre-Act wildlife under the U.S. Endangered Species Act must be accompanied by documentation required under 50 CFR 17.4 (contact Division of Management Authority for copy).
8. Import of species listed in Appendix I, II or III of CITES must be accompanied by proper foreign documentation from the country of export or re-export.
9. The original permit and a completed copy of the Wildlife Declaration (Form 3-177) must be presented to a USFWS officer at the port upon import, export or re-export of wildlife shipments.
10. Import, export or re-export of wildlife must be done through a designated port (see attachment) or as authorized by an Exception to Designated Port permit (see below).  
**The appropriate port must be contacted at least 48 hours prior to use to schedule an inspection of your shipment.**

### Exception to Designated Port Permittee:

Authorization to import, export, or re-export wildlife through a non-designated port must be obtained prior to any import or export activity (see 50 CFR 14.31 - 14.33 for further information).

The USFWS law enforcement office identified on the permit must be notified at least 72 hours prior to import, export, or re-export, or within the timeframe designated on the face of the permit.

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## CONDITIONS - EXCERPTS FROM 50 CFR 13\*

### § 13.21 Issuance of permits.

(a) No permit may be issued prior to the receipt of a written application therefor, unless a written variation from the requirements, as authorized by Sec. 13.4, is inserted into the official file of the Bureau. An oral or written representation of an employee or agent of the United States Government, or an action of such employee or agent, shall not be construed as a permit unless it meets the requirements of a permit as defined in 50 CFR 10.12.

(b) Upon receipt of a properly executed application for a permit, the Director shall issue the appropriate permit unless:

(1) The applicant has been assessed a civil penalty or convicted of any criminal provision of any statute or regulation relating to the activity for which the application is filed, if such assessment or conviction evidences a lack of responsibility.

(2) The applicant has failed to disclose material information required, or has made false statements as to any material fact, in connection with his application;

(3) The applicant has failed to demonstrate a valid justification for the permit and a showing of responsibility;

(4) The authorization requested potentially threatens a wildlife or plant population, or

(5) The Director finds through further inquiry or investigation, or otherwise, that the applicant is not qualified.

(c) Disqualifying factors. Any one of the following will disqualify a person from receiving permits issued under this part.

(1) A conviction, or entry of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, for a felony violation of the Lacey Act, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, or the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act disqualifies any such person from receiving or exercising the privileges of a permit, unless such disqualification has been expressly waived by the Director in response to a written petition.

(2) The revocation of a permit for reasons found in Sec. 13.28 (a)(1) or (a)(2) disqualifies any such person from receiving or exercising the privileges of a similar permit for a period of five years from the date of the final agency decision on such revocation.

(3) The failure to pay any required fees or assessed costs and penalties, whether or not reduced to judgment disqualifies such person from receiving or exercising the privileges of a permit as long as such moneys are owed to the United States. This requirement shall not apply to any civil penalty presently subject to administrative or judicial appeal; provided that the pendency of a collection action brought by the United States or its assignees shall not

constitute an appeal within the meaning of this subsection.

(4) The failure to submit timely, accurate, or valid reports as required may disqualify such person from receiving or exercising the privileges of a permit as long as the deficiency exists.

(d) Use of supplemental information. The issuing officer, in making a determination under this subsection, may use any information available that is relevant to the issue. This may include any prior conviction, or entry of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, or assessment of civil or criminal penalty for a violation of any Federal or State law or regulation governing the permitted activity. It may also include any prior permit revocations or suspensions, or any reports of State or local officials. The issuing officer shall consider all relevant facts or information available, and may make independent inquiry or investigation to verify information or substantiate qualifications asserted by the applicant.

(e) Conditions of issuance and acceptance. (1) Any permit automatically incorporates within its terms the conditions and requirements of subpart D of this part and of any part(s) or section(s) specifically authorizing or governing the activity for which the permit is issued, as well as any other conditions deemed appropriate and included on the face of the permit at the discretion of the Director.

(2) Any person accepting and holding a permit under this subchapter B acknowledges the necessity for close regulation and monitoring of the permitted activity by the Government. By accepting such permit, the permittee consents to and shall allow entry by agents or employees of the Service upon premises where the permitted activity is conducted at any reasonable hour. Service agents or employees may enter such premises to inspect the location; any books, records, or permits required to be kept by this subchapter B; and any wildlife or plants kept under authority of the permit.

(f) Term of permit. Unless otherwise modified, a permit is valid during the period specified on the face of the permit. Such period shall include the effective date and the date of expiration.

(g) Denial. The issuing officer may deny a permit to any applicant who fails to meet the issuance criteria set forth in this section or in the part(s) or section(s) specifically governing the activity for which the permit is requested.

### § 13.22 Renewal of permits.

(a) *Application for renewal.* Applicants for renewal of a permit must submit a written application at least 30 days prior to the expiration date of the permit. Applicants must certify in the form required

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## CONDITIONS - EXCERPTS FROM 50 CFR 13\*

by § 13.12(a)(5) that all statements and information in the original application remain current and correct, unless previously changed or corrected. If such information is no longer current or correct, the applicant must provide corrected information.

(b) *Renewal criteria.* The Service shall issue a renewal of a permit if the applicant meets the criteria for issuance in § 13.21(b) and is not disqualified under § 13.21(c).

(c) *Continuation of permitted activity.* Any person holding a valid, renewable permit may continue the activities authorized by the expired permit until the Service acts on the application for renewal if all of the following conditions are met:

- (1) The permit is currently in force and not suspended or revoked;
- (2) The person has complied with this section; and

(3) The permit is not a CITES document that was issued under part 23 of this subchapter (because the CITES document is void upon expiration).

(d) *Denial.* The issuing officer may deny renewal of a permit to any applicant who fails to meet the issuance criteria set forth in § 13.21 of this part, or in the part(s) or section(s) specifically governing the activity for which the renewal is requested.

[54 FR 38148, Sept. 14, 1989, as amended at 72 FR 48446, Aug. 23, 2007]

### § 13.23 Amendment of permits.

(a) *Permittee's request.* Where circumstances have changed so that a permittee desires to have any condition of his permit modified, such permittee must submit a full written justification and supporting information in conformity with this part and the part under which the permit was issued.

(b) The Service reserves the right to amend any permit for just cause at any time during its term, upon written finding of necessity, provided that any such amendment of a permit issued under Sec. 17.22(b) through (d) or Sec. 17.32(b) through (d) of this subchapter shall be consistent with the requirements of Sec. 17.22(b)(5), (c)(5) and (d)(5) or Sec. 17.32(b)(5), (c)(5) and (d)(5) of this subchapter, respectively.

(c) *Change of name or address.* A permittee is not required to obtain a new permit if there is a change in the legal individual or business name, or in the mailing address of the permittee. A permittee is required to notify the issuing office within 10 calendar days of such change. This provision does not authorize any change in location of the conduct of the permitted activity when approval of the location is a qualifying condition of the permit.

### § 13.24 Right of succession by certain persons.

(a) Certain persons other than the permittee are authorized to carry on a permitted activity for the remainder of the term of a current permit, provided they comply with the provisions of paragraph (b) of this section. Such persons are the following:

- (1) The surviving spouse, child, executor, administrator, or other legal representative of a deceased permittee; or
- (2) A receiver or trustee in bankruptcy or a court designated assignee for the benefit of creditors.

(b) In order to qualify for the authorization provided in this section, the person or persons desiring to continue the activity shall furnish the permit to the issuing officer for endorsement within 90 days from the date the successor begins to carry on the activity.

(c) In the case of permits issued under Sec. 17.22(b) through (d) or Sec. 17.32(b) through (d) of this subchapter B, the successor's authorization under the permit is also subject to a determination by the Service that:

- (1) The successor meets all of the qualifications under this part for holding a permit;
- (2) The successor has provided adequate written assurances that it will provide sufficient funding for the conservation plan or Agreement and will implement the relevant terms and conditions of the permit, including any outstanding minimization and mitigation requirements; and
- (3) The successor has provided such other information as the Service determines is relevant to the processing of the request.

### § 13.25 Transfer of permits and scope of permit authorization.

(a) Except as otherwise provided for in this section, permits issued under this part are not transferable or assignable.

(b) Permits issued under Sec. 17.22(b) or Sec. 17.32(b) of this subchapter B may be transferred in whole or in part through a joint submission by the permittee and the proposed transferee or in the case of a deceased permittee, the deceased permittee's legal representative and the proposed transferee, provided the Service determines that:

- (1) The proposed transferee meets all of the qualifications under this part for holding a permit;
- (2) The proposed transferee has provided adequate written assurances that it will provide sufficient funding for the conservation plan or Agreement and will implement the relevant terms and conditions of the permit, including any outstanding minimization and mitigation requirements; and



## CONDITIONS - EXCERPTS FROM 50 CFR 13\*

(3) The proposed transferee has provided such other information as the Service determines is relevant to the processing of the submission.

(c) In the case of the transfer of lands subject to an agreement and permit issued under Sec. 17.22(c) or (d) or Sec. 17.32 (c) or (d) of this subchapter B, the Service will transfer the permit to the new owner if the new owner agrees in writing to become a party to the original agreement and permit.

(d) Except as otherwise stated on the face of the permit, any person who is under the direct control of the permittee, or who is employed by or under contract to the permittee for purposes authorized by the permit, may carry out the activity authorized by the permit.

(e) In the case of permits issued under Sec. 17.22(b)-(d) or Sec. 17.32(b)-(d) of this subchapter a State or local governmental entity, a person is under the direct control of the permittee where:

(1) The person is under the jurisdiction of the permittee and the permit provides that such person(s) may carry out the authorized activity; or

(2) The person has been issued a permit by the governmental entity or has executed a written instrument with the governmental entity, pursuant to the terms of the implementing agreement.

### § 13.26 Discontinuance of permit activity.

When a permittee, or any successor to a permittee as provided for by Sec. 13.24, discontinues activities authorized by a permit, the permittee shall within 30 calendar days of the discontinuance return the permit to the issuing office together with a written statement surrendering the permit for cancellation. The permit shall be deemed void and cancelled upon its receipt by the issuing office. No refund of any fees paid for issuance of the permit or for any other fees or costs associated with a permitted activity shall be made when a permit is surrendered for cancellation for any reason prior to the expiration date stated on the face of the permit.

### § 13.27 Permit suspension.

(a) Criteria for suspension. The privileges of exercising some or all of the permit authority may be suspended at any time if the permittee is not in compliance with the conditions of the permit, or with any applicable laws or regulations governing the conduct of the permitted activity. The issuing officer may also suspend all or part of the privileges authorized by a permit if the permittee fails to pay any fees, penalties or costs owed to the Government. Such suspension shall remain in effect until the issuing officer determines that the permittee has corrected the deficiencies.

(b) Procedure for suspension. (1) When the issuing officer believes there are valid grounds for suspending a permit the permittee shall be notified in writing of the proposed suspension by certified or registered mail. This notice shall identify the permit to be suspended, the reason(s) for such suspension, the actions necessary to correct the deficiencies, and inform the permittee of the right to object to the proposed suspension. The issuing officer may amend any notice of suspension at any time.

(2) Upon receipt of a notice of proposed suspension the permittee may file a written objection to the proposed action. Such objection must be in writing, must be filed within 45 calendar days of the date of the notice of proposal, must state the reasons why the permittee objects to the proposed suspension, and may include supporting documentation.

(3) A decision on the suspension shall be made within 45 days after the end of the objection period. The issuing officer shall notify the permittee in writing of the Service's decision and the reasons therefore. The issuing officer shall also provide the applicant with the information concerning the right to request reconsideration of the decision under Sec. 13.29 of this part and the procedures for requesting reconsideration.

### § 13.28 Permit revocation.

(a) Criteria for revocation. A permit may be revoked for any of the following reasons:

(1) The permittee willfully violates any Federal or State statute or regulation, or any Indian tribal law or regulation, or any law or regulation of any foreign country, which involves a violation of the conditions of the permit or of the laws or regulations governing the permitted activity; or

(2) The permittee fails within 60 days to correct deficiencies that were the cause of a permit suspension; or

(3) The permittee becomes disqualified under Sec. 13.21(c) of this part; or

(4) A change occurs in the statute or regulation authorizing the permit that prohibits the continuation of a permit issued by the Service; or

(5) Except for permits issued under Sec. 17.22(b) through (d) or Sec. 17.32(b) through (d) of this subchapter, the population(s) of the wildlife or plant that is the subject of the permit declines to the extent that continuation of the permitted activity would be detrimental to maintenance or recovery of the affected population.

(b) Procedure for revocation. (1) When the issuing officer believes there are valid grounds for revoking a permit, the permittee shall be notified in writing of the proposed revocation by certified or registered



## CONDITIONS - EXCERPTS FROM 50 CFR 13\*

mail. This notice shall identify the permit to be revoked, the reason(s) for such revocation, the proposed disposition of the wildlife, if any, and inform the permittee of the right to object to the proposed revocation. The issuing officer may amend any notice of revocation at any time.

(2) Upon receipt of a notice of proposed revocation the permittee may file a written objection to the proposed action. Such objection must be in writing, must be filed within 45 calendar days of the date of the notice of proposal, must state the reasons why the permittee objects to the proposed revocation, and may include supporting documentation.

(3) A decision on the revocation shall be made within 45 days after the end of the objection period. The issuing officer shall notify the permittee in writing of the Service's decision and the reasons therefore, together with the information concerning the right to request and the procedures for requesting reconsideration.

(4) Unless a permittee files a timely request for reconsideration, any wildlife held under authority of a permit that is revoked must be disposed of in accordance with instructions of the issuing officer. If a permittee files a timely request for reconsideration of a proposed revocation, such permittee may retain possession of any wildlife held under authority of the permit until final disposition of the appeal process.

### § 13.41 Humane conditions.

Any live wildlife possessed under a permit must be maintained under humane and healthful conditions.

### § 13.42 Permits are specific.

The authorizations on the face of a permit that set forth specific times, dates, places, methods of taking or carrying out the permitted activities, numbers and kinds of wildlife or plants, location of activity, and associated activities that must be carried out; describe certain circumscribed transactions; or otherwise allow a specifically limited matter, are to be strictly interpreted and will not be interpreted to permit similar or related matters outside the scope of strict construction.

### § 13.43 Alteration of permits.

Permits shall not be altered, erased, or mutilated, and any permit which has been altered, erased, or mutilated shall immediately become invalid. Unless specifically permitted on the face thereof, no permit shall be copied, nor shall any copy of a permit issued pursuant to this subchapter B be displayed, offered for inspection, or otherwise used for any official purpose for which the permit was issued.

### § 13.44 Display of permit.

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Any permit issued under this part shall be displayed for inspection upon request to the Director or his agent, or to any other person relying upon its existence.

### § 13.45 Filing of reports.

Permittees may be required to file reports of the activities conducted under the permit. Any such reports shall be filed not later than March 31 for the preceding calendar year ending December 31, or any portion thereof, during which a permit was in force, unless the regulations of this subchapter B or the provisions of the permit set forth other reporting requirements.

### § 13.46 Maintenance of records.

From the date of issuance of the permit, the permittee shall maintain complete and accurate records of any taking, possession, transportation, sale, purchase, barter, exportation, or importation of plants obtained from the wild (excluding seeds) or wildlife pursuant to such permit. Such records shall be kept current and shall include names and addresses of persons with whom any plant obtained from the wild (excluding seeds) or wildlife has been purchased, sold, bartered, or otherwise transferred, and the date of such transaction, and such other information as may be required or appropriate. Such records shall be legibly written or reproducible in English and shall be maintained for five years from the date of expiration of the permit.

### § 13.47 Inspection requirement.

Any person holding a permit under this subchapter B shall allow the Director's agent to enter his premises at any reasonable hour to inspect any wildlife or plant held or to inspect, audit, or copy any permits, books, or records required to be kept by regulations of this subchapter B.

### § 13.48 Compliance with conditions of permit.

Any person holding a permit under subchapter B and any person acting under authority of such permit must comply with all conditions of the permit and with all applicable laws and regulations governing the permitted activity.

### § 13.49 Surrender of permit.

Any person holding a permit under subchapter B shall surrender such permit to the issuing officer upon notification that the permit has been suspended or revoked by the Service, and all appeal procedures have been exhausted.

### § 13.50 Acceptance of liability.



## CONDITIONS - EXCERPTS FROM 50 CFR 13\*

Except as otherwise limited in the case of permits described in Sec. 13.25(d), any person holding a permit under this subchapter B assumes all liability and responsibility for the conduct of any activity conducted under the authority of such permit.

\*A copy of the complete regulation is available upon request from the Division of Management Authority.



## Designated Ports for Wildlife (50 CFR 14.12)

Wildlife, including parts and products, must be imported/exported through one of the designated ports listed below. **Please call the Designated Port to determine port availability, possible clearance and inspection costs, and other requirements. You must contact the appropriate port and schedule an inspection at least 72 hours prior to use.** Under special circumstances, other ports referred to as non-designated ports may be used if authorized by Law Enforcement under a valid Designated Port Exception permit. For more information contact a designated port, a FWS Law Enforcement Regional office or see the information at [http://www.fws.gov/le/ImpExp/Info\\_Importers\\_Exporters.htm](http://www.fws.gov/le/ImpExp/Info_Importers_Exporters.htm). A Wildlife Declaration Form 3-177 (obtained at the port or at the above web address) must be filed with the FWS inspector at the time of importation/exportation.

### **Anchorage**

**Mail:** P.O. Box 190045  
Anchorage, Alaska, 99519  
**Physical:** 4600 Postmark Dr.  
Suite NB207  
Anchorage, Alaska, 99502  
(907) 271-6198  
Fax: (907) 271-6199

### **Atlanta**

4341 Int'l Parkway, Suite 104  
Atlanta, Georgia, 30354  
(404) 763-7959  
Fax: (404) 366-7031

### **Baltimore**

**Mail:** P.O. Box 778  
Hanover, Maryland, 21076  
**Physical:** BWI Air Cargo  
Complex  
Building F, Suite 1500  
Baltimore, Maryland 21240  
(410) 694-9590  
Fax: (410) 694-9594

### **Boston**

70 Everett Avenue, Suite 315  
Chelsea, Massachusetts,  
02150  
(617) 889-6616  
Fax: (617) 889-1980

### **Chicago**

10600 Higgins Rd., Suite 200  
Rosemont, Illinois, 60018  
(847) 298-3250 ext.10  
Fax: (847) 298-7669

### **Dallas/Ft. Worth**

**Mail:** P.O. Box 610069  
DFW Airport, Texas, 75261  
**Physical:** 1639 West 23, Ste. 105  
(972) 574-3254  
Fax: (972) 574-4669

### **Honolulu**

3375 Koapaka St., #B296  
Honolulu, Hawaii, 96819  
(808) 861-8525  
Fax: (808) 861-8515

### **Houston**

16639 W. Hardy  
Houston, Texas, 77060  
(281) 230-7225  
Fax: (281) 230-7227

### **Los Angeles**

370 Amapola Ave., #114  
Torrance, California, 90501  
(310) 328-6307  
Fax: (310) 328-6399

### **Louisville**

601 W. Broadway, Suite 115-A  
Louisville, Kentucky, 40202  
(502) 582-5989  
Fax: (502) 582-5981

### **Memphis**

3150 Tchulahoma Rd., Ste. 6  
Memphis, Tennessee, 38118  
(901) 544-3694  
Fax: (901) 544-3696

### **Miami**

**Mail:** 10426 NW 31 Terrace  
Miami, Florida 33172  
**Physical:** 6105 NW 18 St.  
Rm.405  
Miami, Florida, 33122  
(305) 526-2994 or 2620  
Fax: (305) 526-7480

### **New Orleans**

2424 Edenborn, Room 100  
Metairie, Louisiana, 70001  
(504) 219-8870  
Fax: (504) 219-8868

### **New York**

70 E. Sunrise Hwy., #419  
Valley Stream, New York,  
11580  
(516) 825-3950  
Fax: (516) 825-3597

### **Newark**

1210 Corbin St., 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Elizabeth, New Jersey, 07201  
(908) 787-1321  
Fax: (908) 787-1334

### **Portland**

P.O. Box 55206  
Portland, Oregon, 97238  
(503) 231-6135  
Fax: (503) 231-6133

### **San Francisco**

1633 Old Bayshore Hwy.  
Suite 248  
Burlingame, California,  
94010  
(650) 876-9078  
Fax: (650) 876-9701

### **Seattle**

19639 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue South  
Bldg. A  
Seattle, Washington, 98188  
(206) 429-2198  
Fax: (206) 429-2673  
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# Appendix D. Emergency Contact Data Sheet

Mission personnel sailing aboard NOAA Ship *Okeanos Explorer* must fill out a [Sailing Contact Form](#) that collects emergency contact information for each person. This information is available to the operations officer to fulfill safety requirements to sail.



# Appendix E. OER COVID-19 Guidelines and Expectations

## COVID-19 Guidance Summary for OER Mission Personnel

### Required Reading

Mission personnel must familiarize themselves with all the protocols in the required documents prior to traveling.

- OMAO COVID-19 Guidance (Phase VI)\*
- NOAA Ship *Okeanos Explorer* Standing Orders\*
- NOAA COVID-19 Safety Orientation Course\*
- NOAA OER COVID-19 Field Operations Guidelines and Expectations
- OMAO COVID-19 Shipboard Safety Briefing for Marine Operations\*
- Ship Screening and Advanced Safety Measures\*

### Summary of Guidance and Expectations

This summarizes what is required from mission personnel participating in NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Research (OER) field operations. For more detailed information, see the required documents listed above.

- At least 30 days before travel, mission personnel must take the NOAA COVID-19 Safety Orientation Course, review the Office of Marine and Aviation Operations (OMAO) COVID-19 Shipboard Safety Briefing for Marine Operations, and complete the OER Sailing Contact Form to provide a shipping address for the COVID-19 test kit(s) (as one is required) and KN95 mask(s) (if requested).
- Prior to travel, OER recommends that mission personnel **shelter in place for seven days**. Four days before traveling to the port, mission personnel must test themselves using an **OER-supplied COVID-19 test kit**. OER requires that mission personnel receive a negative COVID-19 test prior to travel. For instructions regarding how to request, administer, and send the self-administered COVID-19 tests, refer to the OER COVID-19 Testing Fact Sheet.
- Mission personnel must follow the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's COVID-19 best practices](#), including using risk avoidance measures while traveling. Mission personnel are required to wear a two-layer cloth and/or KN95 mask during the entirety of travel. OER will provide mission personnel with a KN95 mask upon request. Individuals are also encouraged to consider current CDC recommendations to wear more than one mask for added protection.





- After mission personnel complete their travel and before they join the ship to sail on an expedition, they must **shelter in place for seven days near the ship's port of call** to enable daily medical screenings. While sheltering in place, mission personnel must take **two (95% accuracy) COVID-19 tests provided by OMAO**. Mission personnel may join the ship once they have sheltered in place for seven days and receive two negative (95% accuracy) COVID-19 tests.
- All personnel must complete daily COVID-19 screenings using the [NOAA COVID-19 Screening Tool](#). The particular logistics of this screening will be coordinated by the Expedition Coordinator, OPS, and OOD as how an individual completes the screening will depend on if the ship is alongside, at sea or if the individual is in a sheltering in place phase.
- If an individual has participated in any high risk activities in the last seven days, they will be required to wear a KN95 mask (provided by the ship) for the first five days aboard the ship. This may not apply to mission personnel who sheltered in place prior to joining the ship.
- While on the ship, mission personnel must follow the OMAO guidelines and the commanding officer's standing orders.
- At the conclusion of post-expedition travel, OER will provide mission personnel with a COVID-19 test kit upon request.



## Appendix F. OER Ethanol Testing

To ensure the quality of the ethanol stored aboard NOAA Ship *Okeanos Explorer*, the NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Research (OER) has developed an [OER Ethanol Test Guide](#). This guide provides step-by-step instructions on how to test the ethanol stored in the ejectable ethanol storage barrel on the O2 Deck. This guide also provides a built in calculator to plug in the measurements and get a definitive result. Finally, this guide is a log of the current and previous results of the ethanol testing.

