JUL 3 2014

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
PROGRAM PLANNING AND INTEGRATION
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

To All Interested Government Agencies and Public Groups:

Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), an environmental review has been performed on the following action.

TITLE: Environmental Assessment for Effects of Issuing Marine Mammal Scientific Research Permit No. 16479

LOCATION: Waters around Maui, Hawaii

SUMMARY: The National Marine Fisheries Service proposes to issue Amendment No. 16479-02 to the Pacific Whale Foundation (PWF) to authorize research activities on endangered false killer whales in Hawaii waters. Overall, based on the analyses in the environmental assessment (EA) prepared for Permit No. 16479, it is unlikely that activities carried out by PWF under the proposed amendment would have significant cumulative effects when considered with other factors affecting false killer whales.

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL: Donna S. Wieting
Director, Office of Protected Resources
National Marine Fisheries Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
1315 East-West Highway, Room 13821
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(301) 427-8400

The environmental review process led us to conclude that this action will not have a significant effect on the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement will not be prepared. A copy of the finding of no significant impact (FONSI) including the supporting EA is enclosed for your information.

Although NOAA is not soliciting comments on this completed EA/FONSI we will consider any comments submitted that would assist us in preparing future NEPA documents. Please submit any written comments to the responsible official named above.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Montanio
NOAA NEPA Coordinator

Enclosure

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