

Marine Mammal Data Sheet (MMDS)

NOTES:

The Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (MMPA) (16 U.S.C. 1361 et seq.) requires that persons holding marine mammals submit certain information to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). The MMPA requires that NMFS maintain an inventory of all marine mammals held for public display purposes and scientific research/enhancement (i.e., all marine mammals held captive except for those in captivity before December 21, 1972). In addition, the MMPA requires that NMFS be given advance notice 15 days prior to the transfer/transport of any marine mammal. To ensure compliance with these and related MMPA requirements, NMFS recommends that persons holding marine mammals in captivity use this Marine Mammal Data Sheet (MMDS) to submit inventory information regarding their captive marine mammals to NMFS. Use of this form will ensure that the MMPA required information is submitted in a consistent manner and that the NMFS marine mammal inventory is accurate and up-to-date.

Marine Mammal Data Sheets should be used when submitting information to NMFS in compliance with MMPA requirements applicable to persons holding marine mammals, including notifications of any additions/changes to your marine mammal inventory due to:

- o Birth, Death, Transfer/Transport
- o Retention or Transfer of Rehabilitated Beached and Stranded Marine Mammals (Authorization or Permit)
- o Wild Capture, Import, Reintroduction to the Wild, including release or escape (Permit)
- o Other (Corrections, etc.)

The animal-specific information in Section II will not change, whereas data in Sections I, III and/or IV will change with transfers/transports (changes of custody and/or facility/location). In accordance with MMPA requirements, NMFS requests notification of any change in custody or facility/location, including captive births and deaths. A copy of the Marine Mammal Inventory Report Summary (MMIRS) may be provided periodically and may be requested at any time by contacting the Permits, Conservation and Education Division at the address listed below.

All permit documentation including reports and inventory information required herein, is subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) with personal or sensitive information that is subject to the Privacy Act redacted when released under FOIA.

Marine Mammal Transfer/Transport Notifications

NMFS recommends that:

- 1 1. Owners notify NMFS of proposed transfers/transports by completing a Marine Mammal Transfer/Transport Notification (MMTTN) form, forwarding it to the Receiver for signature and submitting it to NMFS. It is not necessary to submit the MMDS for the animals proposed to be transferred/transported, but sufficient information must be included on the MMTTN to identify the animal(s).
- 2 2. The MMTTN must be received by NMFS at least 15 days prior to the actual transfer/transport date. Should you need to transfer/transport an animal before the required 15 day notification, please contact NMFS regarding an emergency waiver.
- 3 3. NMFS will reply with an acknowledgement letter and MMDS(s) to be updated upon receipt of the animal(s). The transfer/transport should occur within 60 days after initial submission of the MMTTN. If an extension is necessary, please contact NMFS.
- 4 4. At any time within 30 days of the transfer/transport, the Owner should forward to NMFS the updated MMDS for each animal actually transferred/transported (i.e. Section I and, as necessary, Section III to verify receipt of the animal(s)).

Beached and Stranded Marine Mammals - Retention or Transport

The retention or transport/retention of rehabilitated beached and stranded marine mammals requires a permit or written authorization under the MMPA. A permit is required to obtain such marine mammals for purposes of scientific research or enhancing the survival or recovery of species or stocks, or to retain or obtain such marine mammals for public display purposes where such animals have been determined releasable. Where such marine mammals have been determined non-releasable, NMFS authorization is required to retain or obtain them for public display purposes. Please contact the Permits, Conservation and Education Division at the number or address below for information on submitting such a permit application or authorization request.

QUESTIONS? If you need assistance completing this form please contact the Permits Division at (301-427-8401) or write to us at:

Permits, Conservation and Education Division -F/PR1 Office of Protected Resources Or by facsimile National Marine Fisheries Service at (301) 713-0376 1315 East West Highway, Room 13705 Silver Spring, MD 20910

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 30 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, search existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information to complete this form. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless the collection of information displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Control Number.