

12 January 2024

Mr. Drew Crane, Deputy Assistant Regional Director Ecological Services U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1011 East Tudor Road Anchorage, AK 99503-6199

Re: Permit Amendment Application No. 82088B

(U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Marine Mammals Management)

Dear Mr. Crane:

The Marine Mammal Commission (the Commission), in consultation with its Committee of Scientific Advisors on Marine Mammals, has reviewed the above-referenced permit amendment application with regard to the humaneness and *bona fide* criteria of the Marine Mammal Protection Act. <u>The Commission</u> believes that the proposed activities meet these requirements and <u>recommends</u> that the Fish and Wildlife Service issue the amendment, as requested. Kindly contact me if you have any questions concerning the Commission's recommendation.

Sincerely,

Peter O. Thomas, Ph.D., Executive Director

Peter o Thomas