

Issued and signed MBNMS Permits, Amendments and Authorizations (4/28/2022 to 7/26/2023)

Report created for the
August 18, 2023

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting

MULTI-2023-004

Permit Type: Research

Permit Holder Name (Affiliation): Julia Paxton (Saildrone Inc.)

Project Title: Saildrone West Coast Oceanographic Data Collection Operations

Permitted Activity: Temporary discharge and recovery of up to 15 total Saildrone Voyager and Explorer Unmanned Surface Vehicles (USVs) which capture real-time ocean data using an array of solar, wind, and electric powered sensors.

Project Location(s): Throughout West Coast national marine sanctuaries, including OCNMS, CBNMS, GFNMS, MBNMS, and CINMS

Permitted dates: July 1, 2023 through July 1, 2028

Comments/Notes: CINMS lead

MULTI-2023-005

Permit Type: Research

Permit Holder Names (Affiliation): Barbara Block (Stanford University, Hopkins Marine Station) and Taylor Chapple (Oregon State University)

Project Title: Monitoring, Ecology and Population Dynamics of Sharks in the Northeastern Pacific.

Permitted Activity: Temporary discharge into the sanctuaries of Dormor and cinder block anchors, receivers, moorings, and buoys for up to 14 moorings and altering the submerged lands of the sanctuaries for their installation, maintenance, and removal; Abandoning into the sanctuaries up to six (6) cinder block anchors if they cannot be safely recovered. The permittees will attempt removal of all anchors prior to abandonment on the seafloor; Discharging into the sanctuaries scent from marine mammal blubber for attracting white sharks (*Carcharodon carcharias*) for the purposes of tagging, obtaining photographic and video images, and taking biopsy samples of white sharks with the following limitations:

- White shark attraction can be conducted near Southeast Farallon Island and around Año Nuevo Island. No attraction shall be conducted in Monterey Bay for the tagging and biopsy work in that area.
- White shark attraction methods are limited to use of a decoy made of a soft material shaped into the silhouette of a local marine mammal and use of a small (i.e., less than 3 kg [7 lbs.]) piece of pinniped or cetacean blubber as specified in the special terms and conditions of this permit. Attraction of white sharks is authorized only by these means and solely for the purpose of scientific research (e.g., sport, recreational viewing, and unauthorized film making are prohibited).
- Filming of white sharks for documentary and educational films is authorized in conjunction with the white shark research activities being conducted by the permittees.
- Sampling of up to 35 tissue samples per year using a small biopsy punch.

Discharge and abandonment of up to 35 external acoustic tags per year; Temporary discharge of up to 20 pop-up satellite archival tags (PAT) per year.; Temporary discharge of up to three (3) internal stomach tags per year by means of feeding sharks the tags embedded in a small piece of marine mammal blubber (less than 3 kilogram [kg]); Temporary discharge of up to five (5) biologging clamp tags per year by using non-invasive dorsal fin clamps; and Discharge and abandonment of up to five (5) Smart Position or Temperature Transmitting Tags (SPOT).

Conducting low overflights with uncrewed aircraft systems (UAS) (i.e., DJI Phantom 4 Advanced or DJI Mavic 2 Pro) within the NOAA regulated overflight zones. UAS flights can be conducted offshore of Año Nuevo and offshore of Salinas and Pajaro River mouths. UAS may be flown a minimum of 10 m (33 feet) over white sharks for size estimates but at all other times, the minimum altitude is 20 m (66 feet) above sea level (ASL).

Temporarily discharging one WaveGlider for up to four weeks.

Attracting and Tagging Other Pelagic Shark Species

1. Discharging chum to attract blue sharks (*Prionace glauca*) and shortfin mako sharks (*Isurus oxyrinchus*).
2. Discharging and recovering up to five (5) PAT tags per year on blue sharks and up to five (5) PAT tags per year on shortfin mako sharks.
3. Discharging and abandoning up to five (5) SPOT tags per year on blue sharks and up to five (5) SPOT tags per year on shortfin mako sharks.
4. Discharging and abandoning up to five (5) Fin Alert Shark Tags (FAST) per year on blue sharks and up to five (5) FAST tags per year on shortfin mako sharks

Project Location(s):

Within GFNMS:

1. Receivers may be deployed near Tomales Point (approximately 38.24095, -123.0041), the Southeast Farallon Islands (approximately 37.697, -122.99587 and 37.69447, -123.01998), and Point Reyes/Drake's Bay (approximately 37.9827, -122.956).
2. White shark attraction, tagging, biopsy, and photo identification ID activities and filming activities are permitted outside of 91 m (300 feet) and within 4 km (two (2) nautical miles) of the Southeast Farallon Islands.
3. Blue shark and mako shark attraction or tagging will not occur closer than 2 km (1 nautical mile) from the main shoreline.
4. Wave glider transects are allowed throughout GFNMS.

Within MBNMS:

1. Receivers may be deployed offshore Pillar Point, Half Moon Bay (approximately 37.4862, -122.506), near Año Nuevo Island (approximately 37.10879, -122.34655 and 37.101883, -122.3404), within Monterey Bay (approximately 36.74, -121.83 which is near the Salinas River mouth, 36.95807, -121.91703 which is near the Cement Ship in Aptos, 36.94, -122 which is offshore of Santa Cruz, 36.61112, -121.8881 which is offshore of the Breakwater in Monterey, and 36.62288, -121.9 which is offshore of Hopkins Marine Station) and in Stillwater Cove (approximately 36.56004, -121.94493).
2. White shark attraction, tagging, biopsy and photo identification activities and filming activities are permitted offshore of Año Nuevo Island. White shark tagging, biopsy and photo identification activities are permitted in Monterey Bay, but white shark attraction is not permitted in Monterey Bay.

3. Blue shark and mako shark attraction or tagging shall not occur closer than 1.852 km (1 nautical mile) from the main shoreline of MBNMS and attraction shall not be conducted within Monterey Bay.
4. Flying UAS within the NOAA regulation overflight zones is allowed at Año Nuevo and the Salinas and Pajaro River mouths.
5. Wave glider deployment and transects are allowed throughout MBNMS.

Permitted dates: July 7, 2023 through July 31, 2026

Comments/Notes: The permittees have obtained a Scientific Collecting Permit (SCP) from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) (S-191290003-19129-001). The SCP was renewed on October 13, 2022 and is valid until October 12, 2025. A Letter of Authorization (LOA), dated June 26, 2018, was issued by NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) to Dr. Sal Jorgensen with Dr. Barbara Block and Dr. Taylor Chapple as authorized users. This LOA allows the authorized users to possess blubber from stranded marine mammals and to use this material to attract white sharks for research purposes over a period of five years from the issuance date. Dr. Jorgensen has requested an extension for this LOA. MBNMS led MULTI.

MBNMS-2023-023

Permit Type: Research

Permit Holder Names (Affiliation): Nichole Arm and Crow White (Cal Poly San Luis Obispo)

Project Title: Test deployment of the Cal Poly lander

Permitted Activity: Temporary placement of the Cal Poly lander on the submerged lands of the sanctuary for one (1) deployment; Discharge of approximately 0.5 pounds of locally caught bait; and Abandonment of one 20-pound cast iron weight and connector chain.

Project Location(s): The permitted activity is allowed at approximately 35.77 N, 121.43 W within approximately 96-meters of water near La Cruz Canyon in MBNMS.

Permitted dates: July 10, 2023 through November 30, 2023

Comments/Notes: CINMS staff is collaborating with permittees

MBNMS-2019-015-A1

Permit Type: Assist in Sanctuary Management

Permit Holder Name (Affiliation): James Nothhelfer (California Department of Parks and Recreation, Monterey District)

Project Title: Training for State Parks Motorized Personal Watercraft (MPWC) Search and Rescue Operations, Monterey District

Permitted Activity: Operation of two motorized personal watercraft (as defined at 15 CFR 922.131) outside of established sanctuary MPWC operating zones for the purposes of emergency response proficiency training, area familiarization, and agency-mandated standby (safety patrols) at scheduled aquatic events.

Project Location(s): MPWC operator training areas are offshore of Carmel, Asilomar, Monterey/Seaside, Fort Ord, Salinas River, and Moss Landing and delineated on the attached map based on the coordinates in permit; Discretionary access routes, which exclude surf zone transit, to the training areas from launch and recovery areas: Moss Landing Harbor, Salinas River State Beach (Potrero Road), Monterey Harbor, Asilomar State Beach, Stillwater Cove, Carmel City Beach, Point Lobos (Whalers Cove) Launch Ramp, and Point Sur – south side (during emergency response only); and Area Familiarization or Safety Patrols (at scheduled aquatic events identified in special term and condition #6) between Pajaro River mouth and Garrapata Creek mouth.

Permitted dates: July 9, 2023 through December 31, 2025

Comments/Notes: Amendment changes include extension of the expiration date from July 8, 2023 to December 31, 2025 and the special terms and conditions were updated to reflect this change; an updated map of training areas since MBNMS' motorized personal watercraft (MPWC) zones have been updated in the federal register; removal of the Tri-California Triathlon in September at Lover's Cove, Pacific Grove from special term and condition #6; and quantified the number of authorized MPWC.

MBNMS-2023-020

Permit Type: Research

Permit Holder Names (Affiliation): Kaycee Coleman and David Aragon (Rutgers University)

Project Title: Sea Water Ocean Topography (SWOT) by gliders

Permitted Activity: Temporary discharge and subsequent recovery of up to two Slocum gliders to transit eastward through MBNMS and abandonment of 400-gram emergency ballast weights if a glider becomes stuck in a submerged state and the ballast weights must be utilized as part of the emergency procedures.

Project Location(s): The permitted activity is allowed in offshore waters in MBNMS with recovery of the gliders from a vessel approximately 5 nautical miles or more offshore Moss Landing, CA.

Permitted dates: July 3, 2023 through July 31, 2023

Comments/Notes: ONMS issued MBNMS-2022-015 authorizing temporary discharge of up to five Slocum gliders to transit westward through MBNMS. Rutgers University deployed two gliders, RU32 and RU38, on March 30, 2023 and April 20, 2023, respectively. MBNMS-2022-015 expired June 1, 2023. Since RU38 was deployed later than planned, the project timeline has been extended, and the permittees submitted a new permit application since both gliders will have to transit back through the sanctuary for recovery.

MBNMS-2023-010

Permit Type: Special Use Permit

Permit Holder Name (Affiliation): Timothy Murdoch and David Ehlers (American Legion Post 432)

Project Title: Annual July 4 Fireworks Event at Shamel Park, Cambria, CA

Permitted Activity: Discharge of firework displays debris in MBNMS on July 4, 2023, provided beach clean-up events are conducted, and a biological monitor is engaged in wildlife surveys. These provisions are further described in the special terms and conditions and the attached wildlife survey guidelines.

Project Location(s): Shamel County Park in Cambria, San Luis Obispo County

Permitted dates: July 4, 2023 to July 5, 2023

Comments/Notes: The California Coastal Commission's (CCC's) Central Coast District Office issued Coastal Development Permit (CDP) 3-19-0179 in 2019 for the firework displays at Shamel County Park through July 4, 2021. CCC issued a one-year extension of CDP 3-19-0179 on April 26, 2022 to allow the firework display on July 4, 2022. CCC issued another one-year extension of CDP 3-19-0179 on April 27, 2023 to allow the firework display on July 4, 2023.

MBNMS-2023-015

Permit Type: Research

Permit Holder Names (Affiliation): Olguín Jacobson and Fiorenza Micheli (Hopkins Marine Station of Stanford University)

Project Title: Global patterns in crustose coralline algae carbonate production

Permitted Activity: Placement of polyvinyl chloride (PVC) cards, straps, zip ties, and temperature and light loggers on the submerged lands of the sanctuary and Discharge and recovery of PVC cards, straps, zip ties, and temperature and light loggers.

Project Location(s): The permitted activities are allowed in MBNMS in southern Monterey Bay at the following three sites: within Otter Cove, offshore of Hopkins Marine Station and offshore of Monterey Harbor.

Permitted dates: July 10, 2023 through July 10, 2024

Comments/Notes: The permittees are applying for a permit from California Department of Fish and Wildlife to deploy equipment in California State Marine Protected Areas.

MULTI-2023-002

Permit Type: Research

Permit Holder Name (Affiliation): Salvador Jorgensen (California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB)) and Scot Anderson and Dr. Paul Kanive (the California White Shark Project)

Project Title: The Changing Distribution, Ecology, and Population Dynamics of White Sharks in the Northeastern Pacific

Permitted Activity:

- Attracting white sharks (*Carcharodon carcharias*) for the purposes of tagging, obtaining photographic and video images, and taking biopsy samples of white sharks in the following locations with the following limitations (please see pre-survey notification requirements in special terms and conditions):
 1. No more than 50 external acoustic tags (approx. 10 per year this permit is valid) and 25 pop-up satellite archival tags (PAT) (approx. 5 per year this permit is valid) may be deployed on the sharks' dorsal musculature throughout all locations authorized in this permit.
 2. No more than 25 internal stomach tags (approx. 5 per year this permit is valid) may be deployed by means of feeding sharks the tags embedded in a small piece of marine mammal blubber (less than 3 kilogram [kg]).
 3. No more than 60 biologging clamp tags (approx. 15 per year this permit is valid) may be deployed by using non-invasive dorsal fin clamps.
 4. No more than 150 tissue samples (approx. 30 per year this permit is valid) shall be taken using a small biopsy punch. These samples shall be taken in conjunction with the acoustic and satellite tagging.

White shark attraction activities are only allowed near Southeast Farallon Island, Tomales Point/Point Reyes, off Bodega Head and around Año Nuevo Island. Tagging, photo/video ID, and biopsy sampling may also be conducted between Salinas River and Capitola provided no attractants (either decoys or scent or bait) are used. No stomach tags may be deployed in the area between Salinas River and Capitola.

- Discharging into the sanctuaries scent from marine mammal blubber for attracting white sharks is only permitted near Southeast Farallon Island, around Tomales Point/Point Reyes, off Bodega Head, and around Año Nuevo Island.
- Temporarily discharging into the sanctuaries PAT tags, stomach tags, and clamp tags (intended to be retrieved although some may be lost to the marine environment) and permanently discharging acoustic tags (not intended to be retrieved) into the sanctuaries.

White shark attraction methods are limited to use of a decoy made of a soft material shaped into the silhouette of a local marine mammal and use of a small (i.e., less than 3 kg) piece of pinniped or cetacean blubber as specified in the special terms and conditions of this permit. Attraction of white sharks is authorized only by these means and solely for the purpose of

scientific research (e.g., sport, recreational viewing, and unauthorized film making are prohibited).

- Placement on the submerged lands of MBNMS for the installation, maintenance, and removal of a total of four (4) subsurface short-term bottom-mounted receivers and moorings within the nearshore environment in northern Monterey Bay between La Selva Beach and Capitola for short term deployments (less than six months per deployment).
- Abandoning anchors (i.e., 25 to 35 kg steel plates) which cannot be safely recovered. Nonetheless, the permittees will attempt to removal all anchors prior to abandonment on the seafloor.

Flying UAS (i.e., Phantom P4 Pro V2.0) within the NOAA regulated overflight zone at Año Nuevo between October 1 and December 31 each field season. Overflights should not be conducted for more than 2 hours per day for up to 4 days each season (please see presurvey notification requirements in special terms and conditions). UAS may be flown a minimum of 5 meters (15 feet) over white sharks for size estimates but at all other times, the minimum altitude is 20 m (66 feet) above sea level (ASL).

Filming of white sharks for documentary and educational films by California State University, Monterey Bay is authorized in conjunction with the white shark research activities being conducted by the permittees in accordance with this permit.

Project Location(s): Within GFNMS: White shark attraction activities are permitted outside of 91 m (300 feet) and within two (2) nautical miles of the Southeast Farallon Islands, around Point Reyes National Seashore, around Tomales Point, and offshore of Bodega Head. Filming activities may occur outside of 91 m (300 feet) and within two (2) nautical miles of the Southeast Farallon Islands, around Point Reyes National Seashore, around Tomales Point, and offshore of Bodega Head. Filming white sharks attracted to the vessel will only occur in conjunction with the authorized research activities in the authorized locations listed in this permit. Filming activities shall occur above the water; no diving or use of cages is allowed in GFNMS.

Within MBNMS: White shark attraction is permitted offshore of Año Nuevo Island. Low overflights with UAS are permitted offshore of Año Nuevo Island within the NOAA regulated overflight zone. Placement of short-term bottom-mounted receivers within the nearshore environment in northern Monterey Bay between La Selva Beach and Capitola, CA. Filming activities may occur offshore of Año Nuevo Island and in northern Monterey Bay between La Selva Beach and Capitola, CA. Filming white sharks attracted to the vessel will only occur in conjunction with the authorized research activities in the authorized locations listed in this permit. Filming activities shall occur above the water; no diving or use of cages is allowed in MBNMS.

Permitted dates: May 31, 2023 and March 31, 2028

Comments/Notes: MBNMS lead; Dr. Jorgensen has been issued a scientific collection permit (SCP) from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). A Letter of Authorization, dated June 28, 2018, was issued by NMFS to Dr. Salvador Jorgensen to possess blubber from stranded marine mammals and to use this material to attract white sharks for research purposes over a period of five years from the issuance date. Dr. Jorgensen has requested an extension from NMFS.

MBNMS-2023-016

Permit Type: Management

Permit Holder Name (Affiliation): Alexandra Thiel (Caltrans, District)

Project Title: Drone surveys to collect data on sedimentation along the Big Sur Coast in the vicinity of Paul's Slide and the Limekiln Creek Bridge

Permitted Activity: Conducting approximately 12 low overflights annually with one (1) uncrewed aircraft systems (UAS) at a height of no less than 46 meters (150 feet) Above Sea Level (ASL).

Project Location(s): within the NOAA regulated overflight zone (NROZ) offshore of Big Sur adjacent to the area between State Route 1 Post Miles (PM) 20.9 and 22.1 in Monterey County, CA.

Permitted dates: June 1, 2023 through September 1, 2027

Comments/Notes: The permittee will apply for a permit from California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) for flights below 1,000 feet over the Sea Otter Game Refuge.

MULTI-2023-003

Permit Type: Research

Permit Holder Names (Affiliations): James Lindholm (California State University Monterey Bay)

Project Title: Long-term Monitoring Deep Subtidal Rocky Reefs (30-100 m) in State Marine Protected Areas.

Permitted Activity: Temporary placement of up to six minilanders on the submerged lands of the sanctuaries to gather information about the fine-scale microhabitat associations between key fish and invertebrate species and specific seafloor attributes. Temporary discharge and recovery of buoys, floats, and line associated with the minilanders for up to one hour for each deployment.

Project Location(s): in depths ranging from 30 to 100 meters deep within and surrounding Point Buchon State Marine Reserve (SMR), Point Lobos SMR, and Año Nuevo SMR in MBNMS and within and surrounding Bodega Head SMR and Bodega Head State Marine Conservation Area and Montara SMR in GFNMS.

Permitted dates: June 6, 2023 through May 31, 2025

Comments/Notes: previous permit for same activity: MBNMS-2021-023

MBNMS-2018-003-A1

Permit Type: Authorization

Permit Holder Name (Affiliation): Susan Craig (California Coastal Commission); Julie Packard (Monterey Bay Aquarium)

Project Title: Authorization MBNMS-2018-003-A1 for the California Coastal Commission (CCC) approved Coastal Development Permit (CDP) 3-89-040-A5 for the Monterey Bay Aquarium Pipeline Support Retrofit Project

Project Location(s): Offshore of the Monterey Bay Aquarium

Permitted dates: June 9, 2023 through March 1, 2026

Permitted Activity: retrofit the existing concrete support blocks, and remove the concrete blocks and replace them with socketed pipes and cross beams, i.e., post and beam support structures

Comments/Notes: In accordance with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), an Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared, titled "Monterey Bay Aquarium Pipeline Support Retrofit Project," to analyze the potential environmental impacts of the proposed action. Based on the information presented in the EA and the Finding Of No Significant Impact (FONSI), NOAA concludes issuing an Authorization of the CCC's CDP-3-89-040-A4 will not significantly impact the quality of the human environment. MBNMS staff developed a Record of Environmental Consideration (REC) to document future work on the

intake pipeline support project as proposed by the Aquarium in a letter dated March 13, 2023 and permitted by CDP No. 3-89-040-A5 was analyzed in the EA.

MBNMS-2023-006

Permit Type: Research

Permit Holder Name (Affiliation): Peggy West-Stap and Stephanie Marcos (Marine Life Studies)

Project Title: Aerial survey by Marine Life Studies

Permitted Activity: Conducting low overflights with one (1) uncrewed aircraft systems (UAS) at a time at no less than 30 meters (98 feet) Above Sea Level (ASL) to conduct research in MBNMS, with an exception: the UAS may descend to no lower than 7 meters (23 feet) ASL for detailed images of cetaceans or pinnipeds at sea as authorized by National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) permit #25843 issued to Marine Life Studies; and Discharge and recovery of SwellPro SplashDrone 3 Plus UAS while conducting underwater filming.

Project Location(s): offshore NOAA regulated overflight zones in MBNMS

Permitted dates: May 3, 2023 through March 31, 2027

Comments/Notes: NMFS issued a Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA)/Endangered Species Act (ESA) Research/Enhancement permit to Peggy Stap of Marine Life Studies to conduct research activities on cetaceans. NMFS permit #25843 expires on April 30, 2027.

MBNMS-2022-007-A1

Permit Type: Research

Permit Holder Name (Affiliation): Falk Feddersen (Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California San Diego)

Project Title: Rocky Shores Experiments and Simulations (ROXSI) uncrewed aircraft systems (UAS) surveys

Project Location(s): The temporary discharge of the sUAS "Eagle" is authorized offshore of Hopkins Marine Station, offshore of China Rock in Pebble Beach, CA, and offshore of Garrapata State Park. The permitted overflight activities are authorized offshore of Garrapata State Park, within the NOAA regulated overflight zone offshore of Big Sur.

Permitted Activity: Temporary discharge for approximately 50 sea surface landings per year of the Naval Research Laboratory's (NRL's) small uncrewed aircraft systems (sUAS) "Eagle" during echosounder measurements. Conducting approximately 156 overflights with UAS within the NOAA regulated overflight zone offshore of Big Sur in 2024 to quantify surface wave characteristics and conduct bathymetric surveys to support the ROXSI project. Up to 13 UAS flights, for up to 60 minutes each, can be conducted per day. UAS flights will be conducted at no less than 20 meters (66 feet) above sea level (ASL) with the exception of UAS flights conducted with the sUAS Eagle which will be landed on the water as noted above.

Permitted dates: May 23, 2023 through September 30, 2024

Comments/Notes: The UAS LiDAR surveys need to be co-located with oceanographic moorings which are measuring the dynamic flow and turbulence within the same rocky shoreline deployed under MBNMS-2023-005 issued on April 28, 2023 to Dr. Jamie MacMahan and Dr. Mara Orescanin of NPS for the project entitled: "Nearshore Processes: Cross-shore Exchange and Graduate Student Education."

MBNMS-2023-005

Permit Type: Research

Permit Holder Name (Affiliation): Jamie MacMahan and Mara Orescanin (Naval Postgraduate School)

Project Title: Nearshore Processes: Cross-shore Exchange and Graduate Student Education

Permitted Activity: Alteration of and placement on the soft submerged lands for the installation, maintenance, and recovery of individual scientific instruments and associated moorings, anchors, and anchoring materials (including equipment mounted on jetted poles or tripods in the nearshore sandy seabed such as the surf zone towers). A maximum of 25 moorings are permitted to be deployed for up to six months each. Ocean mooring set-ups include I-SPAR/Spotter mooring co-located with ADCP bottom lander and Temperature string, Air Sea Interaction Spar (ASIS) buoys co-located with tether buoys connected by a 60-meter floating wire rope with floats and QT-ASIS buoys to be deployed in Monterey Bay. Equipment placed on the moorings includes Wave-Rider buoys, Acoustic Doppler Current Profilers (ADCP), spectrometers, surface drogues, pressure and velocity sensors, conductivity-temperature-depth sensors, fluorometers, current meters, and echosounders; Alteration of and placement of the rocky, intertidal and nearshore submerged lands of the sanctuary for the installation, maintenance, and recovery of individual scientific instruments and associated moorings anchors, and anchoring materials (including quadrat bolts and 3/8-inch drilled holes for threaded anchoring rods), sawhorse style frames with instruments (e.g., multi-frequency coherent Doppler profiler (MFDop)) and associated anchors, fiberglass grating plates, MFDop data acquisition system case and shore-connected armored cable with weights, and weighted plates, and discharge of epoxy to fill holes. Instruments are permitted to be deployed on hard substrate for up to 6-months each. Moorings in the rocky shores include temperature and pressure sensors on vertical mooring lines (i.e., strings) with subsurface buoys, Spotter buoys, bottom mounted ADCPs, conductivity-temperature-depth sensors, current meters and echosounders on weighted supporting plates up to 65 cm x 65 cm. Any instruments placed on rocky substrates will be surveyed and positioned by scientific divers to mitigate and avoid areas of endangered and threatened species (e.g. black abalone [see special term and condition #8]), and ensure proper anchoring and securing once placed to prevent damage from unexpected wave movement of the instrument platform. All anchor hardware will be removed at instrument recovery; Alteration of submerged lands for the collection of up to five (5) gallons of surf zone beach sediment samples, approximately once per year; Discharge and recovery of autonomous underwater vehicles (AUV) for approximately 20 AUV deployments per year offshore of Sand City and Del Monte beach; Operation of Motorized Personal Watercraft (MPWC) for research purposes. MPWCs can be operated offshore of Long Marine Lab, Moss Landing Marine Laboratories, Marina, China Rock, Sand City, Del Monte Beach, Hopkins Marine Station, Asilomar, and Garrapata State Park shorelines. MPWC surveys will be limited to approximately 15 deployments per year; Discharge of Rhodamine WT tracer dye offshore Del Monte Beach, Sand City, and Marina to be used to study rip currents; approximately two (2) experiments per year. Discharge of Rhodamine WT tracer dye shall remain under the US Environmental Protection Agency recommended levels for discharge rates. Concentrations of dye in the surf zone will range from <1 to 60 micrograms per liter in 1.5 hours; dye dilutes to potable EPA limits within 25 minutes; Discharge and recovery of GPS-tracking drifters; up to 20 deployments per year; and Discharge and recovery of tether buoys, I-SPAR buoys, Spotter buoys, SOFAR buoys, and other surface floats associated with the moorings.

Project Location(s): The permitted activities are allowed in MBNMS between Santa Cruz, CA and Garrapata State Park in Big Sur, CA.

Permitted dates: April 28, 2023 through December 31, 2025

Comments/Notes: This permit supersedes MBNMS-2017-037-A2

MBNMS-2023-003

Permit Type: Authorization

Permit Holder Names (Affiliations): California Regional Water Quality Control Board and the Sewer Authority Mid-Coastside

Project Title: Authorization MBNMS-2023-003 of Order No. R2-2023-0002 (NPDES Permit Number CA0038598) for Sewer Authority Mid-Coastside (Discharger) to discharge within MBNMS

Permitted Activity: Renewal of this R2 NPDES permit, proposed under the Regional Water Quality Control Board's (RWQCB) Order No. R2-2023-0002, is a continuation of discharging operations at the permittees' wastewater treatment facility. The permit authorizes Sewer Authority Mid-Coastside to discharge secondary treated effluent and reverse osmosis concentrate via a pipeline.

Project Location(s): In MBNMS, approximately 1900 feet offshore West of Pilarcitos Creek in Half Moon Bay

Permitted dates: May 1, 2023 through April 30, 2028

Comments/Notes: Previous permits MBNMS-2012-018 and MBNMS-2017-047

If you are interested in learning more about a specific permit, amendment or authorization action, please contact:

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