

The Department recommends that you contact us to discuss the proposed activity prior to completing the application forms:

Permissions Advisor (Support)

Phone: +64 3 371 3700

Email: [permissionschristchurch@doc.govt.nz](mailto:permissionschristchurch@doc.govt.nz)

This form must be completed when applying for permits to hold, take, import, export marine mammals for non-research purposes ONLY. If you wish to hold, take, import, export marine mammals for research purposes please fill in [Form 12a](#), available on the DOC website.

Please provide all information requested in as much detail as possible. Applicants will be advised if further information is required before this application can be processed by the Department.

Please note that the application process involves notification in the *Gazette* for 28 days (see s.5.5 of the Act), allow sufficient time when submitting the application for this to be undertaken.

Once you have filled in your application form, please complete this checklist to ensure that all components of your application are complete. This will help prevent any possible delays in the processing of your application.

- Legal status (company/trust/inc society) registration number (if not an individual)
- Written consultations (if applicable)
- Have you read and accept the section regarding the liability of the applicant for payment of fees
- Have you signed your application?**

**All efforts in putting together a detailed application are greatly appreciated and will allow the Department to effectively and efficiently process your application.**

## A. Applicant Details

Applicant Name (full name of registered company or individual, student or university)		Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa			
Legal Status of applicant (tick)	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Registered Company	<input type="checkbox"/> Trust	<input type="checkbox"/> Incorporated Society	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please specify full details)		Crown Entity			
Please supply the company, trust or incorporated society registration number:					
If an individual please supply your date of birth (this is a unique identifier for you):					
Trading Name (if different from Applicant name)		NA			
Postal Address (of Applicant)		55 Cable Street, Wellington 6011			
Street Address (if different from Postal Address)					
Phone		Website			
Contact Person and role		Philip Edgar, Head of Natural History			
Phone	NA	Cell Phone			
Email	PhilipE@tepapa.govt.nz				
Contact Person and role					
Phone	NA	Cell Phone			
Email	felix.marx@tepapa.govt.nz				

## B. Details of Proposed Activity

Take                       Hold                       Import                       Export

**NB** please tick all applicable activities

## C. Purpose of Proposed Activity

- Description of activity

### Scope

Te Papa's role in biodiversity research and management is mandated by the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa Act 1992. Section 7(1) of the latter requires Te Papa to: (i) collect, and act as an accessible repository for, items relating to the natural environment; (ii) develop, conserve, house securely, and exhibit the collections; (iii) conduct, or assist with, research into the collections; (iv) disseminate information relating to its collections; (v) co-operate with other institutions and organisations with similar objectives; and (vi) make the best use of the collections in the national interest.

Te Papa's marine mammal collections rank among the largest and most diverse worldwide (more than 2,000 specimens of 77 different species). As the national museum, we are one of the country's main centres of taxonomic expertise and pivotal to a wide range of research endeavours, from describing new species to understanding feeding ecology, developmental biology, biogeography, evolution, and the role and use of marine mammals in the context of mātauranga Māori. At present, Te Papa's collections are

directly contributing to four major projects funded through Marsden (MFP-MNZ2201, MFP-UOO2216, MFP-UOO2316) and MBIE (UOOX2305).

## Requests

Te Papa's activities concerning marine mammals fall into two categories, namely, (i) those relating to existing specimens – i.e. holding, exporting & importing; and (ii) those relating to future acquisitions – i.e. taking in new specimens.

Activities relating to existing specimens only concern specimens that are foreign, unprovenanced, historical, or for which an agreement to accession was reached with iwi and DOC at the time of stranding. There is a broad public understanding, and attendant expectations, of Te Papa's role in managing, researching and displaying the taonga in its care. As a bi-culturally led crown entity, Te Papa both has the same Treaty obligations as DOC and is committed to the principle of mana taonga, which recognises the spiritual and cultural connections of taonga with the people. As such, Te Papa is well placed to conduct consultations regarding collection care, research and display. With this in mind, we would like to request:

- 1) A **hold permit** granted in perpetuity to (i) provide certainty for specimens acquired under previous fixed-term take permits; (ii) enable Te Papa's core function under its founding act; and (iii) lessen the bureaucratic load on both DOC and Te Papa.

The new permit would apply to both material held by Te Papa at the time of issuance *and* any future acquisitions covered by a valid take permit. While lacking an expiry date, it would still be subject to DOC's prerogative to suspend, revoke, restrict or amend it at any time. We believe that such wording would make the permit allowable under the Marine Mammals Protection Act and be consistent with the precedent set by previous 'in perpetuity' permits issued to Te Papa and other museums.

- 2) An **import/export permit** granted in perpetuity to (i) enable Te Papa to support time-sensitive scientific collaborations by sending material to *bona fide* researchers; (ii) enable its core function under its founding act; (iii) lessen the bureaucratic load on both DOC and Te Papa; and (iv) create stakeholder benefits, including for iwi and DOC.

Like the 'hold' permit above, the import/export permit would remain subject to DOC's prerogative to suspend, revoke, restrict or amend it at any time.

New accessions arguably carry greater risk, as they necessarily entail novel agreements and may occur in a variety of cultural, societal, political, and scientific contexts. Ameliorating this risk is the fact that Te Papa is not a primary stranding responder. Initial discussions about stranded individuals are always between DOC and mana whenua, which ensures – in addition to Te Papa's own standards – that consultation is carried out in line with DOC's expectations. Nevertheless, to reflect the changing and more varied nature of new acquisitions, we would like to request:

- 3) A **take only permit** expiring after 15 years.

- Species of marine mammal item/part (if known):

All species of marine mammal, including cetaceans (whales, dolphins and porpoises), pinnipeds (seals, fur seals, and sea lions) and sirenians (sea cows).

- Type of marine mammal item/part (eg tooth):

Skeletons or parts thereof; teeth; skins; fluid-preserved soft tissues; tissue samples.

- Number of marine mammal items/parts:

Te Papa's marine mammal collection currently comprises 2,028 registered specimens representing 77 species. Collection activities are ongoing and occur as the opportunity arises. Future collections from strandings are unlikely to exceed 1–2 per year.

- How was the marine mammal item/part obtained:

Strandings; acquisitions of historical material from private collectors; scientific exchanges with other institutions.

- Proposed dates for import/export if applicable:

As required over the lifetime of the permit.

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## D. Other

Is there any further information you wish to supply in support of your application?

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## E. Consultation Undertaken

Some applications require consultation with whānau/hapū/iwi (local Māori), and other interested parties. Please contact the nearest Department of Conservation office to discuss what is required. Written expert views, advice or opinions concerning your proposal may also be attached to support the application. Attach any proof of consultation to the application.

This application aims to ensure that Te Papa can perform its legally mandated core functions with regard to marine mammals and does not relate to specific areas, species, or animals. Any activities under these permits will be subject to case-by-case consultations according to DOC's and Te Papa's iwi engagement protocols.

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## F. Fees

Section 60B of the Conservation Act enables the Department to recover all direct and indirect costs from an Applicant to process an application regardless of whether the application is approved or declined. If at any stage an application is withdrawn the Department will invoice the Applicant for the costs incurred by the Department up to that point. Applicants are required to pay the processing fees within 28 days of receiving an invoice. The Director-General is entitled to recover any unpaid fees as a debt.

We will send you an estimate of fees before they are incurred and invoice you once we have processed your application. Please contact us for further information.

### Waiving or Reducing Fees:

The Director-General of Conservation has discretion to reduce or waive processing fees.

You may apply for a fee waiver or reduction if you provide information to the permissions team about how your application meets at least one of these criteria:

- The activity will make a direct contribution to management
- The activity will support or contribute to the Department's priority outcomes – which are stated in the Department's 2013-2017 Statement of Intent ([available on the DOC website](#))
- There will be other non-commercial public benefits from the permission (if approved)

- Activity covered by the authorisation (other than research, collection or educational activities) will make a contribution to the management of, or the public interest in, the lands that are covered by the permit

**Paying fees:**

The Department will ordinarily invoice the applicant for processing fees after a decision has been made on the application, but in some cases interim invoices will be issued.

Please select your method of payment below:

- I have attached a cheque
- I have direct credited the DOC account (please use Applicant name and MMRP as references)  
Department of Conservation  
Westpac Bank  
Account number: 03 0049 0002808 00
- I have a purchase order/number from an organisation registered with DOC

Order number/purchase number:

- I do not intend to pay the fees at the time of applying and/or I require an invoice for payment – I have filled in the Terms and Conditions for an Account with the Department of Conservation (following) with my own information.

**Terms and Conditions for an Account with the Department of Conservation:**

Have you held an account with the Department before? (Please tick)    Yes    x    No

If yes, under what name:    Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa


1. I/We agree that the Department of Conservation can provide my details to the Department’s Credit Checking Agency to enable it to conduct a full credit check.
2. I/We agree that any change which affects the trading address, legal entity, structure of management or control of the applicant’s company (as detailed in this application) will be notified in writing to the Department of Conservation within 7 days of that change becoming effective.
3. I/We agree to notify the Department of Conservation of any disputed charges within 14 days of the date of the invoice.
4. I/We agree to fully pay the Department of Conservation for any invoice received on or before the due date.
5. I/We agree to pay all costs incurred (including interest, legal costs and debt recovery fees) to recover any money owing on this account.
6. I/We agree that the credit account provided by the Department of Conservation may be withdrawn by the Department of Conservation, if any terms and conditions of the credit account are not met.
7. I/We agree that the Department of Conservation can provide my details to the Department’s Debt Collection Agency in the event of non-payment of payable fees.

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**Declaration**

I certify that the information provided on this application form and all attached additional forms and information is to the best of my knowledge true and correct.

**Note: The Director-General may vary any permit granted if the information given in this application contains inaccuracies.**

<b>Signature (Applicant)</b>		<b>Date</b>	18th March 2025
<b>Signature (Witness)</b>		<b>Date</b>	18 March 2025
<b>Witness Name</b>	Philip Edgar		
<b>Witness Address</b>	Museum of New Zealand, 169 Tory St, Wellington		

This application is made pursuant to the Marine Mammals Protection Act 1978.

Applicants should familiarise themselves with the relevant sections of the Marine Mammals Protection Act 1978.

NOTE: Further information may be sought from you for this assessment if this application is not completed fully as required. The purpose of collecting this information is to enable the Department to process your application. The Department will not use this information for any reason not related to that purpose.

Applicants should be aware that provisions of the Official Information Act might require that some or all information in this application be publicly released.

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### For Departmental use only

<b>Credit check undertaken</b>			
<b>Comments :</b>			
<b>Signed</b>		<b>Name</b>	
<b>Approved (tier 4 manager or above)</b>		<b>Name</b>	