The Department recommends that you contact the Department of Conservation permissions office listed below to discuss your application prior to completing the application forms. 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.

This form is to be used when applying for a new permit or the renewal of an existing permit, and where the proposed activity involves swimming with marine mammals. (Note for the purposes of this application form, "swimming" includes snorkelling and diving.)

You can only apply to swim with marine mammals if either you apply in conjunction with an application for viewing form a sea-based vessel or a land-based vehicle, or you currently hold a permit for viewing form a sea-based vessel or a land-based vehicle.

- If your application also involves marine mammal viewing from a vessel at sea please also fill in Form 8a.
- If your application also involves marine mammal viewing which is land-based please also fill in Form 8b.

Please complete this application form, providing all information requested in as much detail as possible, attach **Form 8** and any other applicable forms and information and send to permissions@doc.govt.nz.

Note:

- Under regulation 10 of the Marine Mammals Protection Regulations 1992, the Department must determine whether or not the application is acceptable and may require the application to be amended. The Department will advise you if, and what, amendments are required before this application can be processed by the Department.

- If the application is approved, it is deemed to form part of the permit which is issued and must be complied with accordingly. Your application, therefore, must be clear, complete and accurate.

The Department will process the application and issue a permit if it is satisfied that the application meets all the requirements for granting a permit under the Marine Mammals Protection Regulations 1992.

A.   Applicant name (as per Form 8)

B.   Proposed operation

Species

Marine mammals you propose to swim with:

☐ all species of dolphins*

☐ New Zealand fur seals*

Excluding*:

Or

☐ the following specified species*

* Please inform yourself as to the current list of moratoria and species or locations of concern prior to making your application.

Location information

Specific locations where swimming with marine mammals is proposed:

You must attach a map of the proposed area of operation; it must clearly show the boundaries of the area and any specific locations where swimming with marine mammals is likely.

Trip details

Please complete relevant trip details on either Form 8a and/or 8b depending on whether swimming is undertaken from a vessel, from the shore, or both.

Frequency - proposed months of operation:

Frequency – number of swimming/diving trips per annum:

Frequency - number of swimming/diving trips per day:

C.   Additional information

Please provide the following additional information. Where appropriate, please be specific for each class of marine mammal or for individual species.

Maximum number of swimmers in the water at any one time:

Maximum time spent swimming per individual encounter with a marine mammal or group of marine mammals:

Maximum cumulative time spent swimming with marine mammals during a trip:

Maximum number of swim drops or attempts with the same individual marine mammal or group of marine mammals:

Maximum total number of swim drops or attempts per trip:

How will swimmers enter the water and view marine mammals?

Position of boat relative to the location and movement of marine mammals:

Placement of swimmers relative to the location and movement of marine mammals:

Minimum approach distance for swimmers to the water's edge where seals or sea lions are present on shore:

Swimmer behaviour in the water:

What actions will be taken should dolphin calves or seal pups be encountered:

What other actions you will take to minimise disturbance of the marine mammals: