



UNCLASSIFIED
IDR0058/11

July 22nd, 2011

Ms. Roberta Barnes
Ocean Science Policy and Authorizations
Office of Ocean and Polar Affairs
United States Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, D.C. 205020

Dear Ms. Barnes:

Clearance for U.S. Research Vessel SEAGLIDER (July 25th to August 5th, 2011)

I am pleased to advise that the Government of Canada grants its consent to the request for the U.S. Research Vessel SEAGLIDER to undertake marine scientific research in areas under the national jurisdiction of Canada during the above mentioned dates.

The proposed scientific research activities and justification there of, fulfills the requirements and falls within the exceptions as defined in the Endeavour Hydrothermal Vents MPA management plan (2010-2015) and regulations (<http://laws.justice.gc.ca/en/showtdm/cr/SOR-2003-87>). Please review these documents for further information regarding the conducting of activities within the MPA (Figure 1). In addition, please note that the R/V Zephyr will also be conducting scientific research within the Endeavour MPA between July 25th and August 5th.

We recognize this research will be contributing to the conservation, protection and understanding of the Endeavour MPA through the collection of rock and sediment cores. This will provide valuable information as to the age and formation of the axial valley and associated ridge crests. As noted previously, in accordance to the *Oceans Act* Section 44(a) and in accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, we request the results of the research to include:

- Cruise reports submitted in a timely fashion that account for all time spent at sea and which describe the activities and procedures undertaken.
- Documentation of any introductions of materials, intentional or otherwise, including locations and expected recovery as appropriate. Unnecessary

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introductions of materials in the MPA are discouraged, and may be in violation of the regulations, particularly the disposal of garbage.

- Appropriate documentation of sampling activities that include before and after images of a sample site; to be submitted with cruise reports.
- Submersible and dive operations (be they for research, education or tourism), are requested to record and document complete, continuous geo-referenced video of the entire period near the seafloor.
- Video, as well as other data collected during the cruise be archived and remain available upon request should DFO deem it necessary to obtain copies for auditing or other MPA management purposes.

The Endeavour Hydrothermal Vents area provides a wonderful opportunity for scientific observation and research. DFO encourages all researchers to retrieve materials not readily biodegradable, such as plastics, from this and previous surveys for proper disposal. Compliance with this request will help keep the Endeavour Hydrothermal Vents area clear and clean for future use.

We are pleased that the scientific results and all the data from this cruise will be freely and generously shared and request copies of the preliminary and final cruise reports once they become available.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Nadia Burger". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Nadia Burger, Director
Defence and Security Relations Division