

**Amendment to a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Manual Chapter**

Series 000: Service Management
Part 36: Other Specific Delegations
Chapter 2: Marine Mammal Protection Act Incidental Harassment Authorizations, published 6/6/2016
Amendment Number: 1
Purpose: This amendment will provide Regional Directors the authority to redelegate Marine Mammal Protection Act Incidental Harassment Authorization (IHA) signature authority to their Assistant Regional Directors, Ecological Services. This amendment will aid the Service in meeting its statutory duty to issue IHAs within 120 days from application receipt and aligns with Department of the Interior and Service policy to delegate authority to the lowest levels practicable commensurate with assignment responsibility to better address issues, strengthen communication, strengthen the line of command, and permit officials to make decisions for which they are in suitable positions to make. The amendment also makes a minor modification to reflect the most recent Service Regional organization.

Actions:

1. Under section 2.3, replace the reference to “Deputy Regional Directors” with “Assistant Regional Directors, Ecological Services.”
2. Under section 2.2, insert the word “Legacy” as follows:

“2.2 Who has signature authority for IHAs and what does that authority entail? Regional Directors in Legacy Regions 1, 4, 7, and 8 may: “



Martha Williams
Principal Deputy Director
Exercising the Delegated Authority of the Director
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Signed date: 6/8/2021