

**Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL BRIEFING NOTE**

Approved **Not Approved** **Noted**
Further information required

Signed.....
Dated / /

TO: Acting Deputy Director-General EHP

SUBJECT: Scientific Purposes Permit – Sea World

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Acting Deputy Director General **approve** the attached Scientific Purposes Permit (SPP) for Village Roadshow Theme Parks Pty Ltd (Sea World) to collect freshly dead dolphin carcasses from shark nets and Queensland beaches.

BACKGROUND/KEY ISSUES

- Sea World has previously held an SPP to collect dolphin carcasses, conduct post mortems and to collect reproductive material for research. Their most recent permit expired in September 2012.
- An application was received by PALM on 20 September 2012, to continue this project for a further five (5) years.

CURRENT

- Sea World wishes to conduct this work along the coast from Rainbow Beach south to the New South Wales border.
- Sea World is required to provide relevant information to the EHP StrandNet database.
- Reproductive material will be collected from the carcasses and frozen to be used in research.
- Cetacean Expert Dr Ilze Brieze and Kristy Currie, Senior Conservation Officer, NPRSR Moreton Bay have considered and supported this application.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL'S COMMENTS

ATTACHMENTS

- Assessment Report to Delegate
- Assessment form completed by Dr Ilze Brieze
- Assessment form completed by Kristy Currie
- Notice of Decision for signing by the A/DDG
- Permit WISP12115912 for signing by the A/DDG

Enquiries Wade Oestreich
Telephone (07) 3225 2710
Your reference
Our reference BNE399-1

7 August 2006

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Director of Marine Sciences
Sea World
PO Box 190
Surfers Paradise QLD 4217

Dear 6) Personal infc

Re: Dugong Wuru'

Thank you for your letter of 19 June 2006 concerning the female dugong 'Wuru' and your request to transfer her from your rehabilitation permit to your wildlife exhibitor licence.

Based on the unsuccessful outcome of the previous release attempt involving the male dugong 'Pig', the Agency is of the opinion that Wuru should not be returned to the wild due to the likelihood of a similar outcome. Wuru, like Pig, entered Sea World's care as a young calf, and the difficulties involved in attempting to return such an animal to the wild are considerable, given the lack of appropriate learned behaviours. As a result, your request to commence holding Wuru under your exhibitor's licence is approved, effective immediately.

Please note that this approval does not endorse breeding of the dugong, and the Agency requires that the husbandry practices necessary to prevent this from occurring are implemented.

Please contact Wade Oestreich, Manager, Wildlife Management and Education, on telephone 3225 2710 if you have any further enquiries regarding this matter.

Yours sincerely

Geoff Clare
Executive Director