Application to Collaborate

Thank you for interest in access to animals, or data or samples from animals in the care of the Pacific Marine Mammal Center (PMMC). We ask that all researchers who are interested in collaborative science provide the information outlined on this application form. This application will be reviewed by PMMC’s Vice President of Conservation Medicine and Science, the Director of Clinical Medicine and other relevant PMMC staff. Please provide as much information as possible about the details of your project. This information will be necessary for us to be able to make the decision to support the project. Your application will be treated as confidential and will not be shared outside of PMMC.

Approval and necessary permits must be secured from all appropriate governmental agencies before the start of the project.
- Projects submitted from University researchers must have approval of that institution’s Animal Use and Care Committee.
- Researchers requesting marine mammal parts are required to have Regional Authorization letter from the Westcoast regional stranding coordinator. For contact information click here.
- Researchers requesting data only do not require permits.

All researchers must agree to the terms and conditions of PMMC’s collaborative science agreement (below).

Proposals are typically 1-3 pages in length. Proposals are submitted electronically to hnollens@pacificmmc.org and must include:
- Contact information for the applicant (and Principal Investigator if the applicant is a student)
- Title of the project
- Summary of relevant background
- How the project differs from or builds on previous work
- The specific research objectives or questions
- A summary of the research and data analysis methods, including a power analysis if applicable
- Sample type, sample size, and sample or data selection criteria requested from PMMC.
- Sample processing and shipping instructions
- Whether your project will require you to do work on-site at PMMC. If yes, when, how long and what support or special supplies will be needed.
- Expected findings
- The significance of the project
- Expected list of conference presentations and peer-reviewed publications based on the samples or data provided by PMMC
- Anticipated project timeline, including publication(s) and presentation(s)
- A project spokesperson for messaging the project
- List funding available for special supplies, special processing requirements, staff time and shipping costs

In addition, please attach:
- a signed collaborative science agreement (below)
- copies of IACUC or permits from appropriate governmental agencies and indicate whether these are approved or in review
- up to 3 visual assets of the project in action for use with media, internal and external stakeholders
- one project summary slide to be used for messaging the project via traditional and social media channels

We look forward to a productive collaboration on behalf of marine conservation.

Dr. Hendrik Nollens  
VP of Conservation Medicine & Science
Pacific Marine Mammal Center

Collaborative Science Agreement

All investigators must agree to the below terms and conditions:

The Principal Investigator agrees to submit an annual progress report by 1 December of each year. This report will include a copy of the raw data derived from the data or samples provided by PMMC. PMMC will use these progress reports to evaluate the project’s progress against the project timeline in the collaborative science application. If the project is not progressing in a satisfactory manner, PMMC may discontinue its participation in the project. If a project or the writing of (a) manuscript(s) has been inactive for 2 years, PMMC may choose to use the scientific data generated during the project in publications authored by PMMC staff, with appropriate co-authorship provided to the project’s Principal Investigator.

The Principal Investigator agrees not to transfer data, samples or parts thereof to other investigators without prior written permission from PMMC. The Principal Investigator agrees to seek PMMC’s permission prior to destroying or discarding used samples.

The Principal Investigator understands and agrees that the information about active research projects, once approved, and any resulting publications, presentations and reports can be used or referred to (with consideration of publication licensing agreements) on PMMC’s website and social media platforms.

PMMC collaborator(s) will be given the opportunity to provide feedback on study design, sample collection and study methodology. In addition, PMMC collaborator(s) will be given the opportunity to contribute to the writing, editing and reviewing all manuscripts, presentations, reports or other document derived in part or in their entirety from data or samples provided by PMMC. As such, the Principal Investigator agrees to include at least one PMMC collaborator as a coauthor, unless otherwise agreed upon in writing during PMMC’s review of the application to collaborate. In these cases, relevant PMMC staff will acknowledged in any such manuscripts, presentations or other documents.

The Principal Investigator agrees to provide prior notice to PMMC of any press releases or other traditional or online media on the project.

If the Principal Investigator is a student, this Research Agreement must be co-signed by his/her faculty supervisor.

Name, title(s) and role____________________
Signature____________________
Date____________________

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Signature____________________
Date____________________