The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade presents its compliments to the Embassy of the United States of America and has the honour to refer to the Embassy's email of 5 November 2009 and the attached completed application form requesting permission for the R/V Melville a United States scientific research vessel, to conduct marine scientific research in the exclusive economic zone of New Zealand from 30 November to 21 December 2009 inclusive.

The Ministry is pleased to advise that approval has been given for the R/V Melville to undertake scientific research as described in the application subject to the conditions specified below.

The Ministry would like to note that this approval is subject to the following conditions being met:

1. The following notifications will be provided to the Fisheries Communication Centre (FCC):

   (i) 24 hours prior notice of entry of the vessel to the New Zealand Exclusive Economic Zone (NZEEZ), including date and estimated time of arrival and position of entry to the nearest arc;
   
   (ii) 24 hours prior notice of any port call in New Zealand, including date, estimated time of arrival and name of port;
   
   (iii) notice of any port departure in New Zealand within two hours of departure;
(iv) daily position reports while the vessel is in the NZEEZ or the territorial sea, to be sent within two hours of noon, including position to the nearest minute of the arc; and
(v) prior notice of departure from the NZEEZ, including date and time of departure and position of departure to the nearest minute of the arc.

The FCC can be contacted by email at fcc@fish.govt.nz or fax +64 4 801 5381. All reports should include the name and international radio call signal of the vessel.

2. Copies of all data collected and reports prepared based on data collected in areas under New Zealand jurisdiction, or alternatively details of where such data and reports can be obtained, will be submitted to the New Zealand Government, in a form acceptable to New Zealand, as soon as possible, and within a 12 month period, after the conclusion of the cruise. This information will be treated as public information and may be made available to New Zealanders via the internet unless another arrangement is reached with the New Zealand Government.

[Include if not already provided]

3. The following details will be provided to the Ministry, for each crew member and scientist, at least one month prior to the vessel entering the NZEEZ: surname and given name(s); date of birth; nationality; country of birth; passport number and date of expiry.]

The Ministry would like to draw the Embassy's attention to the requirement for a New Zealand Customs Service Advance Notice of Arrival form. Details of this requirement can be found on the New Zealand Customs Service website (www.customs.govt.nz), in the Visiting Craft (Commercial Vessel Arrival) section. There are also additional legal requirements on a vessel arriving in New Zealand's waters under New Zealand's Biosecurity Act. The Ministry would
like to refer the Embassy to the Biosecurity New Zealand website (www.biosecurity.govt.nz/regs/ships), which has further information on the legal requirements for a vessel prior to arrival.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade has the further honour to refer to its note of 5 September 1997 and Article 246 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and requests notice be given at least six months in advance or at the earliest possible convenience for all future research vessel applications.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade takes this opportunity to renew to the Embassy of the United States of America the assurances of its highest consideration.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
WELLINGTON
13 November 2009
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Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade

WELLINGTON

13 November 2009