DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Receipt of Applications for Permit

Endangered Species

The public is invited to comment on the following applications for a permit to conduct certain activities with endangered species. This notice is provided pursuant to Section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.). Written data, comments, or requests for copies of these complete applications should be submitted to the Director (address below) and must be received within 30 days of the date of this notice.

PRT–704025
Applicant: H & L Sales, Patio Ranch, San Antonio, TX

The applicant requests renewal of a permit to authorize interstate and foreign commerce, export and cull of excess male barasingha (Cervus duvaucelli) from their captive herd for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species. This notice covers activities conducted by the applicant for a period of five years. Permittee must apply for renewal annually.

Marine Mammals

The public is invited to comment on the following application for a permit to conduct certain activities with marine mammals. The application was submitted to satisfy requirements of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 et seq.) and the regulations governing marine mammals (50 CFR 18).

Written data, comments, or requests for copies of this complete application or requests for a public hearing on this application should be submitted to the Director (address below) and must be received within 30 days of the date of this notice. Anyone requesting a hearing should give specific reasons why a hearing would be appropriate. The holding of such a hearing is at the discretion of the Director.

PRT–043241
Applicant: Sead Dizdarevic, Far Hills, NJ

The applicant requests a permit to import a polar bear (Ursus maritimus) sport hunted from the Lancaster Sound polar bear population in Canada for personal use. On June 6, 2001 (66 FR 30476), the permit request was mistakenly published as a sport-hunted bear from the Norwegian Bay population.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has information collection approval from OMB through March 31, 2004, OMB Control Number 1018–0093. Federal Agencies may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a current valid OMB control number.

Documents and other information submitted with these applications are available for review, subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act and Freedom of Information Act, by any party who submits a written request for a copy of such documents within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice to: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203, telephone 703/358–2104 or fax 703/358–2281.


Monica Farris,
Senior Permit Biologist, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.

[FR Doc. 01–20384 Filed 8–13–01; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310–55–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Availability of a Draft Recovery Plan for the Pacific Coast Population of the Western Snowy Plover for Review and Comment


ACTION: Notice of document availability.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announces the availability for public review of the Draft Recovery Plan for the Pacific Coast Population of the Western Snowy Plover. This recovery plan covers the threatened Pacific coast population of the western snowy plover (Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus). The draft plan includes recovery criteria and measures for the Pacific coast population of the western snowy plover.

DATES: Comments on the draft recovery plan must be received on or before December 12, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the draft recovery plan are available for inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the following location: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office, 2800 Cottage Way, Room W–2603, Sacramento, California (telephone (916) 414–6600); and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Regional Office, Ecological Services, 911 N.E. 11th Avenue, Eastside Federal Complex, Portland Oregon 97232–4181 (telephone (503) 231–6131). Requests for copies of the draft recovery plan and written comments and materials regarding this plan should be addressed to Wayne S. White, Field Supervisor, Ecological Services, at the above Sacramento address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Carmen Thomas or Ina Pisani, Fish and Wildlife Biologists, at the above Sacramento address.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Restoring endangered or threatened animals and plants to the point where they are again secure, self-sustaining members of their ecosystems is a

Total Estimated Burden Hours: 960. Status: Reinstatement, without change, of previously approved collection.


Wayne Eddins, Departmental Reports Management Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

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primary goal of the Service’s endangered species program. To help guide the recovery effort, the Service is working to prepare recovery plans for most of the listed species native to the United States. Recovery plans describe actions considered necessary for the conservation of the species, establish criteria for downlisting or delisting listed species, and estimate time and cost for implementing the recovery measures needed.

The Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) (Act), requires the development of recovery plans for listed species unless such a plan would not promote the conservation of a particular species. Section 4(f) of the Act as amended in 1988 requires that public notice and an opportunity for public review and comment be provided during recovery plan development. The Service will consider all information presented during the public comment period prior to approval of each new or revised recovery plan. Substantive technical comments will result in changes to the plan. Substantive comments regarding recovery plan implementation may not necessarily result in changes to the recovery plan, but will be forwarded to appropriate Federal or other entities so that they can take these comments into account during the course of implementing recovery actions. Individual responses to comments will not be provided.

The Pacific coast western snowy plover (Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus) breeding population currently extends from Damon Point, Washington, to Bahia Magdalena, Baja California, Mexico. Snowy plovers (Pacific coast population) breed primarily above the high tide line on coastal beaches, sand spits, dune-backed beaches, sparsely-vegetated dunes, beaches at creek and river mouths, and salt pans at lagoons and estuaries. Less common nesting habitats include bluff-backed beaches, dredged material disposal sites, salt pond levees, dry salt ponds, and river bars. The snowy plover winters mainly in coastal areas from southern Washington to Central America. In winter, snowy plovers are found on many of the beaches used for nesting as well as beaches where they do not nest, in man-made salt ponds, and on estuarine sand and mud flats. Habitat degradation caused by human disturbance, urban development, introduced beachgrass (Ammophila spp.), and expanding predator populations have resulted in a decline in active nesting areas and in the size of the breeding and wintering populations.

The primary objective of this recovery plan is to remove the Pacific coast western snowy plover population from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants by achieving well-distributed increases in numbers and productivity of breeding adult birds, and providing for long-term protection of breeding and wintering plovers and their habitat. Specific actions needed to achieve this objective include (1) protection of breeding and wintering habitat; (2) monitoring and managing breeding habitat; (3) monitoring and managing wintering and migration areas; (4) undertaking scientific research that facilitates recovery efforts; (5) public participation, outreach and education; and (6) establishing an international conservation program with the Mexican government to protect snowy plovers and their breeding and wintering locations in Mexico.

Public Comments Solicited

The Service solicits written comments on the recovery plan described. All comments received by the date specified above will be considered prior to approval of this plan.

Below is a schedule of public outreach workshops:

- September 18: Santa Barbara, California, at the Radisson Hotel from 1–3 and 6–8 p.m.
- September 19: South Bend, Washington, at the South Bend Community Center from 1–3 and 7–9 p.m.
- September 24: Marin City, California, at the Marin City High School auditorium from 1–3 and 6–8 p.m.
- September 25: Monterey, California, at the Monterey Conference Center from 1–3 and 6–8 p.m. Bandon, Oregon, at the Barn Community Center from 6–8 p.m.
- September 26: Florence, Oregon, at the Convention Center from 6–8 p.m.
- September 27: San Luis Obispo, California, at the Embassy Suites Hotel, from 1–3 and 6–8 p.m.
- October 3 Arcata, California, at the Arcata Community Center from 3–5 and 7–9 p.m.

Authority: The authority for this action is section 4(f) of the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. 1533(f).


John Engraving,
Acting Manager, California/Nevada Operations Office, Region 1, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Re-Opening of Comment Period for Marine Mammal Permit Applications; PRT–020575 and 043001

The Fish and Wildlife Service is re-opening the comment period for applications submitted by Aquamarine Fukushima, Iwaki, Japan, PRT–020575, and Ibaraki Prefectural Oarai Aquarium, Ibaraki, Japan, PRT–043001, to conduct certain activities with marine mammals, specifically, the taking of northern sea otter (Enhydra lutris lutris) from the wild in Alaska for export and public display in Japan. These applications were submitted to satisfy the requirements of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 et seq.) and the regulations governing marine mammals (50 CFR 18). A notice of receipt of these applications for a permit was published in the Federal Register on June 15, 2001 (66 FR 32635). The comment period closed on July 15, 2001. On July 20, 2001, and July 23, 2001, the applicants submitted additional information in support of their applications. The reopening of the comment period will allow all interested parties to review the new information and provide the Service with any additional comments regarding these applications. In reopening this comment period the Service further notifies the public that current information indicates the proposed activities, if authorized, qualify as categorical exclusions under the National Environmental Policy Act as described in Federal Register, vol. 62. No. 11, 1/16/97, and Departmental Manual 516 DM 6 Appendix 1, Section 1.4 C. Therefore, the Service does not anticipate holding a public hearing regarding these proposed activities.

Documents and other information submitted with these applications are available for review, subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act and Freedom of Information Act, by any party who submits a written request for a copy of such documents to the following office within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203.

Written data, comments, or requests, should be sent to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203, telephone 703/358–2104 or fax 703/358–2281. These data, comments,