DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service

Endangered and Threatened Species Permit Application

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Request permit amendment.

SUMMARY: The following applicant requests a permit amendment to conduct gray wolf (Canis lupis) take activities throughout Minnesota. This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531, et seq.).

Permit Number TE–697830

Applicant: Assistant Regional Director, Ecological Services, Region 3, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Fort Snelling, Minnesota.

DATES: Written comments must be received by February 11, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Written data or comments should be submitted to the Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services, 1 Federal Drive, Fort Snelling, Minnesota 55111–4056.

Documents and other information submitted with this application are available for review 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: Mr. Peter Fasbender, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services, 1 Federal Drive, Fort Snelling, Minnesota 55111–4056. Telephone: (612) 713–5343; Fax: (612) 713–5292; e-mail: peter_fasbender@fws.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Peter Fasbender, (612) 713–5343.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The gray wolf is listed as an endangered species throughout the conterminous United States and Mexico, except in Minnesota where it is classified as a threatened species, and in three areas of the western United States where experimental populations have been designated under separate regulations. In areas where the gray wolf is listed as endangered, 50 CFR 17.21(c)(2) allows them to be taken by a person “in defense of his own life or the lives of others.” Furthermore, §17.21(c)(3)(iv) allows any employee or agent of the Service, any other Federal land management agency, the National Marine Fisheries Service, or a State conservation agency, who is designated by his agency for such purposes to “remove specimens which constitute a demonstrable but nonimmediate threat to human safety, provided that their taking is done in a humane manner; the taking may involve killing or injuring only if it has not been reasonably possible to eliminate such threat by live-capturing and releasing the specimen unharmed, in a remote area.” 50 CFR 17.31 applies the provisions of §17.21(c)(2) and (c)(3) to threatened wildlife, except in cases where a special rule developed under section 4(d) of the Act applies to a threatened species. 50 CFR 17.40(d) contains the special rules for wolves in Minnesota and allows designated persons to take gray wolves in Wolf Management Zones 2–5 in response to depredations upon domestic animals. Although all the other provisions of 17.21(c)(2) and (c)(3), including the provision that allows gray wolves to be taken in defense of human life, are carried over into §17.40(d), the provision allowing the Service, or its designees, to “remove specimens which constitute a demonstrable but nonimmediate threat to human safety” is absent from this section.

Due to increasing populations of the gray wolf in Minnesota, there are concerns over human and wolf interactions and the potential threat gray wolves pose to human safety. This concern is especially great where wolves increasingly have become habituated to humans, are frequently encountered around residential buildings, have become difficult to scare away, and may have learned to associate humans with the availability of food.

Under the current regulations discussed above there is no clear provision allowing take of a threatened Minnesota wolf that is a demonstrable but nonimmediate threat to human safety. However, the regulations noted above for endangered species specifically allow the taking, by either lethal or non-lethal means, of endangered wolves in all states adjacent to Minnesota if an identical threat to human safety occurs. The Service believes it is reasonable and logical to be able to provide relief in similar situations in Minnesota where wolves are much more numerous than in adjacent states. The gray wolf was reclassified from endangered to threatened in 1978 in Minnesota.

Because current regulations do not provide clear authority to carry out such activities without a permit, the Applicant is pursuing authorization to conduct such take activities via an amendment to the Endangered and Threatened Species Permit issued to the Assistant Regional Director, Ecological Services, Ft. Snelling, Minnesota. The applicant requests an amendment to allow the take (trapping, removing, humanely euthanizing, and/or relocating) of gray wolves throughout Minnesota in accordance with 50 CFR 17.32, if the wolf or wolves are determined to constitute a demonstrable but nonimmediate threat to human safety.

Written data or comments should be submitted to the Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services, 1 Federal Drive, Fort Snelling, Minnesota 55111–4056, and must be received within 30 days of the date of this publication.

Documents and other information submitted with this application are available for review 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: Mr. Peter Fasbender, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services, 1 Federal Drive, Fort Snelling, Minnesota 55111–4056. Telephone: (612) 713–5343; Fax: (612) 713–5292; e-mail: peter_fasbender@fws.gov.


Marvin E. Moriarty,
Acting Regional Director, Region 3, Fort Snelling, Minnesota.

[FR Doc. 02–565 Filed 1–10–02; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310–55–P

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 application(s) 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—049772

Applicant: Henry Doorly Zoo, Omaha, Nebraska

The applicant requests a permit to import three female and three male Parma wallabies (Macropus parma) from a non-native population on an island in New Zealand, where it is considered to be a pest species, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species.

PRT—051207

Applicant: Gail A. Sanders, Prescott, WI

The applicant requests a permit to import the sport-hunted trophy of one male bontebok (Damaliscus pygargus dorcas) culled from a captive herd maintained under the management program of the Republic of South Africa, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species.

PRT—051210

Applicant: Donald G. Sebesta, Othello, WA

The applicant requests a permit to import the sport-hunted trophy of one male bontebok (Damaliscus pygargus dorcas) culled from a captive herd maintained under the management program of the Republic of South Africa, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species.

PRT—051213

Applicant: Thomas L. Martinetto, Shorewood, MN

The applicant requests a permit to import the sport-hunted trophy of one male bontebok (Damaliscus pygargus dorcas) culled from a captive herd maintained under the management program of the Republic of South Africa, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species.

PRT—045459

Applicant: Center for Environmental Research and Conservation, Columbia Univ., New York, NY

The applicant requests a permit to import biological tissue samples from Javan rhinoceros (Rhinoceros sondaicus), great Indian one-horned rhinoceros (Rhinoceros unicornis) and Sumatran rhinoceros (Dicerorhinus sumatrensis) from several countries in Asia for the purpose of scientific research on genetic markers for use in population analysis to enhance the survival of the species. This notification covers activities conducted by the applicant over a five-year period.

Marine Mammals and Endangered Species

The public is invited to comment on the following application for a permit to conduct certain activities with endangered 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.), the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531, et seq.), and the regulations governing marine mammals (50 CFR part 18) and endangered species (50 CFR part 17).

PRT—049136

Applicant: Xavier University, Cincinnati, OH

Permit Type: Take for Scientific Research.

Name and Number of Animals: West Indian Manatee, Trichechus manatus, 2.

Summary of Activity To Be Authorized: The applicant requests a permit to conduct research associated with sound recognition on one captive-held animal and one captive-born animal, currently housed at the Cincinnati Zoo, Cincinnati, for the purpose of scientific research.

Source of Marine Mammals: Captive held and captive born.

Period of Activity: Up to 5 years if issued.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the Federal Register, the Division of Management Authority is forwarding copies of the above application to the Marine Mammal Commission and the Committee of Scientific Advisors for their review.

The public is invited to comment on the following application(s) for a permit to conduct certain activities with marine mammals. The application(s) 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 part 18).

PRT—051276

Applicant: Trevor Davis, Rye, NY

The applicant requests a permit to import a polar bear (Ursus maritimus) sport hunted from the Norwegian Bay polar bear population in Canada for personal use.

Written data, comments, or requests for copies of these complete applications or requests for a public hearing on these applications 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.

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. 02–706 Filed 1–10–02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–55–P

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 application(s) 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—051416

Applicant: James L. Baker, Wichita, KS

The applicant requests a permit to import the sport-hunted trophy of one male bontebok (Damaliscus pygargus dorcas) culled from a captive herd maintained under the management program of the Republic of South Africa, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species.