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 (ADDRESSES above).

PRT-093272
Applicant: Thomas L. Scott, Wrightsville, PA
The applicant requests a permit to import the sport-hunted trophy of one male bontebok (Damaliscus pygargus pygargus) 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-093281
Applicant: George R. Fusner, Jr., Brentwood, TN
The applicant requests a permit to import the sport-hunted trophy of one male bontebok (Damaliscus pygargus pygargus) 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-092526
Applicant: Rosamond Gifford Zoo at Burnet Park, Syracuse, NY
The applicant requests a permit to export semen samples from captive held Asian elephant (Elephas maximus) to the University of Ontario, Guelph, Ontario, Canada for the purpose of scientific research.

PRT-093171
Applicant: William L. Heubaum, Yankton, SD
The applicant requests a permit to import the sport-hunted trophy of one male black-faced impala (Aepyceros melampus petersi) taken in Namibia, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species.
appropriate. The holding of such a hearing is at the discretion of the Director.

PRT–093627
Applicant: William D. Hofer, Easton, CT
The applicant requests a permit to import a polar bear (Ursus maritimus) sport hunted from the Foxe Basin polar bear population in Canada prior to February 18, 1997, for personal use.

PRT–092340
Applicant: Guy P. Ferraro, Union Beach, NJ
The applicant requests a permit to import a polar bear (Ursus maritimus) sport hunted from the Viscount Melville Sound polar bear population in Canada for personal use on September 7, 2004, (69 FR 54149).

Michael L. Carpenter,
Senior Permit Biologist, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.

For further information contact:
Division of Management Authority, telephone 703/358-2104.

Supplementary information: On September 24, 2004, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) published a permit (PRT–094219) to the Lincoln Park Zoological Park, Chicago, IL, to import tissue samples from a male chimpanzee (Pan troglodytes) which died in the wild in the Gombe Stream Reserve, Tanzania, for the purpose of scientific research to determine the cause of death and possible veterinary intervention required. This action was authorized under Section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531, et seq.). The Service determined that an emergency affecting the health and life of the remaining chimpanzee population of the Gombe Stream Reserve existed, and that no reasonable alternative was available to the applicant for the following reasons.

The Lincoln Park Zoo requested a permit to import multiple tissue samples from a male chimpanzee which recently died in the Gombe Stream Reserve, Tanzania for emergency and ongoing health/disease evaluation purposes. Samples will be utilized exclusively for diagnostic and scientific purposes. The specimens will be used to run diagnostics tests to determine the cause of death of the animal that died. Additional animals appear to be affected with similar symptoms as the animal which died and the necessary diagnostic testing is not available in Africa to adequately and quickly diagnose the pathogen or pathogens involved. The determination of the cause of the illness and possible treatment as quickly as possible will benefit the chimpanzee population in the wild.

Michael L. Carpenter,
Acting Chief, Branch of Permits—International Division of Management Authority.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service
Issuance of Permits
AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.
ACTION: Notice of issuance of permits for marine mammals.

SUMMARY: The following permits were issued.

ADDRESS: 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: 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.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Division of Management Authority, telephone 703/358-2104.

Supplementary information: Notice is hereby given that on the dates below, as authorized by the provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361, et seq.), the Fish and Wildlife Service issued the requested permits subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

Marine Mammals

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Michael L. Carpenter,
Senior Permit Biologist, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service
Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force Northeast Regional Panel Meeting
AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.
ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting of the Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Task Force Northeast Regional Panel. The meeting topics are identified in the Supplementary Information.

DATES: The Northeast Regional Panel will meet from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, November 9, 2004, and 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesday, November 10, 2004. Minutes of the meeting will be available for public inspection during