DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service

[FR Doc. E9–7888 Filed 4–7–09; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4210–67–P

ENDANGERED AND THREATENED WILDLIFE AND PLANTS; PERMITS

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.
ACTION: Notice of receipt of applications for permits.

SUMMARY: We announce our receipt of applications to conduct certain activities pertaining to enhancement of survival of endangered species. The Endangered Species Act requires that we invite public comment on these permit applications.

DATES: Written comments on this request for a permit must be received by May 8, 2009.

ADDRESSES: Written data or comments should be submitted to the Assistant Regional Director-Ecological Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 25486, Denver Federal Center, Denver, Colorado 80225–0486; facsimile (303) 236–0027.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Public Availability of Comments

Before including your address, telephone number, e-mail address, or other personal indentifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Number of respondents × Hours per response = Burden hours

| Reporting burden | 29,288 | 1 | 0.329 | 966 |

Total Estimated Burden Hours: 966.

Status: New Collection.


Dated: April 1, 2009.
Lillian Deitzer,
Departmental Reports Management Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

Document Availability

Documents and other information submitted with these applications are available for review, subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act (Act; 5 U.S.C. 552A) and Freedom of Information Act (Act; 5 U.S.C. 552), by any party who submits a request for a copy of such documents within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice to Kris Olsen (see ADDRESSES), by mail or by telephone at (303) 236–4256. All comments received from individuals become part of the official public record.

The following applicants have requested issuance of enhancement of survival permits to conduct certain activities with endangered species pursuant to Section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

Applications

Applicant: Chris Mammoliti, Topeka, Kansas, TE–087666. The applicant requests a renewed permit to take Topeka shiner (Notropis topeka) and American burying beetle (Nicrophorus americanus) in conjunction with recovery activities throughout the species’ range for the purpose of enhancing their survival and recovery.

Applicant: Scott Campbell, University of Kansas, Kansas Biological Survey, Lawrence, Kansas, TE–038527. The applicant requests a renewed permit to take Topeka shiner (Notropis topeka) in conjunction with recovery activities throughout the species’ range for the purpose of enhancing their survival and recovery.

Applicant: Brad Petch, Colorado Division of Wildlife, Meeker, Colorado, TE–080990. The applicant requests a renewed permit to take black-footed ferret (Mustela nigripes) and Colorado pikeminnow (Ptychocheilus lucius) in conjunction with recovery activities throughout the species’ range for the purpose of enhancing their survival and recovery.

Applicant: Jerald Powell, Wildlife Specialties, Lyons, Colorado, TE–080647. The applicant requests a renewed permit to take Southwestern willow flycatcher (Empidonax traillii extimus) in conjunction with recovery activities throughout the species’ range for the purpose of enhancing their survival and recovery.

Applicant: Ron Merritt, Roosevelt Park Zoo, Minot, North Dakota, TE–091150. The applicant requests a renewed permit to display pallid sturgeon (Scaphirhynchus albus) in conjunction with recovery activities throughout the species’ range for the purpose of enhancing their survival and recovery.

Applicant: Cody Wilson, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pickstown, South Dakota, TE–094832. The applicant requests a renewed permit to take pallid sturgeon (Scaphirhynchus albus) in conjunction with recovery activities throughout the species’ range for the purpose of enhancing their survival and recovery.

Applicant: Michael Smith, Colorado Division of Wildlife, Lamar, Colorado, TE–083415. The applicant requests a renewed permit to take interior least tern (Sterna antillarum atalassos) in conjunction with recovery activities throughout the species’ range for the purpose of enhancing their survival and recovery.

Applicant: Stephanie Jones, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Denver, Colorado, TE–047917. The applicant requests a renewed permit to take Southwestern willow flycatcher (Empidonax traillii extimus) in conjunction with recovery activities throughout the species’ range for the purpose of enhancing their survival and recovery.

Applicant: Jesse Wilkens, Huron, South Dakota, TE–207949. The applicant requests a permit to take Topeka shiner (Notropis topeka) in conjunction with recovery activities throughout the species’ range for the purpose of enhancing their survival and recovery.

Applicant: C. Alex Buerkle, University of Wyoming, Laramie, Wyoming, TE–207945. The applicant requests a permit to remove and reduce to possession Penstemon penlandii (Penland beardtongue) in conjunction with recovery activities throughout the species’ range for the purpose of enhancing their survival and recovery.

Applicant: Timothy Griffin, U.S. Forest Service, Nebraska National Forest, Halsey, Nebraska, TE–131639. The applicant requests a permit amendment to remove and reduce to possession Penstemon haydenii (Blowout penstemon) in conjunction with recovery activities throughout the species’ range for the purpose of enhancing their survival and recovery.
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a comprehensive conservation plan and environmental assessment; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, intend to prepare a comprehensive conservation plan (CCP) and associated National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents for St. Vincent National Wildlife Refuge (NWR). We provide this notice in compliance with our CCP policy to advise other Federal and State agencies, Tribes, and the public of our intentions, and to obtain suggestions and information on the scope of issues to consider in the planning process.

DATES: To ensure consideration, we must receive your written comments by May 8, 2009. Special mailings, newspaper articles, and other media announcements will be used to inform the public and State and local government agencies of the opportunities for input throughout the planning process. A public scoping meeting will be held early in the CCP development process. The date, time, and place for the meeting will be announced in the local media.

ADDRESSES: Send comments, questions, and requests for information to: Monica Harris, Natural Resource Planner, St. Vincent NWR, P.O. Box 447, Apalachicola, FL 32329.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Monica Harris, Natural Resource Planner; telephone: 910/378–6689; e-mail: monica_harris@fws.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Introduction

With this notice, we initiate our process for developing a CCP for St. Vincent NWR in Franklin and Gulf Counties, Florida. This notice complies with our CCP policy to (1) advise other Federal and State agencies, Tribes, and the public of our intention to conduct detailed planning on this refuge; and (2) obtain suggestions and information on the scope of issues to consider in the environmental document and during development of the CCP.

Background

The CCP Process

The National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 (16 U.S.C. 668dd–668ee) (Improvement Act), which amended the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, requires us to develop a CCP for each refuge. The purpose for developing a CCP is to provide refuge managers with a 15-year strategy for achieving refuge purposes and contributing to the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System, consistent with sound principles of fish and wildlife management, conservation, legal mandates, and our policies. In addition to outlining broad management direction for conserving wildlife and their habitats, CCPs identify wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities available to the public, including opportunities for hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, wildlife photography, and environmental education and interpretation. We will review and update the CCP at least every 15 years in accordance with the Improvement Act.

Each unit of the National Wildlife Refuge System was established for specific purposes. We use these purposes as the foundation for developing and prioritizing the management goals and objectives for each refuge within the National Wildlife Refuge System mission, and to determine how the public can use each refuge. The planning process is a way for us and the public to evaluate management goals and objectives for the best possible conservation approach to this important wildlife habitat, while providing for wildlife-dependent recreation opportunities that are compatible with the refuge’s establishing purposes and the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Our CCP process provides participation opportunities for Tribal, State, and local governments; agencies; organizations; and the public. At this time we encourage input in the form of issues, concerns, ideas, and suggestions for the future management of St. Vincent NWR.

We will conduct the environmental review of this project and develop an EA in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.); NEPA regulations (40 CFR parts 1500–1508); other appropriate Federal laws and regulations; and our policies and procedures for compliance with those laws and regulations.

St. Vincent NWR, which encompasses 12,490 acres, was established in 1968 as a waterfowl sanctuary. The primary feature of the refuge is the 4-mile-wide, 9-mile-long, 12,358-acre barrier island known as St. Vincent Island. In addition, the refuge includes a 46-acre island known as Pig Island in St. Joseph Bay, as well as an 86-acre mainland tract of land known as 14-mile site, south of County Road 30A. Management activities focus on managing and conserving the natural barrier island and associated native plant and animal communities. St. Vincent NWR provides habitat for numerous fresh and marine water species and thousands of birds, including wading and water birds (e.g., herons, egrets, and wood storks), as well as shorebirds (e.g., snowy plovers, American oystercatchers, and red knots). Many neotropical migratory songbirds breed on the refuge and use it during migration. Since 1990, the refuge has supported the recovery of the endangered red wolf by providing St. Vincent Island as a propagation site. Other species, including deer, squirrel, raccoon, alligator, snake, and sea turtle, can be found on the refuge.

Public Availability and Comments

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Authority: This notice is published under the authority of the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, Public Law 105–57.

Dated: March 12, 2009.

Cynthia K. Dohner,
Acting Regional Director.

[FR Doc. E9–7937 Filed 4–7–09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–55–P