DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service

[FR Doc. 2012–28540 Filed 11–23–12; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 4310–55–P

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Fish and Wildlife Service

[FR Doc. 2012–28558 Filed 11–23–12; 8:45 am]  
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SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, invite the public to comment on the following application to conduct certain activities with endangered or threatened species. The Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act), prohibits activities with endangered and threatened species unless a Federal permit allows such activity. The Act also requires that we invite public comment before issuing these permits.

DATES: To ensure consideration, please send your written comments by December 26, 2012.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments or requests for copies or more information by any of the following methods. Please refer to the respective permit number (e.g., Permit No. TE–123456) in the subject line of the message.

• Email: permitsR6ES@fws.gov. Please refer to the respective permit number (e.g., Permit No. TE–123456) in the subject line of the message.

• U.S. Mail: Kris Olsen, Permit Coordinator, Ecological Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 25486–DFC, Denver, CO 80225.

A permit granted by us under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Act authorizes applicants to conduct activities with U.S. endangered or threatened species for scientific purposes, enhancement of propagation or survival, or interstate commerce (the latter only in the event that it facilitates scientific purposes or enhancement of propagation or survival). Our regulations implementing section 10(a)(1)(A) for these permits are found at 50 CFR 17.22 for endangered wildlife species, 50 CFR 17.32 for threatened wildlife species, 50 CFR 17.62 for endangered plant species, and 50 CFR 17.72 for threatened plant species.

Applications Available for Review and Comment

We invite local, State, and Federal agencies, and the public to comment on the following applications. Please refer to the appropriate permit number (e.g., Permit No. TE–123456) for the application when submitting comments. Documents and other information the applicants have submitted with these applications are available for review, subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a) and Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552).

Permit Application Number: TE–180540

Applicant: Lisa Church, Bureau of Land Management, Kanab Field Office, Kanab, Utah

The applicant requests renewal of an existing permit to take (harass by survey and transport) Utah prairie dog (Cynomys parvidens) in conjunction with surveys and population monitoring activities in Utah for the purpose of enhancing the species’ survival.

Public Availability of Comments

All comments and materials we receive in response to this request will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the address listed in the ADDRESSES section of this notice.

Before including your address, phone number, email 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: We provide this notice under section 10 of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

Dated: November 16, 2012.

Michael G. Thabault, Assistant Regional Director, Mountain-Prairie Region.

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SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, invite the public to comment on the following applications to conduct certain activities with endangered species, marine mammals, or both. With some exceptions, the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) prohibit activities with listed species unless Federal authorization is acquired that allows such activities.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

In compliance with NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), we have made an initial determination that the proposed activities in these permits are categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement (516 DM 6 Appendix 1, 1.4C(1)).
DATES: We must receive comments or requests for documents on or before December 26, 2012. We must receive requests for marine mammal permit public hearings, in writing, at the address shown in the ADDRESSES section by December 26, 2012.

ADDRESSES: Brenda Tapia, Division of Management Authority, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 212, Arlington, VA 22203; fax (703) 358–2280; or email DMAFR@fws.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brenda Tapia, (703) 358–2104 (telephone); (703) 358–2280 (fax); DMAFR@fws.gov (email).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Public Comment Procedures

A. How do I request copies of applications or comment on submitted applications?

Send your request for copies of applications or comments and materials concerning any of the applications to the contact listed under ADDRESSES. Please include the Federal Register notice publication date, the PRT-number, and the name of the applicant in your request or submission. We will not consider requests or comments sent to an email or address not listed under ADDRESSES. If you provide an email address in your request for copies of applications, we will attempt to respond to your request electronically.

Please make your requests or comments as specific as possible. Please confine your comments to issues for which we seek comments in this notice, and explain the basis for your comments. Include sufficient information with your comments to allow us to authenticate any scientific or commercial data you include.

The comments and recommendations that will be most useful and likely to influence agency decisions are: (1) Those supported by quantitative information or studies; and (2) Those that include citations to, and analyses of, the applicable laws and regulations.

We will not consider or include in our hearing record any personal identifying information (such as full names, addresses, phone numbers, facsimile numbers, email addresses) 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.

II. Background

To help us carry out our conservation responsibilities for affected species, and in consideration of section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), and the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 et seq.), along with Executive Order 13576, “Delivering an Efficient, Effective, and Accountable Government,” and the President’s Memorandum for the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies of January 21, 2009—Transparency and Open Government (74 FR 4685; January 26, 2009), which call on all Federal agencies to promote openness and transparency in Government by disclosing information to the public, we invite public comment on these permit applications before final action is taken. Under the MMPA, you may request a hearing on any MMPA application received. If you request a hearing, give specific reasons why a hearing would be inappropriate. The holding of such a hearing is at the discretion of the Service Director.

III. Permit Applications

A. Endangered Species

Applicant: Blank Park Zoo, Des Moines, IA; PRT–705206

The applicant requests renewal of their captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for the following species, to enhance their propagation or survival. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Species:
- Siberian tiger (Panthera tigris altaica)
- Snow leopard (Uncia uncia)
- Japanese macaque (Macaca fuscata)
- Golden headed tamarin (Leontopithecus chrysomelas)
- Pink pigeon (Nesoenas mayeri)

Applicant: Johnny B Corporation, Kennesaw, GA; PRT–89124A

The applicant requests amendment of their captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) to include

- Black and white ruffed lemur (Varecia variegata)
- Black lemur (Eulemur macaco)
- Brown lemur (Eulemur fulvus)
- Cotton-top tamarin (Saguinus oedipus)
- Panamanian golden frog (Atelopus zeteki)

Applicant: Lionshare Farm Zoological LLC, Greenwich, CT; PRT–195196

The applicant requests renewal of their captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for the following species, to enhance their propagation or survival. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Species:
- Cotton-top tamarin (Saguinus oedipus)
- Leopard (Panthera pardus)
- Chinese alligator (Alligator sinensis)
- Aruba Island rattlesnake (Crotalus unicolor)
- Panamanian golden frog (Atelopus zeteki)

Applicant: Lionshare Farm Zoological LLC, Greenwich, CT; PRT–195196

The applicant requests renewal of their captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for the following species, to enhance their propagation or survival. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Species:
- Ring-tailed lemur (Lemur catta)
- Black and white ruffed lemur (Varecia variegata)
- Red ruffed lemur (Varecia rubra)
- Black lemur (Eulemur macaco)
- Brown lemur (Eulemur fulvus)
- Cotton-top tamarin (Saguinus oedipus)
- Panamanian golden frog (Atelopus zeteki)
- Leopard (Panthera pardus)
- Chinese alligator (Alligator sinensis)
- Aruba Island rattlesnake (Crotalus unicolor)
- Panamanian golden frog (Atelopus zeteki)

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- Red ruffed lemur (Varecia rubra)
- Black lemur (Eulemur macaco)
- Brown lemur (Eulemur fulvus)
- Cotton-top tamarin (Saguinus oedipus)
- Panamanian golden frog (Atelopus zeteki)
- Leopard (Panthera pardus)
- Chinese alligator (Alligator sinensis)
- Aruba Island rattlesnake (Crotalus unicolor)
- Panamanian golden frog (Atelopus zeteki)

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- Black lemur (Eulemur macaco)
- Brown lemur (Eulemur fulvus)
- Cotton-top tamarin (Saguinus oedipus)
- Panamanian golden frog (Atelopus zeteki)
- Leopard (Panthera pardus)
- Chinese alligator (Alligator sinensis)
- Aruba Island rattlesnake (Crotalus unicolor)
- Panamanian golden frog (Atelopus zeteki)
Cuban amazon (Amazona leucocephala)
Bali starling (Leucopsar rothschildi)
Applicant: Terry Owen, Sonora, TX; PRT–89708A

The applicant requests a captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for the barasingha (Rucervus duvaucelii), Eld’s deer (Rucervus eldi), scimitar-horned oryx (Oryx dammah), Arabian oryx (Oryx leucoryx), addax (Addax nasomaculatus), dama gazelle (Nanger dama), and red lechwe (Kobus leche) to enhance the species’ propagation or survival. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Terry Owen, Sonora, TX; PRT–89824A

The applicant requests a permit authorizing interstate and foreign commerce, export, and cull of excess barasingha (Rucervus duvaucelii), scimitar-horned oryx (Oryx dammah), and addax (Addax nasomaculatus) from the captive herd maintained at their facility, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Endangered Species Propagation, Survival and Research Center, Inc., Mertzon, TX; PRT–748351

The applicant requests renewal of their captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for Arabian oryx (Oryx leucoryx) to enhance their propagation or survival. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Tony Roach, Junction, TX; PRT–89123A

The applicant requests a captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for the golden parakeet (Guarouba guarouba) to enhance the species’ propagation or survival. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Karla White, Okeechobee, FL; PRT–89715A

The applicant requests a captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for the following species, to enhance their propagation or survival. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Species:
Leopard (Panthera pardus)
Snow leopard (Uncia uncia)
Clouded leopard (Neofelis nebulosa)
Applicant: Zoological Society of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA; PRT–89481A

The applicant requests a permit to import 15 male and 15 female captive-born Rodrigues flying fox from the Gerald Durrell Endemic Wildlife Sanctuary, Vacoas, Mauritius, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species.

Applicant: Brian Holeman, Ardmore, PA; PRT–83682A

The applicant requests a captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for scimitar-horned oryx (Oryx dammah), Arabian oryx (Oryx leucoryx), addax (Addax nasomaculatus), and dama gazelle (Nanger dama) to enhance the species’ propagation or survival. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Diane Hitchcock, Delhi, NY; PRT–84317A

The applicant requests a captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for the following species, to enhance their propagation or survival. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Species:
Bettongia speciosa
Red siskin (Carduelis cucullata)
Applicant: Alan Flynn, Brockton, MA; PRT–027091

The applicant requests renewal of their captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for radiated tortoise (Astrochelys radiata) to enhance their propagation or survival. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: San Diego Zoo Global, San Diego, CA; PRT–778487

The applicant requests reissuance of their permit for scientific research with captive-born giant pandas currently held under loan agreement with the Government of China under the provisions of the USFWS Panda Policy. The proposed research will cover all aspects of behavior, reproductive physiology, genetics, nutrition, and animal health and is a continuation of activities currently in progress. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Robert Opferman, Pueblo, CO; PRT–073270

The applicant requests renewal of their captive-bred wildlife registration
under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for radiated tortoise (Astrochelys radiata) to enhance their propagation or survival. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Roosevelt Park Zoo, Minot, ND; PRT–680444

The applicant requests renewal of their captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for the following families, genera and species, to enhance their propagation or survival. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Families:
- Lemuridae
- Hylobatidae
- Lemuridae

Species:
- Atelopus zeteki
- Cyclura xanthopus
- Midas crocodile

Applicant: Central Florida Zoological Park, Lake Monroe, FL; PRT–675130

The applicant requests renewal of their captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for the following families, genera and species, to enhance their propagation or survival. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Families:
- Cebidae
- Felidae (does not include jaguar, margay or ocelot)
- Hylobatidae
- Lemuridae
- Crocodylidae
- Varanidae

Species:
- Grand Cayman blue iguana (Cyclura lewisi)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The following applicants each request 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.

Applicant: Charles Kleiser, Mill Creek, WA; PRT–89909A

Applicant: Joseph Borgesen, Clarkston, MI; PRT–89908A

B. Endangered Marine Mammals and Marine Mammals

Applicant: Seward Association for the Advancement of Marine Science, Alaska SeaLife Center, Seward, AK; PRT–73634A

The applicant requests a permit to take non-releasable northern sea otters (Enhydra lutris kenyoni) for the purpose of public display. These would be animals that strand from the non-ESA-listed stocks in Alaska and that the Service would declare non-releasable because they do not demonstrate the skills and abilities needed to survive in the wild. Further, each of these non-releasable sea otters would be eligible to be exported for the purpose of public display to facilities that meet the criteria under the MMPA. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Ho-Chunk Nation Beloit Casino Project, City of Beloit, Rock County, WI

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice advises the public that the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) as lead agency intends to gather information necessary for preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in connection with the Ho-Chunk Nation (Nation) application for a proposed 33-acre fee-to-trust transfer and casino project to be located in the City of Beloit, Rock County, Wisconsin. This notice also announces a public scoping meeting to identify potential issues and content for inclusion in the EIS.

DATES: Written comments on the scope of the EIS must arrive by December 26, 2012. The public scoping meeting will be held on December 13, 2012, from 6 p.m. until the last public comment is received.

ADDRESSES: You may mail or hand carry written comments to Ms. Diane Rosen, Midwest Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Midwest Region, Norman Pointe II Building, 5600 West American Boulevard, Suite 500, Bloomington, MN 55347. Please include your name, return address, and “DEIS Scoping Comments, Ho-Chunk Nation Beloit Casino Project” on the first page of your written comments. The public scoping meeting will be held at Aldrich Middle School, 1850 Northgate Drive, Beloit, Wisconsin 53511.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Scott Doig, Environmental Protection Specialist, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Midwest Region, Norman Pointe II Building, 5600 West American Boulevard, Suite 500, Bloomington, MN 55347; Phone (612) 725–4514.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The proposed action would transfer approximately 33 acres of land from fee to trust status, upon which the Nation would develop a casino, hotel, parking, and other supporting facilities. The property is located within the incorporated boundaries of the City of Beloit, Wisconsin. Areas of environmental concern identified for analysis in the EIS include land resources, water resources, air quality, noise, biological resources, cultural