DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS–R2–ES–2015–N083; FXES1113020000–156–FF02E0NH00]

Endangered and Threatened Species Permit Applications

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of applications; request for public comment.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, invite the public to comment on the following applications 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 activities. Both the Act and the National Environmental Policy Act require that we invite public comment before issuing these permits.

DATES: To ensure consideration, written comments must be received on or before July 2, 2015.

ADDRESSES: Susan Jacobsen, Chief, Division of Classification and Restoration, by U.S. mail at Division of Classification and Restoration, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 1306, Albuquerque, NM 87103; or by telephone at 505–248–6920. Please refer to the respective permit number for each application when submitting comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Susan Jacobsen, Chief, Division of Classification and Restoration, by U.S. mail at P.O. Box 1306, Albuquerque, NM 87103; or by telephone at 505–248–6920.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) prohibits activities with endangered and threatened species unless a Federal permit allows such activities. Along with our implementing regulations in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 50 CFR 17, the Act provides for permits, and requires that we invite public comment before issuing these permits. 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 survival or propagation, or interstate commerce. Our regulations regarding implementation of section 10(a)(1)(A) 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, Tribal, 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) when requesting application documents and 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 TE–174552

Applicant: Animas Biological Studies, Durango, Colorado.

Applicant requests a renewal to a current permit for research and recovery purposes to conduct absence surveys, nest monitoring, and banding of southwestern willow flycatchers (Empidonax traillii extimus) within Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah.

Permit TE–71618A

Applicant: Museum of Southwestern Biology—University of New Mexico Herbarium, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Applicant requests a renewal to a current permit for research and recovery purposes to conduct seed collection and voucher specimens of the following federally listed plants within New Mexico:

- Argemone pinнатisectа (Sacromento prickly poppy)
- Astragalus humilimus (Mancos milk-vetch)
- Cirsium vinaceum (Sacromento Mountains thistle)
- Coryphantha sneedii var. leeи (Lee’s pincushion cactus)
- Coryphantha sneedii var. sneedii (Sneed’s pincushion cactus)
- Echinocereus fendleri var. kuenzieri (Kuenzler’s hedgehog cactus)
- Erigeron rhizomatus (Zuni fleabane)
- Eriogonum gypsophilum (gypsum wild buckwheat)
- Hedeoma todsenii (Todsen’s pennyroyal)
- Helianthus paradoxus (Pecos sunflower)
- Ipomopsis sancti-spiritus (Holy Ghost ipomopsis)
- Pediocactus knowltonii (Knowlton’s cactus)
- Sclerocactus mesae-verdae (Mesa Verde cactus)

Permit TE–63202B

Applicant: Carol Chambers, Flagstaff, Arizona.

Applicant requests a new permit for research and recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys of New Mexico meadow jumping mouse (Zapus hudsonius luteus) within Arizona, Colorado, and New Mexico.

Permit TE–27791B


Applicant requests an amendment to a current permit for research and recovery purposes to conduct presence/
Applicant requests an amendment to a current permit for research and recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys for southwestern willow flycatcher (Empidonax trailli extimus) within Arizona.

**Permit TE–63522B**

**Applicant:** Laney Environmental Consulting, Muskogee, Oklahoma.

Applicant requests a new permit for research and recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys of American burying beetle (Nicrophorus americanus) within Oklahoma.

**Permit TE–170625**

**Applicant:** Daniel Howard, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Applicant requests a renewal to a current permit for research and recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys of American burying beetle (Nicrophorus americanus) within Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas.

**Permit TE–63523B**

**Applicant:** Medina Consulting Company, Inc., San Antonio, Texas.

Applicant requests a new permit for research and recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys of golden-cheeked warbler (Dendroica chrysoparia) within Texas.

**Permit TE–00975A**

**Applicant:** Osage Nation—Department of Natural Resources, Pawhuska, Oklahoma.

Applicant requests an amendment to a current permit for research and recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys of Neosho madtom (Lampsilis rafinesqueana) within Oklahoma.

**Permit TE–37484A**

**Applicant:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service—Balcones Canyonlands National Wildlife Refuge, Marble Falls, Texas.

Applicant requests a renewal to a current permit for research and recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys, banding, and nest monitoring of golden-cheeked warbler (Dendroica chrysoparia) and black-capped vireo (Vireo atricapilla) within Texas.

**Permit TE–236730**

**Applicant:** Timothy Bonner, San Marcos, Texas.

Applicant requests a renewal to a current permit for research and recovery purposes to conduct seed collection and cactus propagation, and to construct receiving areas and transplantation for Arizona hedgehog cactus (Echinocereus triglochidiatus var. arizonicus) within Arizona.

**Permit TE–64624B**

**Applicant:** Cassidy Johnson, Houston, Texas.

Applicant requests a new permit for research and recovery purposes to conduct the following activities for Houston toad (Bufo houstonensis) within Texas: Presence/absence surveys, transportation and storage of frozen samples, transportation of live species for education and outreach, and possession of one retired male toad for education and outreach purposes.

**Permit TE–206016**

**Applicant:** Andrew Middick, Edmond, Oklahoma.

Applicant requests an amendment to a current permit for research and recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys of American burying beetle (Nicrophorus americanus) within Ohio.

**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)).

**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.).
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service
[3092 (a)(6) of Public Law 113–291, and in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) (5 U.S.C. Appendix 1–16).

The Council provides the Secretary and the NPS with guidance for the management of the Monument, including advice on the preparation and implementation of the management plan.

The Council is composed of 10 members appointed by the Secretary, as follows: (a) One member appointed among individuals recommended by the County Commission; (b) one member appointed among individuals recommended by the city council of Las Vegas, Nevada; (c) one member appointed among individuals recommended by the city council of North Las Vegas, Nevada; (d) one member appointed among individuals recommended by the tribal council of the Las Vegas Paiute Tribe; (e) one member of the conservation community in southern Nevada; (f) one member appointed among individuals recommended by Nellis Air Force Base; (g) one member appointed among individuals recommended by the State of Nevada; (h) one member who resides in Clark County and has a background that reflects the purposes for which the Monument was established; and (i) two members who reside in Clark County or adjacent counties, both of whom shall have experience in the field of paleontology, obtained through higher education, experience, or both.

Nominations should include a resume providing an adequate description of the nominee’s qualifications, including information that would enable the Department of the Interior to make an informed decision regarding meeting the membership requirements of the Council and permit the Department to contact a potential member.

Dated: May 26, 2015.

Alma Ripps,
Chief, Office of Policy.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Christie Vanover, Public Affairs Officer, Tule Springs Fossil Beds National Monument, 601 Nevada Way, Boulder City, Nevada 89005, telephone (702) 293–8691, or email tusk_information@nps.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The NPS is establishing the Tule Springs Fossil Beds National Monument Advisory Council in accordance with section 3092 (a)(6) of Public Law 113–291, and in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) (5 U.S.C. Appendix 1–16).

The Council will hold its first meeting once all members are appointed, at which time a chairperson will be elected from among the members. The Chairperson shall not, however, be a member of Federal or a State agency. Meetings will take place at such times as designated by the Designated Federal Officer. Members are expected to make every effort to attend all meetings. Members may not appoint deputies or alternates.

Seeking Nominations for Membership
We are seeking nominations for council members in the following categories: (a) One member who represents the conservation community in southern Nevada; (b) one member who resides in Clark County and has a background that reflects the purposes for which the Monument was established; and (c) two members who reside in Clark County or adjacent counties, both of whom shall have experience in the field of paleontology, obtained through higher education, experience, or both.

Nominations should include a resume providing an adequate description of the nominee’s qualifications, including information that would enable the Department of the Interior to make an informed decision regarding meeting the membership requirements of the Council and permit the Department to contact a potential member.

Dated: May 14, 2015.
Joy E. Nicholopoulos,
Acting Regional Director, Southwest Region, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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