DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service

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Towanda A. Brooks,
Chief Human Capital Officer.

We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority, 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041–3803; telephone 703–358–2280. FWS–HQ–IA–2017–0080; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters, MS: IA; 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041–3803; telephone 703–358–2023; facsimile 703–358–2280. 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 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joyce Russell, Government Information Specialist, Division of Management Authority, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters, MS: IA; 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041–3803; telephone 703–358–2023; facsimile 703–358–2280.

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.; ESA), 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 4658; 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 appropriate. The holding of such a hearing is at the discretion of the Service Director.

III. Permit Applications

We invite the public to comment on applications to conduct certain activities with endangered species. With some exceptions, the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.; ESA) prohibits activities with listed species unless Federal authorization is acquired that allows such activities.

A. Endangered Species

Applicant: Bruce Fairchild, Johnson City, TX; PRT–69947A

The applicant requests renewal of a captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for barasingha (Rucervus duvaucelii), Arabian oryx (Oryx leucoryx), and Hartmann’s mountain zebra (Equus zebra hartmannae) to enhance species propagation or survival. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.


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The applicant requests a permit to import biological samples from wild specimens of hawksbill turtle (Eretmochelys imbricata), loggerhead turtle (Caretta caretta), and Kemp’s ridley turtle (Lepidochelys kempii), from Panama and Bermuda for the purpose of scientific research. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: White Oak Conservation, Yulee, FL; PRT–43164C

The applicant requests a permit to import 2.2 southern black rhinoceros (Diceros bicornis) from Wildlife Assignments International (PTY) Ltd., Gauteng, South Africa, for breeding to enhance the propagation or survival of the species. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: University of California, UC Davis Stable Isotope Facility, Davis, CA; PRT–32831C

The applicant requests a permit to import small amounts of biological samples that may be derived from museum, wild-caught or salvaged specimens worldwide for the purpose of scientific research for the following marine mammal species: manatee (Trichechus manatus, T. inunguis, T. senegalensis), polar bear (Ursus maritimus), walrus (Odobenus rosmarus), dugong (Dugong dugon), sea otter (Enhydra lutris lutris, E. l. kenyonii, E. l. nereis), and marine otter (Lontra felina). This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: BBC Natural History Unit, London, UK; PRT–53019C

The applicant requests a permit to photograph southern sea otters (Enhydra lutris nereis) within a 12-month period at the Monterey Bay and Elkhorn Slough areas, California, for the purpose of education. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

IV. Next Steps

If the Service decides to issue permits to any of the applicants listed in this notice, we will publish a notice in the Federal Register. You may locate the Federal Register notice announcing the permit issuance date by searching in www.regulations.gov under the permit number listed in this document.

V. Public Comments

You may submit your comments and materials concerning this notice by one of the methods listed in ADDRESSES. We will not consider comments sent by email or fax or to an address not listed in ADDRESSES.

If you submit a comment via http://www.regulations.gov, your entire comment, including any personal identifying information, will be posted on the Web site. If you submit a hardcopy comment that includes personal identifying information, you may request that at the top of your document that we withhold this information from public review. However, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

We will post all hardcopy comments on http://www.regulations.gov.

VI. Authorities


Joyce Russell, Government Information Specialist, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.

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