DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

[FR Doc. 2019–20189 Filed 12–31–19; 8:45 am]

Notice Concerning Termination of Eligibility for E–1 and E–2 Nonimmigrant Classification Based on Treaty of Amity With Iran


ACTION: Notice concerning termination of eligibility.

SUMMARY: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) in the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is announcing that nationals of Iran and their dependents are no longer eligible to change to or extend their stay in E–1 or E–2 nonimmigrant status on the basis of the Treaty of Amity, Economic Relations, and Consular Rights between the United States and Iran (the Treaty of Amity) due to the treaty’s termination.

DATES: This announcement is made on January 23, 2020, and describes policy that governs adjudications on or after that date.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Charles Nimick, Chief, Business and Foreign Workers Division, Office of Policy and Strategy, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, 20 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Suite 1100, Washington, DC 20529–2120; telephone: (202) 272–8377 (not a toll-free call). Individuals with a hearing or speech impairment may access the telephone numbers above via TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Information Relay Service at 1–877–889–5627 (TTY/TDD). Any new or existing request for an E visa classification if ‘entitled to enter the United States and the foreign state of which he is a national[,]’ The existence of a qualifying treaty or authorizing legislation is therefore a threshold requirement for the issuance of an E visa or for obtaining such status. On October 3, 2018, the U.S. Department of State notified Iran of the termination of the Treaty of Amity. Subsequently, on October 23, 2019, the U.S. Department of State provided DHS with formal notice of the termination of the treaty. There are no other qualifying treaties with Iran currently in force or other Iran-specific bases for granting or extending E–1 or E–2 status to Iranian nationals. Accordingly, a national of Iran is no longer eligible for an extension of stay in E–1 or E–2 status or a change of status to E–1 or E–2 on the basis of the Treaty of Amity. Aliens who are currently in valid E–1 or E–2 status on the basis of the Treaty of Amity, including their family members who are also in valid E status, will be required to depart from the United States upon expiration of their authorized period of stay in the United States, unless otherwise authorized to remain in the United States (e.g., pursuant to a change of status to another nonimmigrant status or adjustment of status to lawful permanent residence).

USCIS will issue Notices of Intent to Deny (NOIDs) to the affected applicants who have pending applications for extensions of stay in, or changes of status to, E–1 or E–2 status on the basis of the Treaty of Amity. Through the issuance of NOIDs, affected applicants will be notified of the effect of the treaty termination and given an opportunity to respond. If the grounds for issuance of the NOID are not overcome, USCIS will proceed to deny the application.

The changes described in this notice do not prevent Iranian nationals and their dependents from seeking admission in, or applying for a grant of, another nonimmigrant visa classification for which they believe they can establish eligibility under U.S. immigration law.

Mark Kounsans,

Deputy Director, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

[FR Doc. 2019–20189 Filed 12–31–19; 8:45 am]
SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the Fiscal Year 2018 priority list of wildlife and sport fish conservation projects from the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (Association). As required by the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Programs Improvement Act of 2000, the Association submits a list of projects to us each year to consider for funding under the Multistate Conservation Grant Program. Once projects are awarded, this list must be published into the Federal Register. We have reviewed the list and recommended all projects on the list for award to the Service Director. The Service Director approved the entire list of projects for award, and we have awarded all projects from the list.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John C. Stremple, Multistate Conservation Grants Program Coordinator; Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; 5275 Leesburg Pike; MS: WSFR; Falls Church, VA 22041–3808.

We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 priority list of wildlife and sport fish conservation projects from the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (Association). As required by the Fish and Wildlife Programs Improvement and National Wildlife Refuge System Centennial Act of 2000 (Improvement Act, Pub. L. 106–408) amended the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 669 et seq.) and the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 777 et seq.) and established the Multistate Conservation Grant Program. The Improvement Act authorizes us to award grants of up to $3 million annually from funds available under each of the restoration acts, for a total of up to $6 million annually. Projects can be funded from both funds, depending on the project activities. We may award grants to projects from a list of priority projects recommended to us by the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. The Service Director, exercising the authority of the Secretary of the Interior, need not fund all projects on the list, but all projects funded must be on the list. The Improvement Act provides that funding for Multistate grants is available in the year it is appropriated and for the following year.

Background

The Fish and Wildlife Programs Improvement and National Wildlife Refuge System Centennial Act of 2000 (Improvement Act, Pub. L. 106–408) amended the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 669 et seq.) and the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 777 et seq.) and established the Multistate Conservation Grant Program. We have reviewed the list and recommended all projects on the list for award to the Service Director. The Service Director approved the entire list of projects for award, and we have awarded funds for all projects from the list.

To be eligible for funding, a project must benefit fish and/or wildlife conservation for at least 26 States, for a majority of the States in any one Service Region, or for one of the regional associations of State fish and wildlife agencies. We may award grants to a State, a group of States, or one or more nongovernmental organizations. For the purpose of carrying out the National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation, we may award grants to the Service, if requested by the Association, or to a State or a group of States. Also, the Association requires all project proposals to address the Association’s National Conservation Needs, which are announced annually at the same time requests for proposals are sent out. Further, applicants must provide certification that no activities conducted under a Multistate Conservation Grant will promote or encourage opposition to regulated hunting or trapping of wildlife, or to regulated angling or taking of fish.

The Association’s committees and interested nongovernmental organizations that represent conservation organizations, sportsmen’s and -women’s organizations, and industries that support or promote fishing, hunting, trapping, recreational shooting, bowhunting, or archery review and rank eligible project proposals. The Association’s National Grants Committee recommends a final list of priority projects to the directors of the State fish and wildlife agencies for their approval by majority vote. By statute, the Association then transmits the final approved list to the Service for funding under the Multistate Conservation Grant program by October 1 of the fiscal year.

Fiscal Year 2018 Priority List of Awarded Wildlife and Sport Fish Conservation Projects

For FY 2018, the Association sent us a list of 18 new projects, plus the 3 previously approved components of the 2016 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation that they recommended for funding. The list is in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ID</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Recipient</th>
<th>PR funding</th>
<th>DJ funding</th>
<th>Total 2018 grant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Coordination of Farm Bill Program Implementation State Fish and Wildlife Agency Technical Workgroup and Evaluation Team for the 2016 National Survey.</td>
<td>AFWA</td>
<td>$83,880</td>
<td>$55,920</td>
<td>$139,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>State Fish and Wildlife Agency Director Travel— Enabling Coordination and Planning of National-Level Conservation Initiatives.</td>
<td>AFWA</td>
<td>59,200</td>
<td>59,200</td>
<td>118,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>State Fish and Wildlife Agency Director Travel— Enabling Coordination and Planning of National-Level Conservation Initiatives.</td>
<td>AFWA</td>
<td>47,500</td>
<td>47,500</td>
<td>95,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FR Doc. 2020–01017 Filed 1–22–20; 8:45 am]

Receive of Incidental Take Permit Application and Proposed Habitat Conservation Plan for the Sand Skink, Lake County, FL; Categorical Exclusion

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability; request for comment and information.

SUMMARY: We, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce receipt of an application for Holland Development, Inc. (applicant) for an incidental take permit (ITP) under the Endangered Species Act. The applicant requests the ITP to take the federally listed sand skink incidental to construction in Lake County, Florida. We request public comment on the application, which includes the applicant’s proposed habitat conservation plan (HCP) and the Service’s preliminary determination that this HCP qualifies as “low-effect,” categorically excluded, under the National Environmental Policy Act. To make this determination, we used our environmental action statement and low-effect screening form, both of which are also available for public review.

ID | Title | Recipient | PR funding | DJ funding | Total 2018 grant
---|-------|-----------|------------|------------|-----------------
4 | Coordinating and Planning National-Scale Conservation Initiatives through Communications. | AFWA | 40,000 | 40,000 | 80,000
5 | Track Participation Trends & R3 Effectiveness via License Sales Dashboards. | ASA | 69,000 | 69,000 | 138,000
6 | Coordination of the Industry, Federal, and State Agency Coalition. | AFWA | 77,130 | 77,130 | 154,260
7 | Developing Data-Based Strategies to Increase Bowhunting. | ATA | 130,968.11 | 43,656.03 | 174,624.14
8 | Determining Actionable Strategies for Angler R3. | RBFF | 0 | 174,562.30 | 174,562.30
9 | Improving Recruitment of New Hunters and Recreational Shooters. | NSSF | 149,100 | 0 | 149,100
10 | Improving Local Angler Recruitment Events | AFWA | 0 | 134,900 | 134,900
11 | Developing Strategies to Train Professionals How to Communicate About Hunting. | RMEF | 149,831.21 | 0 | 149,831.21
12 | Evaluating the Promise and Potential Impacts of R3 Efforts Targeting College Students. | NC State University | 89,309.18 | 33,762.25 | 123,071.43
13 | Coordination of State Fish and Wildlife Agencies’ Authority to Manage Resources in Concert with Federal Actions Required by CITES. | AFWA | 32,100 | 32,100 | 64,200
14 | Increasing Awareness and Knowledge of State Fish and Wildlife Management (Based on AFWA Strategic Plan Goal 2). | AFWA | 50,000 | 50,000 | 100,000
15 | Management Assistance Team (MAT) and National Conservation Leadership Institute (NCLI). | AFWA | 255,667.50 | 304,679.50 | 560,347
16 | Multistate Conservation Grant Program Management. | AFWA | 52,500 | 52,500 | 105,000
17 | Conservation Collaboration across the United States through the National Fish Habitat Partnership. | AFWA | 0 | 209,960 | 209,960
18 | Chronic Wasting Disease Management in the West. | WY Game & Fish | 92,500 | 0 | 92,500

NS | 2016 Survey Coordination (Part A) | FWS | 1,378,686 | 1,384,870.08 | 2,763,556.08
NS | 2016 National Report (Part A) | U.S. Census | 186,106 | 185,106 | 371,212
NS | 2016 Fifty-State Survey Reports (Part B) | Rockville Institute | 1,309,305.50 | 1,309,305.50 | 2,618,611

3,009,199.50 | 3,015,383.58 | 6,024,583.08

PR Funding: Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration funds.
DJ Funding: Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration funds.
AFWA: Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.
ATA: Archery Trade Association.
NC State University: North Carolina State University.
NFHB: National Fish Habitat Board.
NSSF: National Shooting Sports Foundation.
RMEF: Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Inc.
RBFF: Recreational Boating & Fishing Foundation.
WY Game and Fish: Wyoming Game and Fish Commission.


Margaret E. Everson,
Principal Deputy Director, Exercising the Authority of the Director for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.