

activities to be conducted by the applicant over a five-year period.

PRT-101628

Applicant: Miami Metrozoo (Miami-Dade County Parks/Zoo), Miami, Florida.

The applicant requests a permit for interstate commerce to purchase a female Asian elephant (*Elephas maximus*), "Nellie," born approximately 1969 from R.W. Commerford & Sons, Goshen, Connecticut. The animal has been on long-term loan to the Miami Metrozoo since December 2000. The purpose of the requested activity is for breeding, conservation education, and enhancement of the survival of the species.

Endangered Marine Mammals

The public is invited to comment on the following application for a permit to conduct certain activities with endangered marine mammals. The application was submitted to satisfy requirements 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.*), and the regulations governing endangered species (50 CFR part 17) and marine mammals (50 CFR part 18). Written data, comments, or requests for copies of the complete application or requests for a public hearing on this application should be submitted to the Director (address above). Anyone requesting a hearing should give specific reasons why a hearing would be appropriate. The holding of such a hearing is at the discretion of the Director.

PRT-100361

Applicant: Mote Marine Laboratory, Sarasota, FL.

The applicant requests a permit to take West Indian manatees (*Trichechus manatus*) throughout Florida and import specimens from the Caribbean region and import specimens of South American manatee (*Trichechus inunguis*), West African manatee (*Trichechus senegalensis*), and dugong (*Dugong dugong*) for the purpose of scientific research including collection and importation of biological samples, physiological analyses, aerial surveys and close approach for photo identification and behavioral surveys. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a five-year period.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, the Division of Management Authority is forwarding copies of the above

applications to the Marine Mammal Commission and the Committee of Scientific Advisors for their review.

Dated: August 19, 2005.

Monica Farris,

Senior Permit Biologist, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.

[FR Doc. 05-17331 Filed 8-30-05; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Initiation of a 5-Year Review of Aleutian Shield Fern (*Polystichum aleuticum*)

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of review.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announces a 5-year review of Aleutian shield fern (*Polystichum aleuticum*) under section 4(c)(2)(A) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Act) (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). A 5-year review is a periodic process conducted to ensure that the listing classification of a species is accurate. A 5-year review is based on the best scientific and commercial data available at the time of the review; therefore, we are requesting submission of any such information on Aleutian shield fern that has become available since its original listing as an endangered species in 1988 (53 FR 4626). Based on the results of this 5-year review, we will make the requisite finding under section 4(c)(2)(B) of the ESA.

DATES: To allow us adequate time to conduct this review, we must receive your information no later than September 15, 2005. However, we will continue to accept new information about any listed species at any time.

ADDRESSES: Submit information to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Regional Office, Endangered Species Division Chief, Attention: 5-Year Review, 1011 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, Alaska 99503-6199. Comments may also be faxed to 907-271-2786, or e-mailed to charla_sterne@fws.gov. See

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION for file formats and other information about electronic filing. Information received in response to this notice and review will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours, at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michael Roy at the above address, or at (907) 786-3925.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the Act, the Service maintains a list of endangered and threatened wildlife and plant species at 50 CFR 17.11 (for animals) and 17.12 (for plants). Section 4(c)(2)(A) of the Act requires that we conduct a review of listed species at least once every 5 years. Then, on the basis of such reviews under section 4(c)(2)(B), we determine whether or not any species should be removed from the List (delisted), or reclassified from endangered to threatened or from threatened to endangered. Delisting a species must be supported by the best scientific and commercial data available and only considered if such data substantiates that the species is neither endangered nor threatened for one or more of the following reasons: (1) The species is considered extinct; (2) the species is considered to be recovered; and/or (3) the original data available when the species was listed, or the interpretation of such data, were in error. Any change in Federal classification would require a separate rulemaking process. The regulations in 50 CFR 424.21 require that we publish a notice in the **Federal Register** announcing those species currently under active review. This notice announces our active review of the Aleutian shield fern currently listed as endangered.

The 5-year review considers the best scientific and commercial data and all new information that has become available since the listing determination or most recent status review. Categories of requested information include: (A) Species biology, including, but not limited to, population trends, distribution, abundance, demographics, and genetics; (B) habitat conditions, including but not limited to, amount, distribution, and suitability; (C) conservation measures that have been implemented that benefit the species; (D) threat status and trends; and (E) other new information, data, or corrections, including but not limited to, taxonomic or nomenclatural changes, identification of erroneous information contained in the List, and improved analytical methods.

Public Solicitation of New Information

To ensure that the 5-year review is complete and based on the best available scientific and commercial information, we are soliciting new information from the public, concerned governmental agencies, tribes, the scientific community, industry, environmental entities, and any other interested parties concerning the status of Aleutian shield fern.

Electronic Access and Filing Addresses

You may submit comments by sending electronic mail to: charla-sterne@fws.gov.

Please submit electronic comments in an ASCII file format, and avoid the use of special characters and encryption. Identify all comments in electronic form by including "Aleutian shield fern 5-Year Review Comments" in the title line.

If you wish to provide information for this 5-year review, you may submit your comments and materials to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Alaska Regional Office (see **ADDRESSES** section). Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Respondents may request that we withhold a respondent's identity, as allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name or address, you must state this request prominently at the beginning of your comment. We will not, however, consider anonymous comments. To the extent consistent with applicable law, we will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety. Comments and materials received will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours (see **ADDRESSES** section).

Authority: This document is published under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Dated: July 26, 2005.

Gary Edwards,

Acting Regional Director, Region 7, Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 05-17317 Filed 8-30-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Fish and Wildlife Service****Marine Mammal Annual Report Availability, Combined Calendar Years 1999 and 2000**

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Biological Resources Discipline of the U.S. Geological Survey, have issued our combined Calendar Years 1999 and 2000 annual report on marine mammals

under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Department of the Interior, as required by section 103(f) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972. Our report covers the periods of January 1 to December 31, 1999, and January 1 to December 31, 2000. We submitted the report to Congress on September 7, 2004. By this notice, we are informing you, the public, that the report is available and that copies may be obtained on request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

ADDRESSES: You should submit written requests for copies to: Publications Unit, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Conservation Training Center, Route 1, Box 166, Shepherd Grade Road, Shepherdstown, WV 25443. You may also contact that office by telephone at 1-800-344-WILD (9453).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Diane Bowen, Division of Habitat and Resource Conservation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Arlington, Virginia, at telephone 703-358-2161.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The U.S. Department of the Interior is responsible for eight species of marine mammals, as assigned by the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*). These species are polar bear, sea and marine otters, walrus, three species of manatee, and dugong. Administrative actions discussed in our report include appropriations, status reports, research activities, scientific research and public display permits, international activities, law enforcement actions, and outer continental shelf operations and environmental studies.

Dated: July 25, 2005.

Mamie Parker,

Assistant Director, Fisheries and Habitat Conservation.

[FR Doc. 05-17330 Filed 8-30-05; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Fish and Wildlife Service****Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force—Meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Panel**

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting of the Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Task Force Mid-Atlantic Regional Panel. The meeting is open to the public. The meeting topics are identified in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section.

DATES: The Mid-Atlantic Regional Panel will meet from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesday, September 7, 2005, and 9 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. on Thursday, September 8, 2005.

ADDRESSES: The Mid-Atlantic Regional Panel meeting will be held at Cacapon State Park, 818 Cacapon Lodge Drive, Berkeley Springs, WV 25411; (304) 258-1022. Minutes of the meeting will be maintained in the office of Division of Environmental Quality, Chief, Branch of Invasive Species, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Suite 322, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Arlington, Virginia 22203-1622, and will be made available for public inspection during regular business hours, Monday through Friday.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Julie Thompson, Mid-Atlantic Regional Panel Coordinator, 410-573-4517, Julie_Thompson@fws.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.), this notice announces a meeting of the ANS Task Force Mid-Atlantic Regional Panel. The ANS Task Force was established by the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990. The Mid-Atlantic Regional Panel was established by the ANS Task Force in 2003 and includes eight Mid-Atlantic States (Delaware, Maryland, North Carolina, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia) and the District of Columbia. The Regional Panel is comprised of representatives from Federal, State, and local agencies, as well as from private environmental and commercial interests, and performs the following activities:

- Identifies priorities for activities in the Mid-Atlantic region,
- Develops and submits recommendations to the national Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force,
- Coordinates aquatic nuisance species program activities in the Mid-Atlantic region,
- Advises public and private interests on control efforts, and
- Submits an annual report to the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force.

Topics to be addressed at this meeting include: Regional Panel business (standard operating procedures and membership), international ballast water standards, a spotlight on the northern snakehead (*Channa argus*), development and implementation of an ANSTF management plan, status of ANS management plans in the Mid-Atlantic Region, updates on ANS Task Force activities and the National Aquatic Invasive Species Act, and