

incidental take anticipated from development in the short term while a more comprehensive long-term or range-wide habitat conservation plan is prepared for the species. We request public comment on the draft low-effect HCP.

Section 9 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) (16 U.S.C. 1538) and its implementing regulations prohibit take of species listed as endangered or threatened. The definition of take under the ESA includes to “harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect listed species or to attempt to engage in such conduct” (16 U.S.C. 1532(19)). Section 10 of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1539) establishes a program whereby persons seeking to pursue activities that are otherwise legal, but could result in take of federally protected species, may receive an incidental take permit (ITP). Applicants for ITPs must submit a HCP that meets the section 10 permit issuance criteria. “Low-effect” incidental take permits are those permits that, despite their authorization of some small level of incidental take, individually and cumulatively have a minor or negligible effect on the species covered in the HCP.

Background

In 1998, we issued an incidental take permit to Iron County (County) under the Iron County HCP for take of Utah prairie dogs from development activities. In the meantime, we have been working with all counties within the range of the species to develop a comprehensive rangewide HCP that would contribute to recovery of the species. The Iron County commissioners are concerned that projected increases in economic development in the county during the next couple of years may result in exceeding the amount of take authorized under the 1998 Iron County HCP.

As a bridge to cover additional take anticipated before a range-wide or long-term plan can be completed, Iron County has submitted a draft low-effect HCP that would authorize the take of no more than 600 acres (243 hectares) of occupied Utah prairie dog habitat over a maximum 3-year period. The take would be distributed into two zones (a green zone, which primarily encompasses parcels within already developed areas of the cities, and a red zone, which is on the outskirts of the developing communities). The low-effect HCP’s minimization and mitigation measures in the green zone and, for small, low-quality colonies, in the red zone would essentially mimic those of the 1998 Iron County HCP.

Within the red zone, large colonies and medium- or high-quality Utah prairie dog habitats would be avoided under this low-effect HCP, but could be mitigated through the 1998 Iron County HCP and the use of conservation banks. Under this low-effect HCP, developers would apply to the County for their individual take permits or letters of authorization.

Our Preliminary Determination

We have made a preliminary determination that the HCP qualifies as a “low-effect” habitat conservation plan as defined by our Habitat Conservation Planning Handbook (November 1996).

We base our determination on the following information:

(1) The size and scope of the incidental take of Utah prairie dogs is relatively small, and limited to maximum of 600 ac (243 ha) of Utah prairie dog occupied habitats over three years;

(2) The total amount of take amounts to only 3.6 percent of the total mapped Utah prairie dog habitat in the West Desert Recovery Unit; and

(3) Most of the take is limited to already developed areas or those areas projected for development in the near future. These areas do not serve to support current or future metapopulations and objectives for recovery of the species in the wild.

Overall we conclude that implementation of the plan would result in overall minor or negligible effects on the Utah prairie dog and its habitats. We may revise this preliminary determination based on public comments submitted in response to this notice.

Public Availability of Comments

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.

Dated: August 28, 2013.

Larry Crist,

Field Supervisor, Utah Ecological Services Field Office.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS–HQ–IA–2013–N202;
FXIA1671090000P5–123–FF09A30000]

Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permit

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of applications for permit.

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. With some exceptions, the Endangered Species Act (ESA) prohibits activities with listed species unless Federal authorization is acquired that allows such activities.

DATES: We must receive comments or requests for documents on or before October 4, 2013.

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 administrative record comments we receive after the close of the comment period (see **DATES**) or comments delivered to an address other than those listed above (see **ADDRESSES**).

B. May I review comments submitted by others?

Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the street address listed under **ADDRESSES**. The public may review documents and other information applicants have sent in support of the application unless our allowing viewing would violate the Privacy Act or Freedom of Information Act. 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.

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.*), 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.

III. Permit Applications

A. Endangered Species

Applicant: Zoological Wildlife Foundation Inc., Miami, FL; PRT–96647A

The applicant requests amendment of their captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) to include the clouded leopard (*Neofelis nebulosa*) to enhance their propagation or survival. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Melvin Pack, Provo, UT; PRT–150838

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

Applicant: James Keller, San Manuel, TX; PRT–14206B

The applicant requests a captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for scimitar-horned oryx (*Oryx dammah*) to enhance the species’ propagation or survival. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: James Keller, San Manuel, TX; PRT–14207B

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

Applicant: Tularosa Clark Ranch, LLC, Brackettville, TX; PRT–14133B

The applicant requests a captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for barasingha (*Rucervus duvaucelii*), Eld’s deer (*Rucervus eldii*), 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: Tularosa Clark Ranch, LLC, Brackettville, TX; PRT–14200B

The applicant requests a permit authorizing interstate and foreign commerce, export, and cull of excess barasingha (*Rucervus duvaucelii*), scimitar-horned oryx (*Oryx dammah*), Arabian oryx (*Oryx leucoryx*), addax (*Addax nasomaculatus*), dama gazelle (*Nanger dama*), and red lechwe (*Kobus leche*) from the captive herd maintained at their facility, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species. This notification covers activities over a 5-year period.

Applicant: DFR Ranch, San Angelo, TX; PRT–14386B

The applicant requests a captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for barasingha (*Rucervus duvaucelii*), Eld’s deer (*Rucervus eldii*), 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: DFR Ranch, San Angelo, TX; PRT–14385B

The applicant requests a permit authorizing interstate and foreign commerce, export, and cull of excess barasingha (*Rucervus duvaucelii*), Eld’s deer (*Rucervus eldii*), scimitar-horned oryx (*Oryx dammah*), Arabian oryx (*Oryx leucoryx*), addax (*Addax nasomaculatus*), dama gazelle (*Nanger dama*), and red lechwe (*Kobus leche*) from the captive herd maintained at their facility, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species. This notification covers activities over a 5-year period.

Applicant: John Moody, Valley Mills, TX; PRT–14274B

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

Applicant: Smithsonian National Zoological Park, Washington, DC; PRT–12904B

The applicant requests a permit to import one captive born and two captive held female Asian elephants (*Elephas maximus*) from Calgary Zoo, Canada, to enhance the species’ propagation or survival. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Bryan Zaher, Palmer, AK; PRT–14421B

The applicant requests a captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for the Galapagos tortoise (*Chelonoidis nigra*), radiated tortoise (*Astrochelys radiata*), spotted pond turtle (*Geoclemys hamiltonii*), and yellow-spotted river turtle (*Podocnemis unifilis*) to enhance the species’ propagation or survival. This notification covers activities to be

conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Custom Reptiles, Boerne, TX; PRT-15141B

The applicant requests a captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for the 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*), Galapagos tortoise (*Chelonoidis nigra*), radiated tortoise (*Astrochelys radiata*), spotted pond turtle (*Geoclemys hamiltonii*), yellow-spotted river turtle (*Podocnemis unifilis*), dwarf crocodile (*Osteolaemus tetraspis*), Yacare caiman (*Caiman yacare*), broad-snouted caiman (*Caiman latirostris*), Cuban ground iguana (*Cyclura nubila nubila*), Grand Cayman blue iguana (*Cyclura lewisi*), and Cayman Brac ground iguana (*Cyclura nubila caymanensis*) to enhance the species' propagation or survival. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Jeremy Sabatini, Brewster, NY; PRT-15137B

The applicant requests a captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for the radiated tortoise (*Astrochelys radiata*) to enhance the species' propagation or survival. This notification covers activities to be

conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Multiple Applicants

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: Michael Heim, Houston, TX; PRT-14209B

Applicant: Coby Bausch, Iraan, TX; PRT-13144B

Brenda Tapia,

Program Analyst/Data Administrator, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-HQ-IA-2013-N203:
FXIA16710900000P5-123-FF09A30000]

Endangered Species; Marine Mammals; Issuance of Permits

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of issuance of permits.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), have issued the following permits to conduct certain activities with endangered species, marine mammals, or both. We issue these permits under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA).

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: On the dates below, as authorized by the provisions of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), as amended, and/or the MMPA, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), we issued requested permits subject to certain conditions set forth therein. For each permit for an endangered species, we found that (1) the application was filed in good faith, (2) the granted permit would not operate to the disadvantage of the endangered species, and (3) the granted permit would be consistent with the purposes and policy set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

ENDANGERED SPECIES

Permit number	Applicant	Receipt of application Federal Register notice	Permit issuance date
07611B	Manny Hemmerling	78 FR 37563; June 21, 2013	August 8, 2013.
08815B	William Tones	78 FR 37562; June 21, 2013	August 8, 2013.
09161B	John Alexander	78 FR 40762; July 8, 2013	August 9, 2013.
99464A	Donald Lepp	78 FR 19732; April 2, 2013	June 7, 2013.

MARINE MAMMALS

Permit number	Applicant	Receipt of application Federal Register notice	Permit issuance date
99215A	Office of Sponsored Programs and Research Administration, University of Illinois.	78 FR 37563; June 21, 2013	August 22, 2013.

Availability of Documents

Documents and other information submitted with these applications are available for review, subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act and Freedom of Information Act, by any party who submits a written request for a copy of such documents to: Division of Management Authority, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 North Fairfax

Drive, Room 212, Arlington, VA 22203; fax (703) 358-2280.

Brenda Tapia,

Program Analyst/Data Administrator, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[F-19328-B; LLA944000-L14100000-HY0000-P]

Alaska Native Claims Selection

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.