

14. University of Memphis, Dr. David Cox, University of Memphis, Center for Urban Research and Extension, Memphis, TN 38152, (901) 687-3365. Grant: \$88,800 to fund three students.

15. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Dr. Emil Malizia, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, CB#4100, Room 300—Bynum Hall, Chapel Hill, NC 27599, (909) 962-4759. Grant: \$83,670 to fund three students.

16. State University of West Georgia, Dr. George Larkin, State University of West Georgia, 1600 Maple Street, Carrollton, GA 30118, (770) 836-6504. Grant: \$82,464 to fund three students.

17. University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Dr. Diane Miller, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Office of Graduate Studies, 615 McCallie Avenue, Chattanooga, TN 37403, (423) 755-4431. Grant: \$90,000 to fund three students.

18. University of West Florida, Dr. C.E. Teasley, University of West Florida, 11000 University Parkway, Pensacola, FL 32514, (850) 474-2372. Grant: \$90,000 to fund three students.

Midwest

19. University of Cincinnati, Dr. David Varady, University of Cincinnati, School of Planning, P.O. Box 21067, Cincinnati, OH 45221, (513) 556-0215. Grant: \$79,446 to fund three students.

20. Cleveland State University, Dr. Dennis Keating, Cleveland State University, 1983 East 24th Street, Cleveland, OH 44115, (216) 687-2298. Grant: \$90,000 to fund three students.

21. University of Michigan, Dr. Margaret Dewar, University of Michigan, Fleming Administration Building, 503 Thompson Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48109, (734) 763-2528. Grant: \$90,000 to fund three students.

22. Ohio State University, Dr. Dale Bertsch, Ohio State University, 1960 Kenny Road, Columbus, OH 43210, (614) 292-2370. Grant: \$90,000 to fund three students.

23. Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, Dr. T.R. Carr, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, Campus Box 1046, Edwardsville, IL 62026, (618) 650-3762. Grant: \$88,200 to fund three students.

Southwest

24. North Central Texas Council of Governments, Mr. R. Michael Eastland, P.O. Box 5888, Arlington, TX 76005, (817) 695-9101. Grant: \$270,000 for three students each at University of North Texas, University of Texas at Arlington, and the University of Texas at Dallas.

Great Plains

25. University of Kansas, Dr. Stephen Maynard-Moody, University of Kansas, 318 Blake Hall, Lawrence, KS 66045, (785) 864-3527. Grant: \$90,000 to fund three students.

26. University of Nebraska-Omaha, Dr. Burton Reed, University of Nebraska-Omaha, Department of Public Administration, 60th and Dodge Streets, Omaha, NE 68182, (402) 554-2682. Grant: \$85,102 to fund three students.

Pacific

27. University of California Berkeley, Dr. Robert Ogilvie, University of California-Berkeley, Sponsored Projects Office, 316 Wurster Hall #1870, Berkeley, CA 94720, (510) 643-1903. Grant: \$90,000 to fund three students.

28. University of California, Los Angeles, Dr. Jacqueline Leavitt, University of California, Los Angeles, 405 Hilgard, Los Angeles, CA 90024, (310) 825-4380. Grant: \$89,849 to fund three students.

Northwest/Alaska

29. Eastern Washington University, Dr. Bill Kelley, Eastern Washington University, 526 5th Street, MS-10, Cheney, WA 99004, (509) 358-2226. Grant: \$90,000 to fund three students.

30. University of Washington, Dr. Donald Allen, University of Washington, Box 353055, Seattle, WA 98195, (206) 543-4043. Grant: \$90,000 to fund three students.

Dated: July 12, 2000.

Lawrence L. Thompson,
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy Development.

[FR Doc. 00-18310 Filed 7-19-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210-62-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Receipt of Applications for Permit

Endangered Species

The following applicants have applied for a permit to conduct certain activities with endangered species. This notice is provided pursuant to Section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531, *et seq.*):

Applicant: Columbus Zoo and Aquarium, Powell, OH, PRT-028330

The applicant requests a permit to import biological samples from one captive-held and one captive-born female pygmy Chimpanzee (*Pan paniscus*) from Dr. Vet. W. De

Meurichy, Royal Zoological Society of Antwerp, Antwerp, Belgium, for health status evaluation prior to subsequent import of the live specimens, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species through captive propagation.

Applicant: The Brookfield Zoo, Brookfield, IL, PRT-030185

The applicant requests a permit to re-export blood and DNA samples obtained from wild and captive Leadbeater's possum, (*Gymnobelideus leadbeateri*), to the Centre for Resources and Environmental Studies, Australian National University, Acton, Australia, for the purpose of enhancement of the species through scientific research.

Applicant: John R. Cassidy, Northville, MI, PRT-030198

The applicant requests a permit to import the sport-hunted trophy of one male bontebok (*Damaliscus pygargus dorcas*) 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: Frank Huschitt, Grayslake, IL, PRT-030199

The applicant requests a permit to import the sport-hunted trophy of one male bontebok (*Damaliscus pygargus dorcas*) 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: Mark A. David, Shirley, AR, PRT-030201

The applicant requests a permit to import the sport-hunted trophy of one male bontebok (*Damaliscus pygargus dorcas*) 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: Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden, Cincinnati, OH, PRT-025093

The applicant requests a permit to purchase in interstate commerce wild and captive born Thick-billed parrots (*Rhynchopsitta pachyrhyncha*) from Endangered Parrot Trust, Ocala, FL, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species through propagation and zoological display.

Marine Mammal

The public is invited to comment on the following application for a permit to conduct certain activities with marine mammals. The application was submitted to satisfy requirements of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) and

the regulations governing marine mammals (50 CFR 18).

Applicant: Ronald Schauer, Danville, CA, PRT-027545

The applicant requests a permit to import a polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) sport-hunted polar bear trophy from the Griseftord polar bear population, Northwest Territories, Canada for personal use.

Applicant: William A. Niederer, Anchorage, AK, PRT-030197

The applicant requests a permit to import a polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) sport-hunted polar bear trophy from the Northern Beaufort sea polar bear population, Northwest Territories, Canada for personal use.

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 the following office within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203. Phone: (703/358-2104); FAX: (703/358-2281).

Dated: July 13, 2000.

Kristen Nelson,

Chief, Branch of Permits, Office of Management Authority.

[FR Doc. 00-18169 Filed 7-19-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-U

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Availability of an Environmental Action Statement and Receipt of an Application for a Permit To Enhance the Survival of the Northern Idaho Ground Squirrel in Adams County, Idaho Under a Safe Harbor Agreement

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: Bob and Peggy Mack (Applicants) have applied to the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) for an enhancement of a survival permit pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. The permit application includes a proposed Safe Harbor Agreement (Agreement) between the Applicants and the Service. The Agreement and permit application are available for public comment.

The Agreement allows for management and conservation of the

threatened northern Idaho ground squirrel (*Spermophilus brunneus brunneus*) on approximately 14 acres of private land, owned by the Applicants, approximately 5.5 miles northwest of New Meadows, Idaho. Northern Idaho ground squirrels currently occupy less than 5 of the 14 acres. The proposed duration of the Agreement is 10 years, and the proposed term of the enhancement of a survival permit is 20 years.

Under the Agreement, a 5-acre area, which includes all the habitat currently occupied by northern Idaho ground squirrels on the Applicants' property, is identified as a protected area. This 5-acre protected area would have a baseline greater than zero (0), and no incidental take would be authorized under the permit within this area. The Agreement allows for a variety of conservation measures to be carried out by the Service within the 5-acre protected area to benefit the conservation of northern Idaho ground squirrels. The permit would authorize the Applicants to return the 9 acres outside of the 5-acre protected area to the existing baseline condition of zero (0) northern Idaho ground squirrels. We expect this Agreement to result in a net conservation benefit by enhancing northern Idaho ground squirrel habitat within the 5-acre protected area, and expanding the northern Idaho ground squirrel population to lands outside the protected area. Recovery of northern Idaho ground squirrels is expected to be enhanced under the Agreement by improving habitat, expanding the northern Idaho ground squirrel population at this site, and potentially providing a population with surplus individuals for transplanting to other sites in need of supplementation. Under the Agreement, the Applicants will receive funding under the Service's Endangered Species Act Private Landowner Incentive Program.

The Service has made a preliminary determination that the proposed Agreement and permit application are eligible for categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. We explain the basis for this determination in an Environmental Action Statement, which also is available for public review.

We request comments from the public on the permit application, and Agreement. All comments we receive, including names and addresses, will become part of the administrative record and may be released to the public.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before August 21, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to Dennis Mackey, Project Biologist, Fish and Wildlife Service, 1387 S. Vinnell Way, Room 368, Boise, Idaho 83709 (telephone: 208/378-5267; facsimile: 208/378-5262).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dennis Mackey at the above address or telephone 208/378-5267.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Document Availability

You may obtain copies of the documents for review by contacting the individual named above. You also may make an appointment to view the documents at the above address during normal business hours. The documents are also available electronically on the World Wide Web at <http://www.fws.gov/r1srbo/>.

Background

Under a Safe Harbor Agreement, participating property owners voluntarily undertake management activities on their property to enhance, restore, or maintain habitat benefitting species listed under the Endangered Species Act. Safe Harbor Agreements encourage private and other non-Federal property owners to implement conservation efforts for listed species by assuring property owners they will not be subjected to increased property use restrictions if their efforts attract listed species to their property or increase the numbers or distribution of listed species already on their property. Application requirements and issuance criteria for enhancement of survival permits through Safe Harbor Agreements are found in 50 CFR 17.22(c).

We have worked with the Applicants to develop the proposed Agreement for the conservation of northern Idaho ground squirrels on their 14 acres of land in Adams County, Idaho. Less than 5 of the 14 acres are currently occupied by northern Idaho ground squirrels. Under the proposed Agreement, the Applicants will: (1) Protect 5 acres of occupied, suitable northern Idaho ground squirrel habitat from land use activities that may result in "take" of ground squirrels; (2) allow Service personnel access to the property to conduct ground squirrel conservation activities such as habitat enhancement, artificial feeding, ground squirrel surveys, and translocation of excess ground squirrels should the current population expand beyond the 5-acre protected area; (3) if appropriate, in cooperation with the Service, develop signs to discourage shooting of ground squirrels; and (4) work cooperatively with the Service on other issues