

and its implementing regulations. The Service is furnishing this notice in compliance with the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 668dd *et seq.*), to achieve the following:

(1) Advise our agencies and the public of our intentions, and

(2) Obtain suggestions and information on the scope of issues to include in the environmental document.

Special mailings, newspaper articles, and other media announcements will be used to inform the public and state and local government agencies of the opportunities for input throughout the planning process.

ADDRESSES: Address comments, questions, and requests for more information to Stephen W. Gard, Project Leader, North Mississippi National Wildlife Refuge Complex, 2776 Sunset Drive, P.O. Box 1070, Grenada, Mississippi 38901; Telephone: 662/226-8286; Fax: 662/226-8488; E-mail: FWR4RWNorthMSRefuges@fws.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: By Federal law, all lands within the National Wildlife Refuge System are to be managed in accordance with an approved comprehensive conservation plan. The plan guides management decisions and identifies refuge goals, long-range objectives, and strategies for achieving refuge purposes. The planning process will consider many elements including wildlife and habitat management, public recreational activities, and cultural resource protection. Public input in the planning process is essential as the Service establishes management priorities and explores opportunities for non-invasive and low-impact activities.

Tallahatchie National Wildlife Refuge, established in 1990, is located in Grenada and Tallahatchie Counties, Mississippi. It consists of 4,083 acres and is managed primarily to provide habitat for migratory waterfowl. Refuge objectives are to create a woodland corridor along Tippecanoe Bayou for migratory neotropical songbirds, convert marginal agricultural land to hardwood forests, and provide fallow field habitat for wintering grassland birds.

Dahomey National Wildlife Refuge, also established in 1990, is located in Bolivar County, Mississippi. It consists of 9,691 acres, and is the largest remaining tract of bottomland hardwood forested wetlands in the northwest portion of Mississippi. Objectives are to provide habitat for migratory waterfowl and other migratory birds, and to provide recreational use and environmental education to the public.

Coldwater River National Wildlife Refuge, established in 1991, is located in Tallahatchie and Quitman Counties, Mississippi. It consists of 2,202 acres, much of which is inaccessible during the winter months due to backwater flooding of the Tallahatchie River. Objectives are to provide habitat for migratory waterfowl, shorebirds, and wading birds; convert marginal agricultural land to hardwood forests; and provide fallow field habitat for wintering grassland birds.

Authority: This notice is published under the authority of the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, Pub. L. 105-57.

Dated: November 14, 2003.

J. Mitch King,

Acting Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 03-31165 Filed 12-17-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Receipt of Applications for Permit

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of applications for permit.

SUMMARY: The public is invited to comment on the following applications to conduct certain activities with endangered species and/or marine mammals.

DATES: Written data, comments or requests must be received by January 20, 2004.

ADDRESSES: 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 within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice to: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203; fax 703/358-2281.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Division of Management Authority, telephone 703/358-2104.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Endangered Species

The public is invited to comment on the following applications 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.*).

Written data, comments, or requests for copies of these complete applications should be submitted to the Director (address above).

Applicant: Gerald L. Otterbacher, Medina, OH, PRT-074571.

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: George H. Brannen, II, Inverness, FL, PRT-080563.

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: Richard B. Nilsen, Ft. Lauderdale, FL, PRT-077045.

The applicant requests a permit to import the sport-hunted trophy of one male black-faced impala (*Aepyceros melampus petersi*) taken in Namibia, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species.

Applicant: James A. Shipley, Highland, MI, PRT-077046.

The applicant requests a permit to import the sport-hunted trophy of one male black-faced impala (*Aepyceros melampus petersi*) taken in Namibia, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species.

Applicant: John L. Schwabland, Jr., Seattle, WA, PRT-077047.

The applicant requests a permit to import the sport-hunted trophy of one male black-faced impala (*Aepyceros melampus petersi*) taken in Namibia, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species.

Applicant: Ralph S. Cunningham, Montgomery, TX, PRT-077050.

The applicant requests a permit to import the sport-hunted trophy of one male black-faced impala (*Aepyceros melampus petersi*) taken in Namibia, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species.

Applicant: Dan L. Duncan, Houston, TX, PRT-077051.

The applicant requests a permit to import the sport-hunted trophy of one male black-faced impala (*Aepyceros melampus petersi*) taken in Namibia, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species.

Applicant: Wildlife Conservation Society, Bronx, NY, PRT-079034.

The applicant requests a permit to re-export biological samples from maned wolf (*Chrysocyon brachyurus*) to Dr. Beat Bigler, Bern, Switzerland, for the purpose of diagnostic and scientific research. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a five-year period.

Applicant: James J. Homann, Sr., Omaha, NE, PRT-080210.

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: Atlanta Zoo, Atlanta, GA, PRT-080016.

The applicant requests a permit to import frozen semen samples from one male giant panda (*Ailuropoda melanoleuca*) from the Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding, China, for the purpose of artificial insemination for scientific research and propagation for the enhancement of the survival of the species.

Applicant: Michelle L. Sauther, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, PRT-040035.

The applicant requests an amendment and renewal of their permit to import biological samples from ring-tailed lemur (*Lemur catta*) collected in the wild in Madagascar, for the purpose of scientific research. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a five-year period.

Applicant: Cleveland Metroparks Zoo, Cleveland, OH, PRT-080013.

The applicant requests a permit to import two male and two female captive born ocelots (*Leopardus pardalis*) from several zoos in Brazil, as part of the Brazilian Ocelot Consortium (BOC), for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species through captive propagation and conservation education.

Marine Mammals

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 Part 18). Written data, comments, or requests for copies of the complete applications or requests for a public hearing on these applications 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.

Applicant: Ronald J. Bartels, Schriever, LA, PRT-080350.

The applicant requests a permit to import a polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) sport hunted from the Baffin Bay polar bear population in Canada prior to February 18, 1997, for personal use.

Dated: December 5, 2003.

Michael S. Moore,

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

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BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Endangered and Threatened Species Permit Applications

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of application.

SUMMARY: The following applicants have applied for permits 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.*).

DATES: Written data or comments should be submitted to the Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services, 1 Federal Drive, Fort Snelling, Minnesota 55111-4056, and must be received on or before January 20, 2004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Peter Fasbender, (612) 713-5343.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Permit Number TE 056081-1

Applicant: EnviroScience, Incorporated, Stow, Ohio.

The applicant requests a permit to take (collect) listed fish and mussel species throughout the State of Georgia. Activities are proposed to identify populations of listed species and to develop methods to minimize or avoid project related impacts to those populations. The scientific research is aimed at enhancement of survival of species in the wild.

Permit Number TE 023666-0

Applicant: Eric R. Britzke, Clemson University, Clemson, South Carolina.

The applicant requests a permit to take (collect) the northern flying squirrel

(*Glaucomys sabrinus*) throughout North Carolina and Virginia. Activities are proposed for the enhancement of survival of the species in the wild.

Permit Number TE 079161-0

Applicant: Paula K. Kleintjes, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

The applicant requests a permit to take (harass) Karner blue butterfly (*Lycæides melissa samuelis*) in Wisconsin. Activities are proposed for the enhancement of survival of (*Lycæides melissa samuelis*) in Wisconsin. Activities are proposed for the enhancement of survival of the species in the wild.

Permit Number TE 079162-0

Applicant: Jeremy A. Williamson, Polk County Land and Water Resources Department, Balsam Lake, Wisconsin.

The applicant requests a permit to take (collect) Higgins' eye pearl mussel (*Lampsilis higginsii*) and winged mapleleaf (*Quadrula fragosa*) in Wisconsin. Activities are proposed for the enhancement of survival of the species in the wild.

Permit Number TE 072500

Applicant: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Engineer Research and Development Center, Champaign, Illinois.

The applicant requests a permit to take Topeka shiner (*Notropis topeka*) in Illinois. Activities are proposed for the enhancement of survival of the species in the wild.

Dated: December 3, 2003.

T.J. Miller,

Acting Assistant Regional Director, Ecological Services, Region 3, Fort Snelling, Minnesota.

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BILLING CODE 4910-13-U

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Receipt of Applications for Endangered Species Permits

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of applications for permits.

SUMMARY: The public is invited to comment on the following applications to conduct certain activities with endangered species. We provide this notice pursuant to section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

DATES: We must receive written data or comments on these applications at the