

maintained under the management program of the Republic of South Africa, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species.

Written data or comments should be submitted to the Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203 and must be received by the Director within 30 days of the date of this publication.

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).

PRT-840350

Applicant: Long Beach Aquarium, Long Beach, CA

Permit Type: Take for enhancing the survival or recovery of the species [Sec 104(c)(4)(A) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act]

Name and Number of Animals: Southern sea otter (*Enhydra lutris nereis*), opportunistic rehabilitation of beached/stranded animals.

Summary of Activity to be Authorized: The applicant requests a permit to acquire southern sea otters from other recovery facilities for the purpose of enhancing survival of the species through continued rehabilitation, including development of a surrogate care program using sea otters, and public education. The applicant also requests authorization for these facilities to be used as temporary holding for emergency care events (e.g., in the event of an oil spill or disease/die-off event).

Source of Marine Mammals: Entire range of sea otters in California, and other rehabilitation facilities.

Period of Activity: Up to 5 years from issuance date of permit, if issued.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, the Office of Management Authority is forwarding copies of this application to the Marine Mammal Commission and the Committee of Scientific Advisors for their review.

PRT-840852

Applicant: Harald Mueller, Albuquerque, NM

The applicant requests a permit to import a polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) sport-hunted prior to April 30, 1994 from the Lancaster Sound polar bear population, Northwest Territories, Canada for personal use.

PRT-840944

Applicant: Lewis E. Misterly, Jr., Anaheim Hills, CA

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

PRT-840789

Applicant: Michael J. Moir, Gaylord, MI

The applicant requests a permit to import a polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) sport-hunted prior to April 30, 1994 from the Lancaster Sound polar bear population, Northwest Territories, Canada for personal use.

Written data or comments, requests for copies of the complete application, or requests for a public hearing on this application should be sent to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203, telephone 703/358-2104 or fax 703/358-2281 and must be received within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice. 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.

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: April 3, 1998.

Kristen Nelson,

Acting Chief, Branch of Permits, Office of Management Authority.

[FR Doc. 98-9288 Filed 4-8-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Receipt of Applications for Permit; Extension of Comment Period

The following applicant has 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.):

PRT-839520

Applicant: Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey, Vienna, VA

The applicant requests a permit to export and reimport captive born Asian elephants (*Elephas maximus*), tigers (*Panthera tigris*), and a leopard (*Panthera pardus*) and progeny of the animals currently held by the applicant and any animals acquired in the United States by the applicant to/from worldwide locations to enhance the survival of the species through conservation education. This notification covers activities conducted by the applicant over a three year period. This notification was previously published February 27, 1998 [63 FR, No. 39, Page 10032] and written comments will continue to be accepted until April 15, 1998.

Written data or comments should be submitted to the Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203 and must be received by the Director by April 15, 1998.

Documents and other information submitted for this application are available for review by any party who submits a written request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203. Phone (703) 358-2104 or Fax (703) 358-2281.

Dated: April 3, 1998.

Kristen Nelson,

Acting Chief, Branch of Permits, Office of Management Authority.

[FR Doc. 98-9274 Filed 4-8-98; 8:45 am]

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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 permit applications.

SUMMARY: The following applicants have applied for a scientific research permit to conduct certain activities with endangered species pursuant to section 10 (a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

Permit No. 702631

Applicant: Assistant Regional Director-Ecological Services, Region 1, Fish and Wildlife Service, Portland, Oregon