

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

PRT-001991

*Applicant:* Oregon Coast Aquarium,  
Newport, OR

*Permit Type:* Take for Public Display.

*Name and Number of Animals:*  
Northern sea otter (*Enhydra lutris*  
*lutris*), 1.

*Summary of Activity to be*

*Authorized:* The applicant requests a permit for public display of a non-releasable orphaned Northern sea otter pup.

*Source of Marine Mammals:* The sea otter pup was rescued by the Alaska Sealife Center, Seward, AK acting on behalf of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

*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-843727

*Applicant:* Nathan P. Newbern, Ft. Worth, TX

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-002446

*Applicant:* Ricardo E. Longoria W, Laredo, TX

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.

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 above address within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice.

Dated: September 4, 1998.

**MaryEllen Amtower,**

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

[FR Doc. 98-24385 Filed 9-10-98; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Notice of Availability of a Technical/ Agency Draft Recovery Plan for *Cordia Bellonis* for Review and Comment

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of document availability and public comment period.

**SUMMARY:** The Fish and Wildlife Service announces the availability for public review of the technical/agency draft recovery plan for *Cordia bellonis*.

*Cordia bellonis* is a shrub species endemic to the island of Puerto Rico. It is currently restricted to three public forests: Maricao, Susúa, and Río Abajo. *Cordia bellonis* has been found in serpentine soils at Maricao and Susúa at road edges, river margins, and on steep slopes. In the Río Abajo Forest, the species was found either on sunny banks along dirt roads growing in thickets of vegetation or in open saddles between limestone hills. The species is threatened by habitat loss, some forest management practices and restricted distribution. The Service solicits review and comment from the public on this draft plan.

**DATES:** Comments on the draft recovery plan must be received on or before November 10, 1998 to receive consideration by the Service.

**ADDRESSES:** Persons wishing to review the draft recovery plan may obtain a copy by contacting the Field Supervisor, Boquerón Field Office, P.O. Box 491, Boquerón, Puerto Rico 00622 (Telephone 787/851-7297). Comments and materials received are available on request for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the above address.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Marelisa Rivera at the address and telephone shown above.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

### Background

Restoring an endangered or threatened animal or plant to the point where it is again a secure, self-sustaining member of its ecosystem is a primary goal of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's endangered species program. To help guide the recovery effort, The Service is working to prepare recovery plans for most of the listed species native to the United States. Recovery plans describe actions considered necessary for conservation of the species, establish criteria for the recovery levels for downlisting or delisting them, and estimate time and cost for implementing the recovery measures needed.

The Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Act), as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) requires the development of recovery plans for listed species unless such a plan would not promote the conservation of a particular species. Section 4(f) of the Act, as amended 1988, requires that public notice and opportunity for public review and comment be provided during recovery plan development. The Service will consider all information presented during a public comment period prior to approval of each new or revised Recovery Plan. The Service and other Federal agencies will also take these comments into account in the course of implementing approved recovery plans.

This Technical/Agency draft is for *Cordia bellonis*, a shrub species endemic to Puerto Rico. *Cordia bellonis* has approximately 64 individuals (less than 30% of the original population) in three localities of the Subtropical Wet, Subtropical Moist, and Subtropical Lower Montane Forests of northern and central Puerto Rico (Maricao, Susa, and Río Abajo Commonwealth Forests). The species is threatened by habitat loss, some forest management practices and restricted distribution.

### Public Comments Solicited

The Service solicits written comments on the recovery plan described. All comments received by the date specified above will be considered prior to approval of the plan.

### Authority

The authority for this section is Section 4(f) of the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. 1533(f).

Dated: August 17, 1998.

**James P. Oland,**  
*Field Supervisor.*

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