

collection of information on respondents. The information collections in this program will be part of a system of records covered by the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552(a)).

Dated: December 18, 2001.

**Rebecca A. Mullin,**

*Fish and Wildlife Service, Information Collection Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 01-32122 Filed 12-28-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-55-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Notice of Receipt of Applications for Permit

##### Endangered Species

The public is invited to comment on the following application(s) 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 below) and must be received within 30 days of the date of this notice. *Applicant:* Ronald L. Schauer, Danville, CA, PRT-051011

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:* Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo, Omaha, NE, PRT-051046.

The applicant requests a permit to export semen samples from captive born Western lowland gorilla (*Gorilla gorilla*) to the University of Sydney, Australia, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species through scientific research.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has information collection approval from OMB through March 31, 2004, OMB Control Number 1018-0093. Federal Agencies may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a current valid OMB control number.

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, telephone 703/358-2104 or fax 703/358-2281.

Dated: December 14, 2001.

**Anna Barry,**

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

[FR Doc. 01-32057 Filed 12-28-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-55-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force Western Regional Panel

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

**ACTION:** Notice of workshop and meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces a meeting of the Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Task Force Western Regional Panel and an Invasive Species Screening Process workshop. The meeting topics and workshop agenda are identified in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.**

**DATES:** The Invasive Species Screening Process workshop will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, January 8, 2002, and 9 a.m. to noon, Wednesday, January 9, 2002. The Western Regional Panel will meet from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 9, 2002, and 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Thursday, January 10, 2002.

**ADDRESSES:** The Invasive Species Screening Process workshop and the Western Regional Panel meeting will be held at the Hotel San Remo, 115 East Tropicana Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada 89109. Phone 800-522-7366.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Tina Proctor, Aquatic Nuisance Species Coordinator, at 303-236-7862 ext 260 or by e-mail at [bettina\\_proctor@fws.gov](mailto:bettina_proctor@fws.gov); or Sharon Gross, Executive Secretary, Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force at 703-358-2308 or by e-mail at [sharon\\_gross@fws.gov](mailto:sharon_gross@fws.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. I), this notice announces a meeting of the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force Western Regional Panel and an Invasive Species Screening Process workshop. The Task Force was established by the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and

Control Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 4701-4741). The purpose of the Invasive Species Screening Process workshop is to discuss methods for screening nonindigenous invasive species imported for sale or introduced into natural water bodies. A goal of the workshop is to bring affected parties together to discuss cooperative options to prevent the introduction of invasive species. Topics to be covered during the workshop include shipping industry perspective for the importation of invasive species; perspectives from nursery, pet, and aquaculture industries; Australia's invasive species screening program; Federal screening process and under development by the National Invasive Species Council and the ANS Task Force; an overview of screening programs in Washington, Oregon, and Hawaii; and a panel discussion on developing an invasive species screening process. The Western Regional Panel will discuss several topics including: Facilitation of State Aquatic Nuisance Species Management Plans; development of a rapid response plan; and development of a brochure and display; an update on aquatic nuisance species activities from individual states; a summary of the Invasive Species Screening Process workshop; a review of the new work plan and budget; NISA reauthorization; and updates on West Coast ballast water 100th Meridian initiative, and Lewis and Clark activities.

Minutes of the meeting will be maintained by the Executive Secretary, Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force, Suite 810, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Arlington, Virginia 22203-1622 and will be available for public inspection during regular business hours, Monday through Friday.

Dated: December 17, 2001.

**Cathleen I. Short,**

*Co-Chair, Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force, Assistant Director—Fisheries and Habitat Conservation.*

[FR Doc. 01-32096 Filed 12-28-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-55-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Geological Survey

#### Technology Transfer Act 1986; Notice

**AGENCY:** U.S. Geological Survey, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed Cooperative Research & Development Agreement (CRADA) negotiations.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Geological Survey (USGS) is contemplating

entering into a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) with Devon Energy Corporation to develop information on coal bed methane resources in North Central Louisiana.

*Inquiries:* If any other parties are interested in similar activities with the USGS, please contact Peter Warwick, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS 956, Reston, VA 21092, phone: (703) 648-6469.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice is submitted to meet the USGS policy requirements stipulated in Survey Manual Chapter 500.20.

December 5, 2001.

**P. Patrick Leahy,**

*Associate Director for Geology.*

[FR Doc. 01-32067 Filed 12-28-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-Y7-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Geological Survey

#### Technology Transfer Act of 1986; Notice

**AGENCY:** U.S. Geological Survey.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed Cooperative Research & Development Agreement (CRADA) Negotiations.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Geological Survey (USGS) is contemplating entering into a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) with OptiQuest Technologies, LLC to develop a water quality model and automated systems for quality control and visualization.

*Inquiries:* If any other parties are interested in similar activities with the USGS, please contact: Paul A. Conrads, USGS South Carolina District, Stephenson Center Suite, 129 720 Gracern Road, Columbia, SC 29210 phone: (803) 750-6140.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice is submitted to meet the USGS policy requirements stipulated in Survey Manual Chapter 500.20.

Dated: December 7, 2001.

**Robert M. Hirsch,**

*Associate Director for Water.*

[FR Doc. 01-32065 Filed 12-28-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-Y7-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Geological Survey

#### Technology Transfer Act of 1986; Notice

**AGENCY:** U.S. Geological Survey, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed Cooperative Research & Development Agreement (CRADA) Negotiations.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Geological Survey (USGS) is contemplating entering into a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) with Sequoia Scientific, Inc. for development of a laser sensor system for collecting fluvial sediment data in rivers.

*Inquiries:* If any other parties are interested in similar activities with the USGS, please contact: John R. Gray, USGS Office of Surface Water, 415 National Center, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, VA 20192; phone (703) 648-5318.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice is submitted to meet the USGS policy requirements stipulated in survey Manual Chapter 500.20.

Dated: December 7, 2001.

**Robert M. Hirsch,**

*Associate Director for Water.*

[FR Doc. 01-32066 Filed 12-28-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-Y7-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Minerals Management Service

#### Record of Decision (ROD) for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the Proposed Use of Floating, Production, Storage, and Offloading (FPSO) Systems on the Gulf of Mexico Outer Continental Shelf, Western and Central Planning Areas

**AGENCY:** Minerals Management Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** ROD on the use of FPSO systems.

**SUMMARY:** The MMS has completed a ROD for the EIS on the proposed use of FPSO systems in the deepwater areas (generally beyond 650 feet or 200 meters water depth) of the Western and Central Planning Areas of the Gulf of Mexico Outer Continental Shelf.

**ADDRESSES:** The ROD has been posted on the MMS website <http://www.mms.gov>. Copies of the ROD are available upon request from the Public Information Office (MS 5034), Minerals Management Service, Gulf of Mexico

OCS Region, 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions regarding the ROD should be directed to Ms. Deborah Cranswick, Leasing and Environment, at (504) 736-2744. The mailing address is Minerals Management Service, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The MMS has examined the concept of allowing the use of FPSOs in the Central and Western GOM Planning Areas and found no compelling environmental reason why development and production plans proposing to use this method of production should not be submitted by the oil and gas industry for evaluation by the agency. The EIS prepared for MMS under contract found that FPSO systems do not pose a greater threat to the environment than do currently accepted development and production systems, given that proper mitigation measures, keyed to the specific proposed operations and location, be applied. Further technical and environmental evaluation will be required for specific FPSO proposals. The MMS will evaluate the potential emissions and impacts of any proposed use of an FPSO within 100 km of the Breton NWA, and will impose emission restrictions and mitigation requirements to ensure that no significant air quality impacts to the Class I area occurs from any proposed FPSO operations. Any proposed FPSO operations that are not within the range of operations evaluated in the programmatic EIS will require more extensive technical and environmental review to demonstrate equivalence to what was investigated by the EIS.

The MMS will defer to U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) jurisdiction and will not accept proposals for the use of FPSOs within the Lightering Prohibited Areas established by USCG (33 CFR Part 156 Subpart C) for 2 years. The 2-year period will allow additional discussions with USCG on the potential use and impacts of FPSO operations within the Lightering Prohibited Areas. The time will allow for a fuller discussion of what measures might be necessary to protect the environment should FPSOs be considered for use within the Lightering Prohibited Areas, and review of the applicability of the environmental assessment completed 10 years ago by USCG in support of the rulemaking that established the Lightering Prohibited Areas. The MMS will continue to work with USCG to delineate jurisdictional