

Applicant: Ferdinand Fercos Hantig and Anton Fercos Hantig, Las Vegas, NV; PRT-073403, 114454, and 206853

The applicant requests the re-issuance of their permits to re-export and re-import three captive born tigers (*Panthera tigris*) to worldwide locations for the purpose of enhancement of the species. The permit numbers and animals are 073403, Sherni; 114454, Dora; and 206853, Allaya. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 3-year period and the import of any potential progeny born while overseas.

#### Multiple Applicants

The following applicants each request a permit to import the sport-hunted trophy of one male bontebok (*Damaliscus pygargus pygargus*) 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:* Lee Anderson, Naples, FL; PRT-PRT-69571A.

*Applicant:* John Mikkelson, Northport, NY; PRT-70057A.

*Applicant:* Bruce N. Kobrin, Las Vegas, NV; PRT-70125A.

Dated: March 30, 2012.

#### Lisa Lierheimer,

*Supervisory Policy Specialist, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R4-R-2011-N169; 40136-1265-0000-S3]

#### **Bogue Chitto National Wildlife Refuge, LA and MS; Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Finding of No Significant Impact for Environmental Assessment**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** We, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the availability of our final comprehensive conservation plan (CCP) and finding of no significant impact (FONSI) for Bogue Chitto National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) in St. Tammany and Washington Parishes, Louisiana, and Pearl River County, Mississippi. In the final CCP, we describe how we will manage this refuge for the next 15 years.

**ADDRESSES:** You may obtain a copy of the CCP by writing to: Mr. Daniel

Breaux, Southeast Louisiana National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Bayou Lacombe Centre, 61389 Highway 434, Lacombe, LA 70445. Alternatively, you may download the document from our Internet Site at <http://southeast.fws.gov/planning/> under "Final Documents."

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Daniel Breaux, at 985/882-2030 (telephone), 985/882-9133 (fax), or [BogueChitto@fws.gov](mailto:BogueChitto@fws.gov) (email).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **Introduction**

With this notice, we finalize the CCP process for Bogue Chitto NWR. We started this process through a notice in the **Federal Register** on February 20, 2009 (74 FR 7913). Please see that notice for more about the refuge.

We announce our decision and the availability of the final CCP and FONSI for Bogue Chitto NWR in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (40 CFR 1506.6 (b)) requirements. We completed a thorough analysis of impacts on the human environment, which we included in the draft comprehensive conservation plan and environmental assessment (Draft CCP/EA).

Compatibility determinations are also available in the CCP for: (1) Wildlife observation/photography; (2) recreational fishing; (3) recreational hunting; (4) environmental education and interpretation activities; (5) walking, hiking, and jogging; (6) camping; (7) forest management; (8) scientific research; (9) kayaking and canoeing; (10) boating; (11) nuisance animal control; and (12) bicycling.

##### **Background**

###### *The CCP Process*

The National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd-668ee) (Administration Act), as amended by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, requires us to develop a CCP for each national wildlife refuge. The purpose for developing a CCP is to provide refuge managers with a 15-year plan for achieving refuge purposes and contributing toward the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System, consistent with sound principles of fish and wildlife management, conservation, legal mandates, and our policies. In addition to outlining broad management direction on conserving wildlife and their habitats, CCPs identify wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities available to the public, including opportunities for hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, wildlife photography, and environmental

education and interpretation. We will review and update the CCP at least every 15 years in accordance with the Administration Act.

Established in 1980, Bogue Chitto NWR is one of eight refuges managed as part of the Southeast Louisiana National Wildlife Refuge Complex (Complex). The refuge headquarters is located about 9 miles northeast of Slidell, Louisiana. The 36,502-acre refuge is bisected by the Pearl River, with portions in St. Tammany and Washington Parishes, Louisiana, and Pearl River County, Mississippi. On the Mississippi side of the river, the refuge is bounded by Old River Wildlife Management Area (15,400 acres) to the north and by the State of Louisiana's Pearl River Wildlife Management Area (35,031 acres) to the south, thereby forming nearly an 87,000-acre block of protected forested wetlands and adjacent uplands within the Pearl River Basin.

The public has the opportunity to hunt white-tailed deer, squirrel, turkey, waterfowl, and hog. Fishing is also available. Threatened and endangered species found on the refuge are: Ringed map turtle (*Graptemys oculifera*), gopher tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*), inflated heelsplitter mussel (*Potamilus inflatus*), and gulf sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus desotoi*). Access is primarily by boat on the Louisiana side, with road access available on the Mississippi side. In 2002, the Holmes Bayou walking trail was unveiled on the Louisiana side of the refuge. This 3/4-mile walking trail offers a unique journey into the interior of the refuge's majestic habitat. The Pearl River Turnaround area is being developed as a site for education and interpretation, as well as a site for the annual youth fishing rodeo.

##### **Comments**

We made copies of the Draft CCP/EA available for a 30-day public review and comment period via a **Federal Register** notice on May 27, 2011 (76 FR 30959). A news release was sent out to four local, State, and regional newspapers; six online media outlets; and two local radio networks. Copies of the Draft CCP/EA were posted at refuge headquarters and on the Service's Internet Web site and more than 100 copies were distributed to local landowners; the general public; and local, State, and Federal agencies. Respondents representing the Service, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, and the National Park Service, as well as local citizens, submitted written comments by mail or email.

**Selected Alternative**

The Draft CCP/EA identified and evaluated three alternatives for managing the refuge over the next 15 years. After considering the comments we received and based on the professional judgment of the planning team, we selected Alternative B for implementation.

Implementing Alternative B will be the most effective management action for meeting the purposes of the refuge. Monitoring and surveying will be conducted systematically after assessing which species should be targeted, based on their population status and the staff's ability to indicate health of important habitat. Restoration efforts, the fire program, and forest management will reflect best management practices determined after examination of historical regimes, soil types and elevation, and the current hydrological system. Management actions will be monitored for effectiveness and adapted to changing conditions, knowledge, and technology. A Habitat Management Plan will be developed for future habitat projects and to evaluate previous actions.

This alternative identifies Holmes Island as a proposed Wilderness Study Area. We will maintain its wilderness character and within 10 years of the date of the CCP, will prepare a wilderness study report and additional NEPA documentation on whether Holmes Island should be formally designated by Congress as a unit of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Public use programs will be updated to educate visitors about the reasons for management actions, and to provide quality experiences for refuge visitors. The Complex headquarters in Lacombe, Louisiana, will provide additional information about the refuge. Options and opportunities will be explored to expand visitor contact areas on the refuge. In an increasingly developing region, Alternative B will strive to achieve a balanced program of wildlife-dependent recreational activities and protection of wildlife resources.

This alternative also proposes to add six positions to current staffing dedicated primarily to the refuge in order to continue to protect resources, provide visitor services, and attain facility and equipment maintenance goals.

**Authority**

This notice is published under the authority of the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, Public Law 105-57.

Dated: September 27, 2011.

**Mark J. Musaus,**

*Acting Regional Director.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Bureau of Land Management**

[LLUTG01100-12-L13100000-EJ0000]

**Notice of Availability of the Greater Natural Buttes Final Environmental Impact Statement, Uintah County, UT**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** Under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, and associated regulations, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has prepared a Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that evaluates, analyzes, and discloses to the public anticipated impacts of the Greater Natural Buttes proposal to develop natural gas in Uintah County, Utah. This notice announces a 30-day availability period prior to preparation of a Record of Decision (ROD).

**DATES:** The Final EIS will be available for 30 calendar days following the date on which the Environmental Protection Agency publishes its Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register**.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the Final EIS have been sent to affected Federal, state, and local government agencies and to other stakeholders. Copies of the Final EIS are available for public inspection at the BLM Vernal Field Office, 170 South 500 East, Vernal, Utah, and on the Internet at: [http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/vernal/planning/nepa\\_.html](http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/vernal/planning/nepa_.html).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information contact Stephanie Howard, Environmental Coordinator; telephone 435-781-4400; address 170 South 500 East, Vernal, Utah, 84078; email

[BLM\\_UT\\_Vernal\\_Comments@blm.gov](mailto:BLM_UT_Vernal_Comments@blm.gov). Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to contact the above individual during normal business hours. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question with the above individual. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Greater Natural Buttes Project Area encompasses approximately 162,911

acres in the townships listed below in Uintah County, Utah:

**Salt Lake Meridian**

T. 8 S., R. 20-23 E.

T. 9 S., R. 20-24 E.

T. 10 S., R. 20-23 E.

T. 11 S., R. 21-22 E.

Kerr-McGee Oil & Gas Onshore LP (KMG), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Anadarko Petroleum Corporation, proposed this project to develop their existing oil and gas leases by drilling 3,675 wells from 3,041 new well pads over a period of 10 years. The proposed action would result in approximately 12,685 acres of additional disturbance (about 7.8 percent of the total project area). The total estimated surface disturbance under this alternative would be 25,125 acres, or about 15.4 percent of the project area. BLM's purpose and need for the project is to respond to KMG's proposal while minimizing environmental impacts.

In response to a proposal submitted by KMG (Alternative A) the BLM published in the October 5, 2007, **Federal Register** a Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS. The scoping comments received in response to this Notice were used during preparation of the Draft EIS to help identify impacts expected as a result of the proposed action and to develop Alternatives B and C.

A 45-day public comment period for the Draft EIS was held from July 16, 2010, through August 30 2010, as announced through the **Federal Register**. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) expressed concerns with the air quality analysis in the Draft EIS, so a Supplement to the Draft EIS was prepared by the BLM in close coordination with the EPA to address those concerns. A 45-day public comment period was then held from June 10, 2011, through July 25, 2011, for the Supplement to the Draft EIS, as announced through the **Federal Register**. An updated inventory of lands with wilderness characteristics was completed for the project area and lands with wilderness characteristics were identified. This information was analyzed in the draft EIS.

The BLM prepared the Final EIS in coordination with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Uintah County, who participated as formal cooperating agencies during the EIS process. The BLM also closely coordinated with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the EPA to ensure their concerns were adequately addressed. The Final EIS describes the changes made between the Draft EIS and Final EIS, and includes responses to the comments