

provides for permits and requires that we invite public comment before issuing permits for endangered species.

A permit granted by us under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Act authorizes the permittees to conduct activities with U.S. endangered or threatened species for scientific purposes, enhancement of propagation or survival, or interstate commerce (the latter only in the event that it facilitates scientific purposes or enhancement of propagation or survival). Our regulations implementing section 10(a)(1)(A) for these permits are found at 50 CFR 17.22 for endangered wildlife species, 50 CFR 17.32 for threatened wildlife species, 50 CFR 17.62 for endangered plant species, and 50 CFR 17.72 for threatened plant species.

#### Applications Available for Review and Comment

We invite local, State, and Federal agencies and the public to comment on the following applications. Documents and other information the applicants have submitted with their applications are available for review, subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a) and Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552).

#### Permit Application Number TE053925

*Applicant:* Niobrara National Scenic River, National Park Service, NE.

The applicant requests the renewal of their permit to continue presence/absence surveys for the interior least tern (*Sternula antillarum athalassos*) in Nebraska along the Niobrara River for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

#### Permit Application Number TE161444

*Applicants:* California Academy of Sciences, Steinhart Aquarium, San Francisco, CA.

The applicant requests the renewal of their permit for public display and educational efforts at the Steinhart Aquarium in California with pallid sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*) for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

#### Permit Application Number TE64613B

*Applicant:* Andrew Phillips, Denver, CO.

The applicant requests a permit to conduct presence/absence surveys for Southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) in Colorado for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

#### Permit Application Number TE65611B

*Applicant:* Dennis Skadsen, Grenville, SD.

The applicant requests a permit to conduct presence/absence surveys for Poweshiek skipperling (*Oarisma poweshiek*) in South Dakota, North Dakota, and Minnesota for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

#### Permit Application Number TE66505B

*Applicant:* Wenck Associates, Mandan, ND.

The applicant requests a permit to conduct presence/absence surveys for pallid sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*) in North Dakota and South Dakota on the Missouri River from Garrison Dam to Lake Oahe for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

#### Permit Application Number TE66521B

*Applicant:* Western Biology, LLC, Hotchkiss, CO.

The applicant requests a permit to conduct presence/absence surveys for black-footed ferret (*Mustela nigripes*) and Southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) in Colorado and Utah for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

#### Permit Application Number TE237960

*Applicant:* Power Engineers, Hailey, ID.

The applicant requests a permit to conduct presence/absence surveys for the American burying beetle in South Dakota, Oklahoma, Texas, and Arkansas for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

#### Permit Application Number TE66521B

*Applicant:* Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Fort Collins, CO.

The applicant requests a permit to conduct plague immunity research for black-footed ferret (*Mustela nigripes*) in Colorado to determine the appropriate timing to administer vaccines for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

#### National Environmental Policy Act

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), we have made an initial determination that the proposed activities in these permits are categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement (516 DM 6 Appendix 1, 1.4C(1)).

#### Public Availability of Comments

All comments and materials we receive in response to these requests will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the address listed in the ADDRESSES section of this notice.

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

#### Authority

We provide this notice under section 10 of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

**Michael G. Thabault,**

*Assistant Regional Director, Mountain-Prairie Region.*

[FR Doc. 2015-15606 Filed 6-24-15; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-HQ-IA-2015-N118;  
FXIA1671090000-156-FF09A30000]

#### Endangered Species; Marine Mammals; Issuance of Permits

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

**ACTION:** Notice of issuance of permits.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), have issued the following permits to conduct certain activities with endangered species, marine mammals, or both. We issue these permits under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA).

**ADDRESSES:** Brenda Tapia, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority, Branch of Permits, MS: IA, 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041; fax (703) 358-2281; or email [DMAFR@fws.gov](mailto:DMAFR@fws.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Brenda Tapia, (703) 358-2104 (telephone); (703) 358-2281 (fax); [DMAFR@fws.gov](mailto:DMAFR@fws.gov) (email).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On the dates below, as authorized by the provisions of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), as amended, and/or the MMPA, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), we issued requested permits subject to certain conditions set forth therein. For each permit for an endangered species, we found that (1) The application was filed in good faith, (2) The granted permit would not operate to the disadvantage of the endangered species, and (3) The granted permit would be

consistent with the purposes and policy **Endangered Species** set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

Permit number	Applicant	Receipt of application <b>Federal Register</b> notice	Permit issuance date
71826A .....	Marvin Turner .....	80 FR 19341; April 10, 2015 .....	May 18, 2015
61948B .....	Kenneth Dalton .....	80 FR 19341; April 10, 2015 .....	May 14, 2015
59527B .....	Mark Robinson .....	80 FR 19341; April 10, 2015 .....	May 15, 2015
59502B .....	Joseph Cutillo .....	80 FR 19341; April 10, 2015 .....	May 15, 2015
61398B .....	Scott Schuster .....	80 FR 21259; April 17, 2015 .....	May 19, 2015
42627B .....	Los Angeles Zoo and Botanical Gardens .....	80 FR 21259; April 17, 2015 .....	May 22, 2015
59497B .....	Jared Forbus .....	80 FR 21259; April 17, 2015 .....	June 2, 2015
54405B .....	TULSA ZOO MANAGEMENT, INC .....	80 FR 24961; May 1, 2015 .....	June 18, 2015

**Marine Mammals**

Permit number	Applicant	Receipt of application <b>Federal Register</b> notice	Permit issuance date
212570 .....	National Marine Mammal Laboratory, NOAA	79 FR 65980; November 6, 2014 .....	June 9, 2015
03086A .....	Robert Rockwell, American Museum of Natural History.	80 FR 24961; May 1, 2015 .....	June 8, 2015
62018B .....	British Broadcasting Corporation—Big Blue Live.	80 FR 28296; May 18, 2015 .....	June 19, 2015

**Availability of Documents**

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: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority, Branch of Permits, MS: IA, 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041; fax (703) 358-2281.

**Brenda Tapia,**

*Program Analyst/Data Administrator, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Fish and Wildlife Service**

[FWS-HQ-IA-2015-N119];  
[FXIA1671090000-156-FF09A30000]

**Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permit**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of receipt of applications for permit.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, invite the public to comment on the following applications to conduct certain activities with endangered species. With some exceptions, the Endangered Species Act (ESA) prohibits activities with listed

species unless Federal authorization is acquired that allows such activities.

**DATES:** We must receive comments or requests for documents on or before July 27, 2015.

**ADDRESSES:** Brenda Tapia, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority, Branch of Permits, MS: IA, 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041; fax (703) 358-2281; or email [DMAFR@fws.gov](mailto:DMAFR@fws.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Brenda Tapia, (703) 358-2104 (telephone); (703) 358-2281 (fax); [DMAFR@fws.gov](mailto:DMAFR@fws.gov) (email).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Public Comment Procedures**

**A. How do I request copies of applications or comment on submitted applications?**

Send your request for copies of applications or comments and materials concerning any of the applications to the contact listed under **ADDRESSES**. Please include the **Federal Register** notice publication date, the PRT-number, and the name of the applicant in your request or submission. We will not consider requests or comments sent to an email or address not listed under **ADDRESSES**. If you provide an email address in your request for copies of applications, we will attempt to respond to your request electronically.

Please make your requests or comments as specific as possible. Please confine your comments to issues for which we seek comments in this notice, and explain the basis for your comments. Include sufficient

information with your comments to allow us to authenticate any scientific or commercial data you include.

The comments and recommendations that will be most useful and likely to influence agency decisions are: (1) Those supported by quantitative information or studies; and (2) Those that include citations to, and analyses of, the applicable laws and regulations. We will not consider or include in our administrative record comments we receive after the close of the comment period (see **DATES**) or comments delivered to an address other than those listed above (see **ADDRESSES**).

**B. May I Review Comments Submitted by Others?**

Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the street address listed under **ADDRESSES**. The public may review documents and other information applicants have sent in support of the application unless our allowing viewing would violate the Privacy Act or Freedom of Information Act. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.