

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Fish and Wildlife Service**

[Docket No. FWS-HQ-IA-2016-0140;
FXIA1671090000-178-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) prohibit 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 January 3, 2017.

ADDRESSES: *Submitting Comments:* You may submit comments by one of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments on Docket No. FWS-HQ-IA-2016-0140.

- *U.S. mail or hand-delivery:* Public Comments Processing, Attn: Docket No. FWS-HQ-IA-2016-0140; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters, MS: BPHC; 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041-3803.

When submitting comments, please indicate the name of the applicant and the PRT# you are commenting on. We will post all comments on <http://www.regulations.gov>. This generally means that we will post any personal information you provide us (see the Public Comments section below for more information).

Viewing Comments: Comments and materials we receive will be available for public inspection on <http://www.regulations.gov>, or by appointment, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays, at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority, 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041-3803; telephone 703-358-2095.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brenda Tapia, (703) 358-2104 (telephone); (703) 358-2281 (fax); 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.

II. Background

To help us carry out our conservation responsibilities for affected species, and

in consideration of section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), along with Executive Order 13576, “Delivering an Efficient, Effective, and Accountable Government,” and the President’s Memorandum for the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies of January 21, 2009—Transparency and Open Government (74 FR 4685; January 26, 2009), which call on all Federal agencies to promote openness and transparency in Government by disclosing information to the public, we invite public comment on these permit applications before final action is taken.

III. Permit Applications*Endangered Species*

Applicant: Smithsonian National Zoological Park, Washington, DC; PRT-05222C

The applicant requests a permit to export one female captive-bred giant panda (*Ailuropoda melanoleuca*) born at the zoo in 2013 and owned by the Government of China, to the China Conservation and Research Center for the Giant Panda Dujiangyan Base, Sichuan Province, China, under the terms of Smithsonian National Zoological Park loan agreement with the China Wildlife Conservation Association. This export is part of the approved loan program for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species through scientific research as outlined in the Smithsonian National Zoological Park’s original permit.

Applicant: Columbus Zoo & Aquarium, Powell, OH; PRT-04257C

The applicant requests a permit to import one captive-bred snow leopard (*Uncia uncia*) for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 1-year period.

Applicant: Denver Zoological Foundation, Denver, CO; PRT-03552C

The applicant requests a captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for the following species to enhance species propagation or survival: Asian elephant (*Elephas maximus*). This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: James Sauk, Addison, AL; PRT-93800B

The applicant requests a captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR

17.21(g) for the following species to enhance species propagation or survival: Radiated tortoise (*Astrochelys radiata*). This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Douglas Olsen, Eden Prairie, MN; PRT-11164C

The applicant requests a permit to import a 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.

Brenda Tapia,

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

[FR Doc. 2016-28833 Filed 11-30-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4333-15-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[17XL1109AF-LLUT922300-L13200000-EL0000, UTU-84102 24-1A]

Notice of Federal Competitive Coal Lease Sale, Greens Hollow Tract, Utah (Coal Lease Application UTU-84102)

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Utah State Office, will offer the Federal coal resources described below as the Greens Hollow Tract (UTU-84102) for competitive sale by sealed bid, in accordance with the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, and the applicable implementing regulations. The sale tract is located in Sanpete and Sevier Counties, Utah. The Greens Hollow coal lease sale was originally scheduled to be held on September 22, 2016. Due to a Notice of Appeal and Petition for Stay on the BLM's Record of Decision filed with the Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA) by four environmental groups, BLM was required to postpone the previous lease sale. Under the Department of the Interior's regulations, when a decision is appealed to the IBLA and a stay is requested, the BLM's decision is stayed while the Board considers the stay request. On October 26, 2016, the IBLA denied the request for a stay, holding that the environmental groups failed to show a likelihood of immediate and irreparable harm resulting from BLM's

decision to hold a competitive coal lease sale for the Greens Hollow tract. This notice announces a new date for the previously postponed lease sale.

DATES: The lease sale will be held at 1 p.m. Mountain Time, on January 4, 2017. Sealed bids must be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the Collections Officer, BLM, Utah State Office, or be hand-delivered to the BLM public room Contact Representatives, BLM Utah State Office, at the address indicated below, and must be received on or before 10 a.m. Mountain Time, on January 4, 2017. Any bid received after the time specified will not be considered and will be returned. The BLM Contact Representatives will issue a receipt for each hand-delivered, sealed bid. The outside of the sealed envelope containing the bid must clearly state the envelope contains a bid for Coal Lease Sale UTU-84102, and is not to be opened before the date and hour of the sale.

ADDRESSES: Sealed bids must be mailed to the Collection Officer or hand-delivered to the BLM public room Contact Representative at BLM, Utah State Office, 440 West 200 South, Suite 500, Salt Lake City, Utah 84101-1345. The opening of the sealed bids will take place at the Salt Lake City Public Library, 210 East 400 South, Salt Lake City, Utah at 1 p.m. Mountain Time on January 4, 2017.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Contact Jeff McKenzie, 440 West 200 South, Suite 500 Salt Lake City, Utah 84101-1345 or telephone 801-539-4038. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to leave a message or question for the above individual. The FRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Replies are provided during scheduled business hours.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This Competitive Coal Lease Sale is being held in response to a lease by application submitted by Ark Land Company (Ark). That application was assigned by Ark to Canyon Fuel Company, LLC, a subsidiary of Bowie Resource Partners, LLC. The assignment was effective September 1, 2013, and was approved by the BLM on July 1, 2014. The coal resources to be offered consist of all recoverable reserves available in the lands identified below. These lands are located in Sanpete and Sevier Counties, Utah, approximately 10.5 miles west of Emery, Utah, under surface lands managed by the Manti-La

Sal and Fishlake National Forests. Those lands are described as follows:

Salt Lake Meridian, Sevier County, Utah

T. 20 S., R. 4 E.,
Sec. 36, lot 4, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$.
T. 21 S., R. 4 E.,
Sec. 1;
Sec. 2, SE $\frac{1}{4}$;
Sec. 11, E $\frac{1}{2}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$;
Sec. 12, NE $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;
Sec. 13, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$;
Sec. 14, NE $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$.
T. 21 S., R. 5 E.,
Sec. 6.

Salt Lake Meridian, Sanpete and Sevier Counties, Utah

T. 20 S., R. 5 E.,
Sec. 19, lots 5 thru 8, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$;
Sec. 20, S $\frac{1}{2}$;
Sec. 21, W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$;
Sec. 28, W $\frac{1}{2}$;
Sec. 29, 30, and 31;
Sec. 32, N $\frac{1}{2}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$;
Sec. 33, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$.

The area described contains 6,175.39 acres.

The coal in the Greens Hollow Tract has one minable coal bed, which is designated as either the Upper Hiawatha or the Lower Hiawatha seam. These seams are approximately 11 feet in thickness. The coal beds contain approximately 73.4 million in-place tons of coal. However, based on BLM's assessment and mitigation proposed by the Forest Service to address subsidence impacts, the tract being offered for sale is projected to contain approximately 55.7 million tons of technically recoverable high-volatile C bituminous coal. The "as received basis" coal quality in the Upper Hiawatha coal bed is: 11,565 Btu/lb., 7.46 percent moisture, 9.81 percent ash, 36.55 percent volatile matter, 46.1 percent fixed carbon, and 0.55 percent sulfur. The "as received basis" coal quality in the Lower Hiawatha coal bed is: 11,538 Btu/lb., 7.21 percent moisture, 9.69 percent ash, 38.88 percent volatile matter, 43.85 percent fixed carbon, and 1.26 percent sulfur.

Pursuant to the applicable regulations, the Greens Hollow Tract may be leased to the qualified bidder (as established at 43 CFR subpart 3472) that submits the highest cash bonus bid that is equal to or exceeds the Fair Market Value (FMV) for the tract as determined by the authorized officer after the sale. The BLM has prepared its fair market value estimate for the tract, which has been reviewed by the Department of the Interior's Office of Valuation Services.

The Department of the Interior has established a general minimum bid of \$100 per acre or fraction thereof for the tract. The minimum bid is not intended to represent the FMV, and a tract will not be sold unless the bid received