

17.21(g) to enhance the propagation or survival of the following species:

African slender-snouted crocodile (*Crocodylus cataphractus*), Asian elephant (*Elephas maximus*), black rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornus*), cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*), Malayan tiger (*Panthera tigris corbetti*), western gorilla (*Gorilla gorilla*), common chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes*), Bornean orangutan (*Pongo pygmaeus*), red-fronted lemur (*Eulemur rufus*), mongoose lemur (*Eulemur mongoz*), ring-tailed lemur (*Lemur catta*), red-ruffed lemur (*Varecia rubra*), Cuban parrot (*Amazona leucocephala*), blue-throated macaw (*Ara glaucogularis*), and golden parakeet (*Guarouba guarouba*). This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Morani River Ranch, Uvalde, TX; PRT-49112A; Docket No. FWS-HQ-IA-2017-0033

In the **Federal Register** of July 6, 2017 (82 FR 31346), we published a notice inviting the public to comment on an application we received from Morani River Ranch, Uvalde, TX. In that notice, the application was described incorrectly as a captive-bred wildlife application rather than a culling application. We are reopening the comment period on this application. We must receive comments or requests for documents on or before the date shown in the **DATES** section. The full, correct description of the Morani River Ranch application reads as follows:

The applicant requests a renewal of their permit authorizing the culling of excess barasingha (also known as "swamp deer"; *Cervus duvauceli*), red lechwe (*Kobus leche*), Arabian oryx (*Oryx leucoryx*), and Eld's brow-antlered deer (*Cervus eldi*) from the captive herd maintained at their facility, to enhance the propagation or survival of the species. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: National Marine Fisheries Service, Southwest Fisheries Science Center, La Jolla, CA; PRT-69509B; Docket No. FWS-HQ-IA-2017-0077

The applicant requests authorization to export and reimport nonliving museum specimens of endangered and threatened species previously accessioned into the applicant's collection for scientific research. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: H & L Sales, Inc., Hunt, Texas; PRT-704025; Docket No. FWS-HQ-IA-2017-0077

The applicant requests a permit authorizing the culling of excess

barasingha (*Rucervus dubauceli*) and Arabian oryx (*Oryx leucoryx*) from the captive herd maintained at their facility, to enhance the species' propagation and survival. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Trophy Applicants (Docket No. FWS-HQ-IA-2017-0077)

The following applicants each request a permit to import a sport-hunted trophy of a 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 enhancing the propagation or survival of the species.

Applicant: Larry Flieds, Groton, SD; PRT-42537C

Applicant: Waggoner M. McDonnold, Midland TX; PRT-49644C

Applicant: Justin M. Bates, Dublin, OH; PRT-49643C

Applicant: Corbin J. Robertson Jr., Houston, TX; PRT-40255C

Applicant: Richard M. Bradish, Belgrade, MT; PRT-46591C

Applicant: Danny R. Hendrickson, Abilene, TX; PRT-47478C

Applicant: George Alan Clark, San Antonio, TX; PRT-54418C

Applicant: James R. Rymer, Jones, OK; PRT-45743C

IV. Next Steps

If the Service decides to issue permits to any of the applicants listed in this notice, we will publish a notice in the **Federal Register**. You may locate the **Federal Register** notice announcing the permit issuance date by searching regulations.gov under the permit number listed in this document.

V. Public Comments

You may submit your comments and materials concerning this notice by one of the methods listed in **ADDRESSES**. We will not consider comments sent by email or fax or to an address not listed in **ADDRESSES**.

If you submit a comment via regulations.gov, your entire comment, including any personal identifying information, will be posted on the website. If you submit a hardcopy comment that includes personal identifying information, you may request at the top of your document that we withhold this information from public review. However, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

We will post all hardcopy comments on regulations.gov under the applicable docket number.

VI. Authority

The authority for this action is the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Joyce Russell,

Government Information Specialist, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R6-ES-2017-N153;
FXES1113060000-189-FF06E00000]

U.S. Endangered Species; Receipt of Recovery Permit Applications

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of permit applications; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, invite the public to comment on applications for permits to conduct activities intended to enhance the propagation or survival of endangered species. With some exceptions, the Endangered Species Act (ESA) prohibits certain activities that constitute take of listed species unless a Federal permit is issued that allows such activity. The ESA also requires that we invite public comment before issuing these permits.

DATES: To ensure consideration, we must receive your written comments by January 19, 2018.

ADDRESSES:

Document availability: The applications, as well as any comments and other materials that we receive, will be available for public inspection in hard copy for viewing by appointment between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays, at Ecological Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 25486-DFC, Denver, CO 80225; telephone 719-628-2670.

Submitting Comments: You may submit comments by one of the following methods. Please specify applicant name(s) and application number(s) to which your comments pertain (e.g., Application No. TE-XXXXXX).

- *Email:* permitsR6ES@fws.gov. Please refer to the respective permit number (e.g., Application No. TE-XXXXXX) in the subject line of your email message.

• *U.S. Mail:* Ecological Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 25486–DFC, Denver, CO 80225.

• *Hand-delivery, Pickup, or Viewing:* Call 719–628–2670 to make an appointment during regular business hours at 134 Union Blvd., Suite 645, Lakewood, CO 80228.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kathy Konishi, Recovery Permits Coordinator, Ecological Services, 719–628–2670 (phone); *permitsR6ES@fws.gov* (email).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, invite the public to comment on applications for permits to conduct activities intended to promote recovery of species that are listed as endangered under the

Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*; ESA). With some exceptions, the ESA prohibits certain activities with endangered species unless a Federal permit allows such activity. The ESA also requires that we invite public comment before issuing these permits.

Background

The ESA prohibits certain activities with endangered and threatened species unless authorized by a Federal permit. The ESA and our implementing regulations in part 17 of title 50 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) provide for the issuance of such permits and require that we invite public comment before issuing permits for activities involving endangered species.

A recovery permit issued under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the ESA authorizes the permittee to conduct activities with endangered species for scientific purposes that promote recovery or for enhancement of propagation or survival of the species. 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.

Permit Applications Available for Review and Comment

We invite local, state and Federal agencies, tribes, and the public to comment on the following applications.

Application No.	Applicant	Species	Location	Activity	Type of take	Action
TE057485–3	Zion National Park	California condor (<i>Gymnogyps californianus</i>), <i>Astragalus ampullarioides</i> (Shivwitz milkvetch).	UT	Survey, monitor	Harass	Renew.
TE054317–1	InterWest Wildlife & Ecological Services, Inc.	Southwestern willow flycatcher (<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>).	CO, UT	Survey, monitor	Harass	Renew.
TE56825C–0	South Dakota State University.	Poweshiek skipperling (<i>Oarisma poweshiek</i>).	SD	Survey, monitor, voucher.	Capture, harm, and harass.	New.
TE165829–3	Bureau of Land Management State Office.	<i>Lepidium barnebyanum</i> (Barney ridge-cress), <i>Schoenocrambe barnebyi</i> (Barney reed-mustard), <i>Astragalus holmgreniorum</i> (Holmgren milkvetch), <i>Lesquerella tumulosa</i> (Kodachrome bladderpod), <i>Pediocactus despainii</i> (San Rafael cactus), <i>Astragalus ampullarioides</i> (Shivwitz milkvetch), <i>Schoenocrambe suffrutescens</i> (shrubby reed-mustard), <i>Sclerocactus wrightiae</i> (Wright-fishhook cactus).	UT	Survey, monitor, voucher, collect seeds, sample tissues for genetic studies, propagate.	Harm	Renew.
TE180540–1	Bureau of Land Management Kanab Field Office.	Southwestern willow flycatcher (<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>).	UT	Survey and monitor	Harass	Renew.
TE237960–3	Power Engineers, Inc.	American burying beetle (<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>).	KS, NE, OK, SD, TX.	Survey and monitor	Harass	Amend.

Public Availability of Comments

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. If you submit a hardcopy comment that includes personal identifying information, you may request at the top of your document that we withhold this information from public review; however, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Contents of Public Comments

Please make your 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.

Next Steps

If we decide to issue permits to any of the applicants listed in this notice, we will publish a notice in the **Federal Register**.

Authority

We publish this notice under section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act of

1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*)

Michael Thabault,

Deputy Assistant Regional Director Mountain-Prairie Region.

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