

Service-approved conservation bank in Polk County. The Service would require the applicant to purchase the credits prior to engaging in any phase of the project.

### Public Availability of Comments

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made available to the public. While you may request that we withhold your personal identifying information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

### Our Preliminary Determination

The Service has made a preliminary determination that the applicant's project, including land clearing, construction of a sand mine, and the proposed mitigation measures, would individually and cumulatively have a minor or negligible effect on the skinks and the environment. Therefore, we have preliminarily concluded that the ITP for this project would qualify for categorical exclusion and the HCP would be low effect under our NEPA regulations at 43 CFR 46.205 and 46.210. A low-effect HCP is one that would result in (1) minor or negligible effects on federally listed, proposed, and candidate species and their habitats; (2) minor or negligible effects on other environmental values or resources; and (3) impacts that, when considered together with the impacts of other past, present, and reasonable foreseeable similarly situated projects, would not result in significant cumulative effects to environmental values or resources over time.

### Next Steps

The Service will evaluate the application and the comments to determine whether to issue the requested permit. We will also conduct an intra-Service consultation pursuant to section 7 of the ESA to evaluate the effects of the proposed take. After considering the preceding matters, we will determine whether the permit issuance criteria of section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA have been met. If met, the Service will issue ITP number TE75515D-0 to Cemex Construction Materials Florida, LLC.

### Authority

The Service provides this notice under section 10(c) (16 U.S.C. 1539(c))

of the ESA and NEPA regulation 40 CFR 1506.6.

**Roxanna Hinzman,**

*Field Supervisor, South Florida Ecological Services Office.*

[FR Doc. 2020-16814 Filed 7-31-20; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

**[FWS-R5-FAC-2020-N088; FF05F24400-201-FXFR13350500000; OMB Control Number 1018-0127]**

### Agency Information Collection Activities; Horseshoe Crab and Cooperative Fish Tagging Programs

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

**ACTION:** Notice of information collection; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, are proposing to renew an information collection.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before October 2, 2020.

**ADDRESSES:** Send your comments on this information collection request (ICR) by mail to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, MS: PRB (JAO/3W), 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041-3803; or by email to [Info\\_Coll@fws.gov](mailto:Info_Coll@fws.gov). Please reference OMB Control Number 1018-0127 in the subject line of your comments.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Madonna L. Baucum, Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, by email at [Info\\_Coll@fws.gov](mailto:Info_Coll@fws.gov), or by telephone at (703) 358-2503. Individuals who are hearing or speech impaired may call the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339 for TTY assistance.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA, 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations at 5 CFR 1320.8(d)(1), all information collections require approval under the PRA. We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

As part of our continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burdens, we invite the public and other Federal agencies to comment on new,

proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand our information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format.

We are especially interested in public comment addressing the following:

(1) Whether or not the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether or not the information will have practical utility;

(2) The accuracy of our estimate of the burden for this collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) How might the agency minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.*, permitting electronic submission of response.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. We will include or summarize each comment in our request to OMB to approve this ICR. 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.

**Abstract:** The Maryland Fish & Wildlife Conservation Office (MDFWCO) will collect information on crabs and fishes captured by the public. Tag information provided by the public will be used to estimate recreational and commercial harvest rates, estimate natural mortality rates, and evaluate migratory patterns, length and age frequencies, and effectiveness of current regulations.

Horseshoe crabs play a vital role commercially, biomedically, and ecologically along the Atlantic coast. Horseshoe crabs are commercially harvested and used as bait in eel and conch fisheries. Biomedical companies along the coast also collect and bleed horseshoe crabs at their facilities. *Limulus* amebocyte lysate, derived from

horseshoe crab blood, is used by pharmaceutical companies to test sterility of products. Finally, migratory shorebirds also depend on the eggs of horseshoe crabs to refuel on their migrations from South America to the Arctic. One bird in particular, the rufa red knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*), feeds primarily on horseshoe crab eggs during its stopover. Effective January 12, 2015, the rufa red knot was listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act (79 FR 73706; December 11, 2014).

In 1998, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC), a management organization with representatives from each State on the Atlantic coast, developed a horseshoe crab management plan. The ASMFC plan and its subsequent addenda established mandatory State-by-State harvest quotas, and created the 1,500-square-mile Carl N. Shuster, Jr., Horseshoe Crab Sanctuary off the mouth of Delaware Bay.

Restrictive measures have been taken in recent years, but populations are increasing slowly. Because horseshoe crabs do not breed until they are 9 years or older, it may take some time before the population measurably increases. Federal and State agencies, universities, and biomedical companies participate in a Horseshoe Crab Cooperative Tagging Program. The Service's MDFWCO maintains the information collected under this program and uses it to evaluate migratory patterns, survival, and abundance of horseshoe crabs.

Agencies that tag and release the crabs complete FWS Form 3-2311 (Horseshoe Crab Tagging) and provide the Service with:

- Organization name;
- Contact person name;
- Tag number;
- Sex of crab;
- Prosomal width; and
- Capture site, latitude, longitude, waterbody, State, and date.

Members of the public who recover tagged crabs provide the following information using FWS Form 3-2310 (Horseshoe Crab Recapture Report):

- Tag number;
- Whether or not tag was removed;
- Condition of crab;
- Date captured/found;
- Crab fate;
- Finder type;
- Capture method;
- Capture location;
- Reporter information; and
- Comments.

At the request of the public participant reporting the tagged crab, we send data pertaining to the tagging program and tag and release information

on the horseshoe crab tag that was found.

Fish will be tagged with an external tag containing a toll-free number for MDFWCO. Tagged species of fish include striped bass (*Morone saxatilis*), Atlantic (*Acipenser oxyrinchus*) and shortnose sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*), northern snakehead (*Channa argus*), and American shad (*Alosa sapidissima*). Members of the public reporting a tag will be asked a series of questions pertaining to the fish that they are referencing. The Service uses the following four forms to collect information used by fisheries managers throughout the Atlantic Coast (DOI regions 1 and 2), depending on species:

- Form 3-2493, "American Shad Recapture Report";
- Form 3-2494, "Snakehead Recapture Report";
- Form 3-2495, "Striped Bass Recapture Report"; and
- Form 3-2496, "Sturgeon Recapture Report."

American shad are tagged by the New York Department of Environmental Conservation (NYDEC), which retains all fish tagging information. The public reports tags to MDFWCO, who provides information on tag returns to NYDEC. Tag return data are used to monitor migration and abundance of shad along the Atlantic coast.

Northern snakehead is an invasive species found in many watersheds throughout the mid-Atlantic region. It has been firmly established in the Potomac River since at least 2004. Federal and State biologists within the Potomac River watershed have been tasked with managing the impacts of northern snakehead. Tagging of northern snakehead is used to learn more about the species so that control efforts can be better informed. Tagging is also used to estimate population sizes to monitor trends in abundance. Recreational and commercial fishers reporting tags provide information on catch rates and migration patterns as well.

Striped bass are cooperatively managed by Federal and State agencies through the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC). The ASMFC uses fish tag return data to conduct stock assessments for striped bass. The database and collection are housed within MDFWCO, while the tagging is conducted by State agencies participating in striped bass management. Without this data collection, striped bass management would likely suffer from a lack of quality data.

Sturgeon are tagged by Federal, State, and university biologists and

nongovernmental organizations along the U.S. east coast and into Canada, and throughout the United States and Canada. Local populations of Atlantic sturgeon have been listed as either threatened or endangered since 2012, and shortnose populations have been listed since 1973. The information collected provides data on tag retention and sturgeon movement along the east coast. The data are also used to address some of the management and research needs identified by amendment 1 to the ASMFC's Atlantic Sturgeon Fishery Management Plan.

Data collected across these tagging programs are similar in nature, including:

- Tag number;
- Date of capture;
- Waterbody of capture;
- Capture method;
- Fish length, weight, and fate (whether released or killed); and
- Fisher type (*i.e.*, commercial, recreational, etc.).

In addition, if the tag reporter desires more information on their tagged fish or wants the modest reward that comes with reporting a tag, we ask their address so that we can mail them the information.

*Title of Collection:* Horseshoe Crab and Cooperative Fish Tagging Programs.

*OMB Control Number:* 1018-0127.

*Form Number:* FWS Forms 3-2310, 3-2311, and 3-2493 through 3-2496.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Respondents/Affected Public:* Respondents include Federal and State agencies, universities, and biomedical companies who conduct tagging, and members of the general public who provide recapture information.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Respondents:* 2,026.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses:* 3,648.

*Estimated Completion Time per Response:* Varies from 5 minutes to 95 hours, depending on activity.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours:* 2,241.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Voluntary.

*Frequency of Collection:* Respondents will provide information on occasion, upon tagging or upon encounter with a tagged crab or fish.

*Total Estimated Annual Nonhour Burden Cost:* None.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

The authority for this action is the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

Dated: July 29, 2020.  
**Madonna Baucum,**  
*Information Collection Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*  
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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Fish and Wildlife Service**

[Docket No. FWS-HQ-IA-2020-0080;  
 FXIA16710900000-190-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, have issued permits to conduct certain activities with endangered species, marine mammals,

or both. We issue these permits under the Endangered Species Act and Marine Mammal Protection Act.

**ADDRESSES:** Information about the applications for the permits listed in this notice is available online at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for details.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Brenda Tapia, by phone at 703-358-2185, via email at [DMAFR@fws.gov](mailto:DMAFR@fws.gov), or via the Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), have issued permits to conduct certain activities with endangered and threatened species in response to permit applications that we received under the authority of section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

After considering the information submitted with each permit application and the public comments received, we

issued the requested permits subject to certain conditions set forth in each permit. For each application 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 set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

**Availability of Documents**

The permittees' original permit application materials, along with public comments we received during public comment periods for the applications, are available for review. To locate the application materials and received comments, go to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) and search for the appropriate permit number (*e.g.*, 12345C) provided in the following table:

**Endangered Species**

Permit No.	Applicant	Permit issuance date
44888D	City of San Jose dba Happy Hollow Zoo	February 12, 2020.
08877D	Florida International University	February 20, 2020.
704025	H&L Sales, Inc	February 12, 2020.
15052D	Potter Park Zoo, Ingham County	February 24, 2020.
40838D	Elyse Ellsworth	February 25, 2020.
35106D	Gulf Breeze Zoo, LLC	February 21, 2020.
44974D	New Jersey Aquarium, Adventure Aquarium	February 25, 2020.
219951	Texas Tech University	February 26, 2020.
21468B	Joan Hemker	February 26, 2020.
64737A	Palfam Ranch Management LLC	February 26, 2020.
36848D	4 J Conservation Center, Inc	February 26, 2020.
36949D	Stevens Forest	February 26, 2020.
46450D	Stevens Forest	February 26, 2020.
34708D	Sacramento Zoo	March 3, 2020.
33775D	Fresno Chaffee Zoo	March 3, 2020.
17189D	The Wild Animal Sanctuary	March 4, 2020.
18004D	The Wild Animal Sanctuary	March 4, 2020.
85048C	Kyle Wildlife Limited Partnership	July 22, 2019.
816505	Ross Popenoe	March 20, 2020.
03134B	White Oak Conservation Holdings, LLC	April 28, 2020.
49149D	Toledo Zoological Society dba Toledo Zoo	April 28, 2020.
49667D	James A. Badman	May 6, 2020.
38051D	The Wild Animal Sanctuary	May 6, 2020.
796988	Stephen Hall	May 6, 2020.
44219B	Kristine A. Holmberg	May 6, 2020.
695190	Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology	June 10, 2020.
56427D	Dallas Zoo Management, Inc	June 10, 2020.
54979D	H. Yturria Land and Cattle Company	May 5, 2020.
86124C	H. Yturria Land and Cattle Company	May 5, 2020.
54616D	John Ball Zoo	June 11, 2020.
59204D	Center for the Conservation of Tropical Ungulates, LLC	June 11, 2020.

**Authorities**

We issue this notice under the authority of the Endangered Species Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et*

*seq.*), and the Marine Mammal Protection Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.

1361 *et seq.*) and their implementing regulations.

**Brenda Tapia,**

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

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