

Organizations, State, Local or Tribal Government.

Expected Annual Number of Activities: 400.

Annual Respondents: 100,000 for surveys, 60,000 for comment cards, 1,000 for focus groups.

Frequency of Response: Once per request.

Annual Responses: 100,000 for surveys, 60,000 for comment cards, 1,000 for focus groups.

Average Time per Response: 15 minutes for surveys, 2 minutes for comment cards, 2 hours for focus groups.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 29,000.

Dated: March 19, 2012.

Benjamin Simon,

Assistant Director, Office of Policy Analysis, U.S. Department of the Interior.

[FR Doc. 2012-7100 Filed 3-23-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R9-IA-2012-N074;
FXIA1671090000P5-123-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 April 25, 2012.

ADDRESSES: Brenda Tapia, Division of Management Authority, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 212, Arlington, VA 22203; fax (703) 358-2280; or email DMAFR@fws.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brenda Tapia, (703) 358-2104 (telephone); (703) 358-2280 (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 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

Applicant: University of California, UC Davis Stable Isotope Facility, Davis, CA; PRT-60610A

The applicant requests a permit to import biological specimens of loggerhead sea turtles (*Caretta caretta*), leatherback sea turtles (*Dermochelys coriacea*), and leatherback sea turtles from Argentina for the purpose of scientific research. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: University of Georgia, College of Veterinary Medicine, Infectious Diseases Laboratory, Athens, GA; PRT-009445

The applicant requests a renewal of their permit to import tissue or blood samples of any avian species (class Aves), reptile species (class Reptilia), and any fish (within the taxonomic phylum Chordata), from worldwide locations for the purpose of diagnostic testing for infectious diseases/scientific research. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Harkey Ranch, Eldorado, TX; PRT-67611A

The applicant requests a captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for the Eld’s deer (*Rucervus eldii*), barasingha (*Rucervus duvaucelii*), Arabian oryx (*Oryx leucoryx*), scimitar-horned oryx (*Oryx dammah*), addax (*Addax nasomaculatus*), and Dama gazelle (*Nanger dama*), to enhance their propagation or survival. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Michelle Rod Crawford, Sugarland, TX; PRT-67541A

The applicant requests a captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for the scimitar-horned oryx (*Oryx dammah*), to enhance their propagation or survival. This

notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Michelle Rod Crawford, Sugarland, TX; PRT-67542A

The applicant requests a permit authorizing interstate and foreign commerce, export, and cull of excess scimitar-horned oryx (*Oryx dammah*), from the captive herd maintained at their facility, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Earth Promise Inc., Fossil Rim Wildlife Center, Glen Rose, TX; PRT-726004

The applicant requests renewal and amendment of their captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) to add the family Bovidae to the families Equidae, and Felidae. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Jay Russo, Katy, TX; PRT-819300

The applicant requests renewal of their captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for radiated tortoise (*Astrochelys radiata*), to enhance their propagation or survival. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: James Thompson, Houston TX; PRT-67603A

The applicant requests a captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for the scimitar-horned oryx (*Oryx dammah*), to enhance their propagation or survival. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Georgia Aquarium, Atlanta, GA; PRT-67609A

The applicant requests a captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for the jackass penguin (*Spheniscus demersus*) to enhance their propagation or survival. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Lionshare Farm Zoological LLC, Greenwich, CT; PRT-195196

The applicant requests renewal of their captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for the following families, genus, and species, to enhance their propagation or survival. This

notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Families:

Bovidae
Hylobatidae
Tapiridae

Species:

Ring-tailed lemur (*Lemur catta*)
Black lemur (*Eulemur macaco*)
Black and white ruffed lemur (*Varecia variegata*)
Cotton-headed tamarin (*Saguinus oedipus*)
Mandrill (*Mandrillus sphinx*)
Diana monkey (*Cercopithecus diana*)
Bornean orangutan (*Pongo pygmaeus*)
Snow leopard (*Uncia uncia*)
Leopard (*Panthera pardus*)
Grevy's zebra (*Equus grevyi*)
Galapagos tortoise (*Chelonoidis nigra*)
Radiated tortoise (*Astrochelys radiata*)

Applicant: Dakota Resources, Inc., Midland, TX; PRT-67605A

The applicant requests a captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for the addax (*Addax nasomaculatus*), to enhance their propagation or survival. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Dakota Resources, Inc., Midland, TX; PRT-67606A

The applicant requests a permit authorizing interstate and foreign commerce, export, and cull of excess addax (*Addax nasomaculatus*), from the captive herd maintained at their facility, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Wayne Hahn, Hollywood, SC; PRT-785931

The applicant requests renewal of their captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for golden parakeet (*Guarouba guarouba*) to enhance their propagation or survival. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Jack Phillips, Gladewater, TX; PRT-195823

The applicant requests amendment of their captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) to add scimitar-horned oryx (*Oryx dammah*) and addax (*Addax nasomaculatus*), to enhance their propagation or survival. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Jack Phillips, Gladewater, TX; PRT-67438A

The applicant requests a permit authorizing interstate and foreign commerce, export, and cull of excess scimitar-horned oryx (*Oryx dammah*) and addax (*Addax nasomaculatus*), from the captive herd maintained at their facility, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Feld Entertainment, Inc., Vienna, VA; PRT-59285A, 65776A, 65778A, 65780A, 65781A, 65782A, 65783A, 65785A, 65787A, 65789A, 657190A, 65792A, 65793A, 65796A, 65797A, 65800A, 66545A, 66546A, 66547A, 66548A, 66549A, and 66550A

The applicant request permits to export, re-export, and re-import captive-born tigers (*Panthera tigris*) and Asian elephants (*Elephas maximus*) to worldwide locations for the purpose of enhancement of the species through conservation education. 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. The permit numbers and animals are:

Tigers:

Julie—65793A
Bali—65782A
Blanca—65783A
Della—65785A
Dragon—65787A
Govinda—65789A
India—65790A
Isis—65792A
Katana—65796A
Kimba—65797A
Mika—65800A
Tasha—66550A
Tyra—66549A
Singapur—66547A
Princess—66545A
Sundrum—66546A
Rambo—66548A

Asian elephants:

Asia—59285A
Luna—65776A
Tonka—65778A
Banko—657808
Siam II—65781A

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: James Young, Issaquah, WA; PRT-68172A

Applicant: James McNicol, Chandler, AZ; PRT-66555A

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-R9-FHC-2011-N244; 94300-1122-0000-Z2]

RIN 1018-AX45

Fisheries and Habitat Conservation and Migratory Birds Programs; Final Land-Based Wind Energy Guidelines

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the availability of the final voluntary Land-Based Wind Energy Guidelines (Guidelines). These Guidelines supersede the Service's 2003 voluntary interim guidelines for land-based wind energy development. They respond to accelerated development of land-based wind energy generation projects in the United States. These voluntary Guidelines provide developers and agency staff with an iterative process to make sound decisions in selecting sites to avoid, minimize and compensate for adverse effects to wildlife, particularly birds and bats, and their habitats resulting from construction, operation, and maintenance of land-based wind energy facilities.

DATES: These voluntary Guidelines are effective March 26, 2012.

ADDRESSES: The Guidelines may be downloaded from <http://www.fws.gov/>

windenergy. To request a copy of the draft Guidelines by U.S. Mail, write: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 North Fairfax Drive; Room 840, Arlington, VA 22203. You may also send an email request to: windenergy@fws.gov. Please specify whether you want to receive a hard copy by U.S. mail or an electronic copy by email.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Christy Johnson-Hughes, Division of Habitat and Resource Conservation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, (703) 358-1922. Individuals who are hearing-impaired or speech-impaired may call the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8337 for TTY assistance, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is to work with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. As part of this mission, we implement statutes including the Endangered Species Act (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA; 16 U.S.C. 703-711), and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA; 16 U.S.C. 668-668d). These statutes prohibit taking of federally listed species, migratory birds, and eagles unless otherwise authorized.

Increased energy demands and the nationwide goal to increase energy production from renewable sources have intensified the development of renewable energy facilities, including wind energy. The Service supports renewable energy development that is compatible with wildlife conservation.

The voluntary Guidelines will provide Service staff, developers, landowners and other stakeholders with a tool to assist in avoiding, minimizing, and compensating for significant adverse impacts to wildlife and their habitats. Adherence to the Guidelines is voluntary and does not relieve any

individual, company, or agency of the responsibility to comply with laws and regulations. However, if a violation of law occurs, the Service will consider a developer's documented efforts to communicate with the Service and adhere to the Guidelines. The Guidelines include a Communications Protocol that provides guidance to both developers and Service personnel regarding expectations of appropriate communication and documentation.

The Service anticipates that these Guidelines, when used in concert with appropriate regulatory tools and other existing policies, provide the best practical approach for wildlife conservation.

Background

In July 2003, the Service released voluntary interim guidelines for land-based wind energy projects to assist developers in avoiding, minimizing, and/or compensating for effects to wildlife and their habitats related to land-based wind energy facilities. In 2007, the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) established the Wind Turbine Guidelines Advisory Committee (Committee) under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.). The Committee submitted final recommendations to the Secretary on March 4, 2010. The Service appreciates all the time and effort that members of the Committee devoted to developing their recommendations, as well as since that time, as the Service developed these final Guidelines. The Service used the recommendations as a basis to develop the Service's draft Guidelines, which we circulated for comment in February 2011 (76 FR 9590, February 18, 2011).

We announced several opportunities for the public to attend Committee meetings and to submit comments or otherwise participate in the development of the Guidelines as follows:

Federal Register citation	Date of publication	Purpose of notice
76 FR 18238	April 1, 2011	Announced Committee meeting of April 27, 2011. Announced availability of teleconference line for April 27, 2011, Committee meeting.
76 FR 20006	April 11, 2011	
76 FR 38677	July 1, 2011	Announced Committee meeting of July 20-21, 2011.
76 FR 48174	August 8, 2011	Announced Committee meeting of August 23, 2011.
76 FR 54481	September 1, 2011	Announced Committee meeting of September 20-21, 2011.

The Service received more than 30,000 comments (summarized below) on the draft Guidelines from a wide

range of interests, including Federal, State, and local agencies; tribes; wind energy developers; utilities; national

and local wildlife conservation organizations; universities; and concerned citizens. The Service made