

and will be used to govern the application and selection process for tribes/consortia to receive fiscal year 1997 negotiations and planning grants as specified in this notice. Applicants should be guided by the requirements in 25 CFR §§ 1001.7 to 1001.10 in preparing their applications. Copies of the interim rules published in the Federal Register on April 23, 1996, may be obtained from the information contact person identified in this notice.

Subject to the discretion of the Director, Office of Self-Governance, the following types of grants are available to tribes/consortia in 1997 with the deadlines as stated below:

(1) *Negotiation Grants*: Up to 10 grants of no more than \$40,000 may be made available. As announced in today's Federal Register, the closing date for submitting completed applications to begin participation in tribal self-governance in fiscal year 1998 or calendar year 1998 is March 1, 1997. Applications requesting to be included in the applicant pool to begin participation in tribal self-governance may be submitted at any time. Tribes/consortia selected from the applicant pool to begin participation in tribal self-governance in fiscal year 1998 or calendar year 1998, may be eligible to receive a negotiation grant. Each selected tribe/consortium will be notified by March 15, 1997, and must submit a written application for a negotiation grant, no later than March 31, 1997, indicating its intention to negotiate an annual funding agreement with any bureau within DOI for 1998.

(2) *Advance Planning Grants*: Up to five grants of no more than \$50,000 may be made available. The closing date for submitting applications to receive a grant to plan for future participation in the tribal self-governance program is May 1, 1997. No later than June 1, 1997, each applicant will be notified by letter from the Director, Office of Self-Governance whether it has been selected to receive an advance planning grant.

(3) *Negotiation/Planning Grants to Negotiate Non-BIA Programs*: Up to 10 grants of no more than \$40,000 may be made available. The closing date for submitting applications to receive a negotiation/planning grant for existing self-governance tribes to negotiate for DOI non-BIA programs is March 31, 1997. No later than May 1, 1997, each applicant will be notified by letter from the Director, Office of Self-Governance whether it has been selected to receive a negotiation/planning grant to negotiate non-BIA programs.

In order to provide sufficient time for tribes/consortia to effectively use the

planning and negotiation grants, the following target dates have been established for the awarding of grants:

(1) *Negotiation Grants*: Since agreements for the 1997 fiscal year need to be signed and submitted by July 1, 1997, to allow sufficient time to prepare for negotiations, new participating tribes will be selected and awarded negotiation grants by May 1, 1997.

(2) *Advance Planning Grants*: In order to avoid delays in planning activity and future participation in tribal self-governance, advance planning grants will be awarded to tribes/consortia by July 1, 1997.

(3) *Negotiation/Planning Grants to Negotiate Non-BIA Programs*: Since agreements for the 1998 fiscal year need to be signed and submitted by July 1, 1997, to allow sufficient time to prepare for negotiation of DOI non-BIA programs, negotiation/planning grants for existing self-governance tribes to negotiate non-BIA program will be awarded by May 15, 1997.

Submitting Applications

(1) Application must be submitted in accordance with the interim rule published in the Federal Register on April 23, 1996, and by the deadlines identified in this announcement.

(2) Application may be mailed or hand-delivered.

(3) Applications which are mailed must be postmarked no later than the date given in this notice for the particular type of grant being applied for.

Dated: January 6, 1997.
William A. Sinclair,
Director, Office of Self-Governance.
[FR Doc. 97-560 Filed 1-9-97; 8:45 am]
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Notice of Deadline for Submitting Completed Applications To Begin Participation in the Tribal Self-Governance Program in Fiscal Year 1998 or Calendar Year 1998

AGENCY: Office of Self-Governance, Office of the Secretary, Interior.
ACTION: Notice of application deadline.

SUMMARY: In this notice, the Office of Self-Governance (OSG) establishes a March 1, 1997, deadline for tribes/consortia to submit completed applications to begin participation in the tribal self-governance program in fiscal year 1998 or calendar year 1998.

DATES: Completed application packages must be received by the Director, Office of Self-Governance by March 1, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Application packages for inclusion in the applicant pool should

be sent to the Director, Office of Self-Governance, U.S. Department of the Interior, Mail Stop 2548, 1849 C Street NW, Washington DC 20240.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Kenneth D. Reinfeld, U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Self-Governance, 1849 C Street NW, Mail Stop 2548, Washington, DC 20240, 202-219-0240.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the Tribal Self-Governance Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-413), as amended by the Fiscal Year 1997 Omnibus Appropriations Bill (Public Law 104-208) the Director, Office of Self-Governance may select up to 50 additional participating tribes/consortia per year for the tribal self-governance program, and negotiate and enter into annual written funding agreement with each participating tribe. The Act mandates that the Secretary submit copies of the funding agreements at least 90 days before the proposed effective date to the appropriate committees of the Congress and to each tribe that is served by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) agency that is serving the tribe that is a party to the funding agreement. Initial negotiations with a tribe/consortium located in an area and/or agency which has not previously been involved with self-governance negotiations, will take approximately two months from start to finish. Agreements for an October 1 to September 30 fiscal year need to be signed and submitted by July 1. Agreements for a January 1 to December 31 fiscal year need to be signed and submitted by October 1.

Background

On February 15, 1995, an interim rule was published in the Federal Register announcing the criteria for tribes to be included in an applicant pool and the establishment of the selection process for tribes/consortia to negotiate agreements pursuant to the Tribal Self-Governance Act of 1994. This interim rule was added to Title 25 of the Code of Federal Regulations at Part 1001 of Chapter VI. While it may be changed by later rulemaking, the Act stipulates that the lack of promulgated regulations will not limit its effect. It should be noted that a proposed rulemaking has been negotiated between tribal and Federal members of a self-governance negotiated rulemaking committee and is currently in the process of being prepared for publication in the Federal Register for review and comment.

Purpose of Notice

The interim rules established at 25 CFR Parts 1001.1 to 1001.5 will be used

to govern the application and selection process for tribes/consortia to begin their participation in the tribal self-governance program in fiscal year 1998 and calendar year 1998. Applicants should be guided by the requirements in 25 CFR Parts 1001.1 to 1001.5 in preparing their applications. Copies of the interim rules published in the Federal Register on February 15, 1995, may be obtained from the information contact person identified in this notice.

Tribes/consortia wishing to be considered for participation in the tribal self-governance program in fiscal year 1998 or calendar year 1998 must respond to this notice, except for those which are (1) currently involved with negotiations with the Department; (2) one of the 62 tribal entities with signed agreements; or (3) one of the tribal entities already included in the applicant pool as of the date of this notice.

The Director's decision on the actual number of tribes that will enter negotiations will be made at a later date. Tribes already in the applicant pool will retain their existing ranking with tribes entering the applicant pool under these rules receiving a lower ranking. Being in the applicant pool will not guarantee that a tribe will actually be provided the opportunity to negotiate in any given year. However, it does mean that a tribe will not be passed over by a tribe with a lower ranking in the applicant pool or by a tribe not in the applicant pool, with the exception of a tribe already in the negotiation process.

For example, if the Department determines that five tribes will be afforded the opportunity to negotiate self-governance agreements for fiscal year 1998 and calendar year 1998, the five tribes with the highest rankings would be notified and negotiations would be scheduled. The tribe ranked sixth on the list would then have the highest ranking to negotiate a self-governance agreement for 1999 or might enter negotiations for 1998 if one of the first five tribes discontinued negotiations. In such a case, the tribe that discontinued negotiations would remain in the application pool with its original ranking and would be the first to be selected in 1998 for negotiating agreements commencing in 1999.

Dated: January 6, 1997.

William A. Sinclair,
Director, Office of Self-Governance.
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Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Receipt of Applications for Permit

The following applicants have applied for a permit to conduct certain activities with endangered species. This notice is provided pursuant to Section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, *as amended* (16 U.S.C. 1531, *et seq.*):

Applicant: Harold L. Ahlberg, Irving, TX, PRT-823758.

The applicant requests a permit to import a sport-hunted cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*) from Namibia for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species.

Applicant: Patricia L. Zerbini, Williston, FL, PRT-823609.

The applicant requests a permit to reexport one Asian elephant (*Elephas maximus*) born in captivity to accompany applicant to Circus Krone, Munchen, Germany for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species. The elephant is not being exported for exhibition purposes.

Applicant: McCarthy's Wildlife Center, Inc., West Palm Beach, FL, PRT-822008.

The applicant has requested a permit to import two male and two female captive-born cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*), from the De Wildt Cheetah Centre, South Africa, for the purpose of enhancement of the species through captive propagation and education.

Written data or comments should be submitted to the Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 430, Arlington, Virginia 22203 and must be received by the Director within 30 days of the date of this publication.

The public is invited to comment on the following application(s) for permits to conduct certain activities with marine mammals. The application(s) was/were submitted to satisfy requirements of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, *as amended* (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) and the regulations governing marine mammals (50 CFR 18).

Applicant: Sea World, Inc., Orlando, FL, PRT-823561.

Type of Permit: Import for public display.

Name and Number of Animals: Polar Bear (*Ursus maritimus*), 1.

Summary of Activity to be

Authorized: The applicant has requested a permit to import to Sea World of California for the purpose of public display one male captive-born polar bear for the purposes of public display.

Source of Marine Mammals for Public Display: Hagenbeck Zoo, Germany.

Period of Activity: Up to five years from issuance of a permit, if issued.

Applicant: Sea World, Inc., Orlando, FL, PRT-823560.

Type of Permit: Import for public display.

Name and Number of Animals: Polar Bear (*Ursus maritimus*), 1.

Summary of Activity to be

Authorized: The applicant has requested a permit to import to Sea World of California one female captive-born polar bear for the purposes of public display.

Source of Marine Mammals for Public Display: Wuppertal Zoo, Germany.

Period of Activity: Up to five years from issuance of permit, if issued.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the Federal Register, the Office of Management Authority is forwarding copies of this application to the Marine Mammal Commission and the Committee of Scientific Advisors for their review.

Written data or comments, requests for copies of the complete application, or requests for a public hearing on this application should be sent to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Room 430, Arlington, Virginia 22203, telephone 703/358-2104 or fax 703/358-2281 and must be received within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice. Anyone requesting a hearing should give specific reasons why a hearing would be appropriate. The holding of such hearing is at the discretion of the Director.

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 within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice at the above address.

Dated: January 7, 1997.

Mary Ellen Amtower,
Acting Chief, Branch of Permits, Office of Management Authority.
[FR Doc. 97-652 Filed 1-9-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Distribution of Fiscal Year 1997 Contract Support Funds

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of method for distribution and use of Fiscal Year (FY) 1997 contract support funds (CSF).

SUMMARY: The purpose of this Announcement is to issue the Bureau of