

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Susan Lieberman, Chief, Office of Scientific Authority, at the address given above (telephone: 703-358-1708).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, TIAS 8249, hereinafter referred to as CITES, is an international treaty designed to regulate international trade in animal and plant species that are or may become threatened with extinction. Authority for implementing CITES has been delegated to the Secretary of Interior through the Endangered Species Act of 1973 as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). Species are listed in Appendix I, II, or III of CITES, depending on the degree of threat and level of control needed. Species listed in Appendix I receive the highest level of protection and require both an import permit from the country of import and an export permit from the country of export, and imports may not be for primarily commercial purposes. However, Article VII, paragraph 4 of CITES provides that specimens of animal species included in Appendix I bred in captivity for commercial purposes shall be deemed to be specimens of species included in Appendix II. Appendix-II species require an export permit only (no import permit) and may be imported for commercial or non-commercial purposes.

Through resolutions adopted at meetings of the Conference of the Parties to CITES, the Parties have defined criteria for registering breeding operations with the CITES Secretariat, whereby specimens of Appendix-I species from those operations would qualify as bred in captivity for commercial purposes. Resolution Conf. 10.16 adopted at the Tenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES (which replaces Conf. 2.12 (rev.)) requires that parental breeding stock at such operations must: (a) be established in accordance with the provisions of CITES and relevant national laws and in a manner not detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild; (b) be maintained without introduction of specimens from the wild, except for occasional augmentation to prevent or alleviate deleterious inbreeding, and for other limited purposes; and (c) have produced offspring of second (F2) or subsequent generations (F3, F4, etc.) in a controlled environment, belong to a species included in a list, established by the CITES Standing Committee, of species commonly bred to second or

subsequent generations, or be managed in a manner that has been demonstrated to be capable of reliably producing second-generation offspring in a controlled environment. Resolution Conf. 8.15 provides guidelines for registering and monitoring operations breeding Appendix-I animal species for commercial purposes, and specifies the documentation required to establish that the operation meets the criteria of Resolution Conf. 10.16.

To register a captive-breeding operation, the Management Authority of the country in which the operation is located must approve the operation, in consultation with that country's Scientific Authority. The sponsoring Management Authority must then submit a proposal to register the operation to the CITES Secretariat, which will follow the process presented in Resolution Conf. 8.15.

After a review of relevant information, including breeding records and other documentation, the Fish and Wildlife Service has prepared for submission to the CITES Secretariat the following proposals: (1) the registration of Sky-Out Falcons owned and operated by David H. Jamieson, Reno, Nevada, as a commercial captive-breeding operation for gyrfalcons (*Falco rusticolus*), an Appendix I species, and hybrids; and (2) the registration of Sky-Out Falcons for peregrine falcons (*Falco peregrinus*), an Appendix-I species, and hybrids.

Although this is the first commercial captive-breeding operation proposed for registration within the United States for any species, it is not the first operation registered with the CITES Secretariat for these two species (15 operations have been registered for peregrine falcons and 10 operations for gyrfalcons). The Sky-Out Falcons operation has been breeding falcons since 1974, with a combined production of 45 gyrfalcons and 46 peregrine falcons in 1995 and 1996. All of these offspring have been second-generation captive-hatched offspring. The Service is satisfied that all breeding stock has been legally acquired and maintained under appropriate permits, as determined by the Division of Law Enforcement in Region 1 of the Fish and Wildlife Service. Mr. Jamieson has provided detailed information on current holdings, husbandry practices, enclosures, production at his operation, and breeding strategies for genetic management of his flocks so as to minimize deleterious inbreeding. (Mr. Jamieson currently holds a pair of *F. p. anatum*, a species listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. This pair of birds is not included in this registration process

and any offspring of either member of the pair would not be considered registered under Resolution Conf. 8.15.)

Required Determination

The Service prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), for this notice and concluded in a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) based on a review and evaluation of the information contained within the EA that there would be no significant impact on the human environment as a result of this action and that the preparation of an environmental impact statement on this action is not required by Section 102(2) of NEPA or its implementing regulations. The EA and FONSI for this action are on file at the Service's Office of Scientific Authority in Arlington, Virginia, and a copy may be obtained by any interested person for review and provide comments by contacting the individual identified under the section entitled, **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**.

Author

This notice was prepared by Mr. Timothy J. Van Norman, Wildlife Biologist, Office of Scientific Authority, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (703/358-1708).

Dated: March 20, 1998.

Margaret Tieger,

Acting Chief, Office of Management Authority.

[FR Doc. 98-8048 Filed 3-26-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Issuance of Permit for Marine Mammals

On December 19, 1997, a notice was published in the **Federal Register**, Vol. 62, No. 244, Page 66660, that an application had been filed with the Fish and Wildlife Service by Eugene Giscombe for a permit (PRT-837603) to import a sport-hunted polar bear trophy, taken from the McClintock Channel population, Northwest Territories, Canada for personal use.

Notice is hereby given that on February 10, 1998, as authorized by the provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, *as amended* (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) the Fish and Wildlife Service authorized the requested permit subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

On January 6, 1998, a notice was published in the **Federal Register**, Vol. 63, No. 3, Page 571, that an application had been filed with the Fish and Wildlife Service by Stephen C. Slack for a permit (PRT-837990) to import a sport-hunted polar bear trophy, taken prior to April 30, 1994, from the Davis Strait population, Northwest Territories, Canada for personal use.

Notice is hereby given that on March 3, 1998, as authorized by the provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, *as amended* (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) the Fish and Wildlife Service authorized the requested permit subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

Documents and other information submitted for these applications are available for review by any party who submits a written request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Rm 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203. Phone (703) 358-2104 or Fax (703) 358-2281.

Dated: March 23, 1998.

MaryEllen Amtower,

Acting Chief, Branch of Permits, Office of Management Authority.

[FR Doc. 98-7998 Filed 3-26-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Drug Enforcement Administration

Importation of Controlled Substances; Notice of Application

Pursuant to Section 1008 of the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act (21 U.S.C. 958(i)), the Attorney General shall, prior to issuing a registration under this Section to a bulk manufacturer of a controlled substance in Schedule I or II and prior to issuing a regulation under Section 1002(a) authorizing the importation of such a substance, provide manufacturers holding registrations for the bulk manufacture of the substance an opportunity for a hearing.

Therefore, in accordance with Section 1301.34 of Title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), notice is hereby given that on January 30, 1998, North Pacific Trading Company, 815 N.E. Davis Street, Portland, Oregon 97202, made application by renewal to the Drug Enforcement Administration to be registered as an importer of marihuana (7360) a basic class of controlled substance listed in Schedule I.

This application is exclusively for the importation of marihuana seed which will be rendered non-viable and used as bird food.

Any manufacturer holding, or applying for, registration as a bulk manufacturer of this basic class of controlled substance may file written comments on or objections to the application described above and may, at the same time, file a written request for a hearing on such application in accordance with 21 CFR 1301.43 in such form as prescribed by 21 CFR 1316.47.

Any such comments, objections, or requests for a hearing may be addressed, in quintuplicate to the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Diversion Control, Drug Enforcement Administration, United States Department of Justice, Washington, D.C. 20537, Attention: DEA Federal Register Representative (CCR), and must be filed no later than (30 days from publication).

This procedure is to be conducted simultaneously with and independent of the procedures described in 21 CFR 1301.34(b), (c), (d), (e), and (f). As noted in a previous notice at 40 FR 43745-46 (September 23, 1975), all applicants for registration to import basic class of any controlled substance in Schedule I or II are and will continue to be required to demonstrate to the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Diversion Control, Drug Enforcement Administration that the requirements for such registration pursuant to 21 U.S.C. 958(a), 21 U.S.C. 823(a), and 21 CFR 1301.34(a), (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f) are satisfied.

Dated: March 13, 1998.

John H. King,

Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Diversion Control, Drug Enforcement Administration.

[FR Doc. 98-8083 Filed 3-26-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-09-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Joint Issuance of Permit for Marine Mammals

On October 22, 1997, a notice was published in the **Federal Register**, Vol. 62, No. 204, Page 54851, that an application had been filed with the Fish and Wildlife Service by the American Museum of Natural History, New York, NY for a permit (FWS# 831724, NMFS# 876-1402) to import, export, re-import and re-export biological samples from all Cetacea, Pinnipedia, Sirenia, sea and

marine otters for the purpose of scientific research.

Notice is hereby given that on March 2, 1998, as authorized by the provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) the Fish and Wildlife Service in cooperation with the National Marine Fisheries Service authorized the requested permit subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

Documents and other information submitted for this application are available for review by any party who submits a written request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Rm. 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203, phone (703) 358-2104 or Fax (703) 358-2281.

Dated: March 11, 1998.

Karen Anderson,

Acting Chief, Branch of Permits, Office of Management Authority, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Dated: March 13, 1998.

Art Jeffers,

Acting Chief, Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 98-7999 Filed 3-26-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-U

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[OR-010-1430-00; GP8-0130]

Notice of Meeting of Southeast Oregon Resource Advisory Council and Notice of Change of Designated Federal Official for Southeast Oregon Resource Advisory Council

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of meeting of Southeast Oregon Resource Advisory Council, and Notice of Change of Designated Federal Official to Steve A. Ellis, District Manager, Lakeview District Office, Bureau of Land Management, PO Box 151, Lakeview, Oregon 97630 (Phone 541-947-2177).

SUMMARY: A meeting of the Southeast Oregon Resource Advisory Council will be held April 28, 1998, from 8 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. (PDT) and April 29, 1998, from 8 am to 11:45 a.m. Public comments are scheduled from 12 noon to 12:30 p.m., April 28, 1998. The Noxious Weeds subcommittee and the Fuels and Prescribed Fire Subcommittee will meet on April 29 at 1 p.m.

The meeting will be held at the Memorial Building of the Harney