

on docket number FWS-R9-ES-2011-0031.

- *U.S. mail or hand delivery:* Public Comments Processing, Attn: FWS-R9-ES-2011-0031; Division of Policy and Directives Management; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; 4401 North Fairfax Drive, MS 2042; Arlington, VA 22203.

We will post all comments on <http://www.regulations.gov>. This generally means that we will post any personal information you provide us (see Public Comments section below for more information).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rick Sayers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Endangered Species Program, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 420, Arlington, VA 22203; telephone (703) 358-2171; facsimile (703) 358-1735; or Marta Nammack, National Marine Fisheries Service, Office of Protected Resources, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910; telephone (301) 427-8469; fax (301) 713-0376. If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at (800) 877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On December 9, 2011, we published a notice of our draft policy (76 FR 76987) to establish a joint interpretation and application of “significant portion of its range” that reflects a permissible reading of the law and its legislative history and minimizes undesirable policy outcomes, while fulfilling the conservation purposes of the Act. That notice established a 60-day comment period ending February 7, 2012. We have received a number of requests to extend the public comment period. Considering the complexity of the issues addressed in the draft policy and the level of public interest, we have decided that additional time for public comment will be particularly valuable for this action and thus are extending the comment period for an additional 30 days. The draft policy and supporting materials are available for review at <http://www.regulations.gov> under Docket No. FWS-R9-ES-2011-0031.

Public Comments; Request for Information

We intend that the final policy on interpretation of the phrase “significant portion of its range” in the Act’s definitions of “endangered species” and “threatened species” will consider information and recommendations from all interested parties. We therefore solicit comments, information, and recommendations from governmental agencies, Native American tribes, the scientific community, industry groups,

environmental interest groups, and any other interested parties. All comments and materials received by the date listed in the **DATES** section above will be considered prior to the approval of a final document. For the complete list of subjects on which we seek comments, please refer to the December 9, 2011, draft policy (76 FR 76987), available on line at <http://www.regulations.gov> under Docket No. FWS-R9-ES-2011-0031.

Please include sufficient information with your submission (such as references to scientific journal articles or other publications) to allow us to verify any scientific or commercial information you include.

You may submit your information concerning this draft policy by one of the methods listed in the **ADDRESSES** section. If you submit information via <http://www.regulations.gov>, your entire submission—including any personal identifying information—will be posted on the Web site. If you submit a hardcopy that includes personal identifying information, you may request at the top of your document that we withhold this personal identifying information from public review. However, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. We will post all hardcopy submissions on <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Information and supporting documentation used in preparing this document is available for you to review at <http://www.regulations.gov>, or you may make an appointment during normal business hours at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Endangered Species Program (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**).

Authority

We are taking this action under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Dated: January 30, 2012.

Daniel M. Ashe,

Director, Fish and Wildlife Service.

Dated: January 27, 2012.

Alan D. Risenhoover,

Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R9-IA-2012-N029;
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 March 8, 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

A. Endangered Species

Applicant: Project Survival, Dunlap, CA; PRT-58624A

The applicant requests a permit to import two cheetahs (a male and a female) (*Acinonyx jubatus*) that were captive born at Cango Wildlife Ranch, South Africa, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species.

Applicant: Zoological Society of San Diego, San Diego, CA; PRT-57926A

The applicant requests a permit to import one male and three female captive-bred mandrill (*Mandrillus sphinx*) from Toronto, Ontario, Canada, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species.

Applicant: Peter Lee, Secaucus, NJ; PRT-196626

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

Applicant: Matthew Kirkwood, Lafayette, IN; PRT-63673A

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

Applicant: Denver Zoological Gardens, Denver, CO; PRT-685150

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
Callithricidae
Canidae
Cebidae
Cercopithecidae
Cervidae
Equidae
Felidae (does not include jaguar, margay or ocelot)
Hominidae
Lemuridae
Rhinocerotidae
Suidae
Tapiridae
Gruidae
Psittacidae
Sturnidae (does not include *Aplonis pelzelni*)
Crocodylidae (does not include American crocodile)
Iguanidae
Testudinidae

Species:

Asian elephant (*Elephas maximus*)
Andean condor (*Vultur gryphus*)
Lesser rhea (*Rhea pennata*)

Applicant: Forrest Simpson, Conroe, TX; PRT-115345

The applicant requests amendment and renewal of his captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) to include the barasingha (*Rucervus duvaucelii*), 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: Forrest Simpson, Conroe, TX; PRT-115344

The applicant requests amendment and renewal of his permit authorizing interstate and foreign commerce, export and cull of excess barasingha (*Rucervus duvaucelii*) and scimitar-horned oryx (*Oryx dammah*) from the captive herd maintained at his 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.

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: John Warren, Austin, TX; PRT-63439A

Applicant: Jacqueline Seeno, Concord, CA; PRT-61192A

Applicant: Frank Metzger, Westerville, OH; PRT-63679A

Applicant: Paul Monsen, Salt Lake City, UT; PRT-63627A

Applicant: Michael Moore, Pocola, OK; PRT-52774A

Brenda Tapia,

Program Analyst/Data Administrator, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.

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