

Beaufort Sea polar bear population in Canada for personal, noncommercial use.

Dated: January 5, 2007.

Lisa J. Lierheimer,

Senior Permit Biologist, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.

[FR Doc. E7-3138 Filed 2-22-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Receipt of Applications for Permit

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of applications for permit.

SUMMARY: The public is invited to comment on the following applications to conduct certain activities with endangered species and/or marine mammals.

DATES: Written data, comments or requests must be received by March 26, 2007.

ADDRESSES: 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 to: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203; fax 703/358-2281.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Division of Management Authority, telephone 703/358-2104.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Endangered Species

The public is invited to comment on the following applications 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.*). Written data, comments, or requests for copies of these complete applications should be submitted to the Director (address above).

Applicant: National Zoological Park (Smithsonian), Washington, DC, PRT-135928, 135929

The applicant requests two permits to import semen samples collected from three captive born Asian elephants (*Elephas maximus*) from African Lion Safari, Ontario, Canada, and the Calgary

Zoo, Alberta, Canada for scientific research.

Applicant: National Marine Fisheries Service, Miami, FL, PRT-045532.

The applicant requests an amendment and re-issuance of their permit to import and/or introduce from the sea, biological samples collected from the wild on the high seas, both from opportunistically salvaged and incidentally captured specimens of Kemp's ridley sea turtle (*Lepidochelys kempii*), hawksbill sea turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), and leatherback sea turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*) for the purpose of scientific research. The amendment request is for the import of biological samples collected on land, opportunistically from wild and captive-held salvaged specimens of Kemp's ridley sea turtle (*Lepidochelys kempii*), hawksbill sea turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), leatherback sea turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*), green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*), and olive ridley sea turtle (*Lepidochelys olivacea*). This notification covers activities conducted by the applicant over a period of 5 years.

Applicant: William R. Kahl, East Lansing, MI, PRT-145458.

The applicant requests 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 F. Cedarberg, Eagan, MN, PRT-144847.

The applicant requests 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.

Marine Mammals

The public is invited to comment on the following application for a permit to conduct certain activities with marine mammals. The application was 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 Part 18). Written data, comments, or requests for copies of the complete application or requests for a public hearing on this application should be submitted to the Director (address above). Anyone requesting a hearing should give specific reasons

why a hearing would be appropriate. The holding of such a hearing is at the discretion of the Director.

Applicant: Chris C. Hudson, Dallas, TX, PRT-145883.

The applicant requests a permit to import a polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) sport hunted from the Western Hudson Bay polar bear population in Canada for personal, noncommercial use.

Dated: February 2, 2007.

Michael S. Moore,

Senior Permit Biologist, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.

[FR Doc. E7-3134 Filed 2-22-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Receipt of Applications for Permit

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of applications for permit.

SUMMARY: The public is invited to comment on the following applications to conduct certain activities with endangered species.

DATES: Written data, comments or requests must be received by March 26, 2007.

ADDRESSES: 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 to: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203; fax 703/358-2281.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Division of Management Authority, telephone 703/358-2104.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Endangered Species

The public is invited to comment on the following applications 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.*). Written data, comments, or requests for copies of these complete applications should be submitted to the Director (address above).

Applicant: The Institute of Greatly Endangered and Rare Species

(T.I.G.E.R.S.), Surfside Beach, SC, PRT-130309.

The applicant requests a permit to import one male and two female captive-born cheetahs (*Acinonyx jubatus*) from DeWildt Cheetah and Wildlife Centre, DeWildt, South Africa for the purpose of enhancement of the species through conservation education.

Applicant: Nashville Zoo, Nashville, TN, PRT-144911.

The applicant requests a permit to import one male captive-born Central American tapir (*Tapirus bairdii*) from Zoologico La Marina, San Jose, Costa Rica for the purpose of enhancement of the species through captive breeding.

Applicant: Cincinnati Zoo, Cincinnati, OH, PRT-145194.

The applicant requests a permit to import semen samples from black-footed cats (*Felis nigripes*) from the wild in South Africa in cooperation with the Government of South Africa for scientific research in an ongoing study "Biomedical Assessment of free-ranging black-footed cats in South Africa". This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a five-year period.

Applicant: Jose P. De Ayala, Honolulu, HI, PRT-144838.

The applicant requests 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: Arthur P. Hoffart, Bozeman, MT, PRT-144999.

The applicant requests 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: Tarzan Zerbini, Webb City, MO, PRT-065144, 065145, 065146, 065148, 065149, and 088344.

The applicant requests permits to export captive elephants (*Elephas maximus*) to worldwide locations for the purpose of enhancement of the species through conservation education. *The permit numbers and animals are:* 065144, Jan; 065145, Roxy; 065146, Shelly; 065148, Bunny; 065149, Marie; and 088344, Luke. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a three-year period and the import of any potential progeny born while overseas.

Dated: January 26, 2007.

Lisa J. Lierheimer,

Senior Permit Biologist, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.

[FR Doc. E7-3133 Filed 2-22-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a comprehensive conservation plan and environmental assessment for Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge; request for comments.

SUMMARY: This notice advises the public that the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) intends to prepare a Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) and Environmental Assessment (EA), pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and its implementing regulations, for Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), located within the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia. This notice also advises the public that the Service is withdrawing a previous notice, published on May 8, 2002, stating that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) would be developed for the refuge. Comments already received under the previous notice will be considered during preparation of the subject CCP/EA.

The Service is furnishing this notice in compliance with the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 668dd *et seq.*): (1) To advise other agencies and the public of our intentions, and (2) to obtain suggestions and information on the scope of issues to include in the environmental documents.

DATES: Please provide any comments on the subject CCP/EA by March 26, 2007. The Service will notify the public of subsequent meetings on development of the proposed CCP/EA via **Federal Register** notice and other means, including special mailings, newspaper articles, and Web site announcements. Inquire at the address below for future dates of planning activity.

ADDRESSES: Address comments, questions, and requests for more information to the following: Refuge Manager, Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge, 4005 Sandpiper Road, Virginia Beach, VA 23456-4325, 757-721-2412.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Thomas Bonetti, Refuge Planner, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 300 Westgate Center Drive, Hadley, Massachusetts 01035, telephone 413-253-8307, fax 413-253-8468, electronic mail tom_bonetti@fws.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: By Federal law, all lands within the National Wildlife Refuge System are to be managed in accordance with an approved CCP. The CCP guides management decisions and identifies refuge goals, long-range objectives, and strategies for achieving refuge purposes. Public input into this planning process is essential. The CCP will provide other agencies and the public with a clear understanding of the desired conditions for the refuges and how the Service will implement management strategies. Public input into this planning process is essential.

The Service began soliciting information from the public in early 2002 via open houses, meetings, and written comments. Special mailings, newspaper articles, and Web site announcements helped to inform the public in the area near the refuge of the time and place of opportunities for input to the CCP.

The Service has determined that, at this time, an EA is a more appropriate document than an EIS to accompany the CCP. The need to prepare an EIS is a matter of professional judgment requiring consideration of all issues in question. If the EA determines that the CCP will constitute a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment, an EIS will then be prepared. The primary purpose of an EIS is to ensure that a full and fair discussion of all significant environmental impacts occurs, and to inform decision makers and the public of the reasonable alternatives that would avoid or minimize adverse impacts or enhance the quality of the human environment.

Review of this project will be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the NEPA, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), NEPA Regulations (40 CFR parts 1500-1508), other appropriate Federal laws and regulations, and Service policies and procedures for compliance with those regulations. Concurrent with the CCP process, the Service will conduct a wilderness review and incorporate a summary of the review into the CCP, as well as include compatibility determinations for all applicable refuge uses. We estimate that the Draft CCP/EA will be available in 2007.