

Center, Bland Bryant Bldg., Fourth Floor, Catonsville, MD 21228.

Department of Health and Human Services, Medicaid Division, P.O. Box 95026—301 Centennial Mall, South, 5th Floor, Lincoln, NE 68509.

DHHS Div of Med. Assistance Health Facilities Licensing and Certification, 4730 Business Park Boulevard, Suite 18, Anchorage, AK 99503.

NYS Dept. of Health, Empire State Plaza, Concourse Room 148, Albany, NY 12237.

Virgin Islands, IFMC, 6000 Westown Parkway, West Des Moines, IA 50266.

Puerto Rico Department of Health, Assistant Secretariat for the Regulation and Accreditation of Health Facilities, Former Ruez Soler Hospital Road #2, Bayamon, PR 00959.

[FR Doc. 03-21444 Filed 8-21-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. 1999D-4577]

Guidance for Industry: Application of Current Statutory Authority to Nucleic Acid Testing of Pooled Plasma; Withdrawal of Draft Guidance

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice; withdrawal.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is announcing the withdrawal of a draft guidance entitled "Guidance for Industry: Application of Current Statutory Authority to Nucleic Acid Testing of Pooled Plasma" dated November 1999, that was announced in the **Federal Register** on November 26, 1999. In the draft guidance, FDA sought public comment on the development and implementation of nucleic acid testing (NAT) for infectious diseases.

DATES: Effective September 22, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Astrid L. Szeto, Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (HFM-17), Food and Drug Administration, 1401 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852-1448, 301-827-6210.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In a notice published in the **Federal Register** of November 26, 1999 (64 FR 66481), FDA announced the availability of a draft guidance entitled "Guidance for Industry: Application of Current Statutory Authority to Nucleic Acid Testing of Pooled Plasma" dated November 1999. This draft guidance responded to industry's request for guidance in the development and implementation of NAT of pooled plasma in further improving the safety

of the nation's blood products. No NAT test kit manufacturers were licensed at that time. A number of manufacturers have subsequently been licensed for NAT, making the request for guidance in the development of NAT testing of pooled plasma for infectious agents now moot. This draft guidance is therefore being withdrawn as of September 22, 2003, because it is obsolete.

Dated: August 14, 2003.

William K. Hubbard,

Associate Commissioner for Policy and Planning.

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BILLING CODE 4160-01-S

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 September 22, 2003.

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: Miami Metrozoo, Miami, FL, PRT-069826.

The applicant requests a permit to export one male captive-born Baird's tapir (*Tapirus bairdii*) to the Parque Ecoarqueologico Xcaret, Mexico, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species through captive propagation and conservation education.

Applicant: Yale University, New Haven, CT, PRT-072747.

The applicant requests a permit to import biological samples from sifaka (*Propithecus verreauxi verreauxi*) collected in the wild in Madagascar, for scientific research. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a five-year period.

Applicant: Texas Memorial Museum, Austin, TX, PRT-072019.

The applicant requests a permit to import biological samples from Coahuilan box turtles (*Terrapene coahuila*) collected in the wild in Mexico, for scientific research. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a five-year period.

Applicant: Susan C. Gardner, c/o U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Cincinnati, OH, PRT-073075.

The applicant requests a permit to import samples and non-viable eggs obtained from green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*), olive ridley sea turtle (*Lepidochelys olivacea*), hawksbill sea turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), and leather back sea turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*), in Mexico, for the purpose of enhancement of the species through scientific research. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a five year period.

Applicant: Dr. Lisa K. Yon, University of California, Davis, CA, PRT-075293.

The applicant requests a permit to import serum, urine, and fecal samples obtained from 6 bull Asian elephants (*Elephas maximus*) captive-held at the Ayutthaya Elephant Palace and Royal Kraal, Thailand, for the purpose of scientific research. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a five-year period.

Applicant: Florida Museum of Natural History, Gainesville, FL, PRT-677336.

The applicant requests renewal of their permit to import export and re-export non-living museum specimens of endangered and threatened species of plants and animals previously accessioned into the applicant's collection for scientific research. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a five-year period.

Applicant: Adam M. Vinatieri, North Attleboro, MA, PRT-075567.

The applicant request a permit to import the sport hunted trophy of one male bontebok (*Damaliscus pygargus dorcas*) 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 applications for a permit to conduct certain activities with endangered marine mammals and/or 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: U.S. Geological Survey, Western Ecological Research Center, San Simeon, CA, PRT-672624.

The applicant request a permit to increase the number of animals out of 500 takes for drugging, vestigial tooth extraction and blood taking; for surgical implant of radio transmitters; and for TDR implants for the purpose of scientific research. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant until October 5, 2007.

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

Dated: August 8, 2003.

Monica Farris,

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

[FR Doc. 03-21488 Filed 8-21-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WY920-1430FM, WYW148816]

Notice of availability of a Final Environmental Impact Statement on the Proposed Pittsburg and Midway Coal Mining Company Coal Exchange

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior. Cooperating Agencies—Forest

Service, Agriculture; Office of Surface Mining, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Availability of a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) on the proposed Pittsburg and Midway Coal Mining Company Coal Exchange; Lincoln, Carbon, and Sheridan Counties, Wyoming.

SUMMARY: Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Federal Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA) and associated regulations, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announces the availability of a FEIS that evaluates, analyzes, and discloses to the public direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental impacts of a proposed land-for-coal exchange between the Pittsburg and Midway (P&M) Coal Mining Company, the USDA Forest Service Bridger-Teton National Forest, and the Wyoming BLM, (Serial Number WYW148816).

The FEIS analyzes a proposal made by P&M to exchange approximately 5,859 acres of privately owned surface and coal resources for an amount of Federal coal of approximately equal value underlying privately owned lands. For all, or some portion, of an estimated 107 million tons of Federal coal in Sheridan County, Wyoming, P&M would exchange to the United States private land and mineral resources in Lincoln, Carbon, and Sheridan Counties, Wyoming. The USDA Forest Service and the Office of Surface Mining are cooperating agencies.

DATES: Comments on the FEIS will be accepted for 30 days following the date that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) publishes their notice of availability of the FEIS in the **Federal Register**. The BLM asks that those submitting comments on the FEIS make them as specific as possible with reference to page numbers and chapters of the document. Comments that contain only opinions, or preferences, will not receive a formal response, however, they will be considered, and included, as part of the BLM decision-making process. Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the Bureau of Land Management, Casper Field Office, 2987 Prospector Drive, Casper, Wyoming, during regular business hours (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except holidays, and may be published as part of the Final EIS.

ADDRESSES: Please address questions, comments, or requests for copies of the FEIS to the Casper Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, Attn: Nancy

Doelger, 2987 Prospector Drive, Casper, Wyoming 82604; or you may mail them electronically to the attention of Nancy Doelger at casper_wymail@blm.gov; or fax them to (307) 261-7587. A copy of the FEIS has been sent to affected Federal, State, local government agencies, and to those persons who responded to the BLM indicating that they wished to receive a copy of the FEIS. Copies of the FEIS are available for public inspection at the following BLM and USDA Forest Service office locations:

- Bureau of Land Management, Wyoming State Office, 5353 Yellowstone Road, Cheyenne, WY 82009
- Bureau of Land Management, Casper Field Office, 2987 Prospector Drive, Casper, WY 82604-2968
- Bureau of Land Management, Pinedale Field Office, 432 E. Mill Street, Pinedale, WY 82941
- Bureau of Land Management, Rawlins Field Office, 1300 N. Third Street, Rawlins, WY 82301
- USDA Forest Service, Intermountain Region, 324 25th Street, Ogden, UT 84401
- USDA Bridger-Teton National Forest, Kemmerer Ranger District, 308 Highway 189 North, Kemmerer, WY 83101
- Bureau of Land Management, Buffalo Field Office, 1425 Fort Street, Buffalo, WY 82834

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nancy Doelger or Mike Karbs at the above Casper Field Office address, or telephone: (307) 261-7600.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FEIS analyzes a proposal by P&M to exchange privately owned land and some mineral resources for Federal coal. The proposed exchange includes the surface and mineral estate on the parcels that would become Federal estate administered by the USDA Forest Service, Bridger-Teton National Forest (BTNF), (2,447.88 acres); and on 638.37 acres to be administered by BLM and adjacent to the BTNF. BLM would acquire 2,772.25 acres of surface to be administered in the Rawlins and Buffalo Field Offices and 807.69 acres of coal to be administered by the Buffalo Field Office. A description of the lands and resources offered to the United States Government by P&M and the tract of Federal coal selected by P&M follows.

Bridger Lands, Lincoln County, Wyoming

Of the parcels north of Kemmerer, Wyoming, known as "the Bridger Lands," approximately 2,447 acres are inholdings within in the administrative