

Research Triangle Park, NC 27709 (Hybrid Meeting).

*Closed:* December 04, 2023, 4:25 p.m. to 5:10 p.m.

*Agenda:* Meeting with Fellows, Staff Scientists.

*Place:* National Institute Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), Rodbell Auditorium, 111 TW Alexander Drive, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709 (Hybrid Meeting).

*Closed:* December 05, 2023, 8:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

*Agenda:* Q & A Sessions.

*Place:* National Institute Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), Rodbell Auditorium, 111 TW Alexander Drive, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709 (Hybrid Meeting).

*Closed:* December 05, 2023, 11:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

*Agenda:* 1:1 Session with Investigators.

*Place:* National Institute Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), Rodbell Auditorium, 111 TW Alexander Drive, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709 (Hybrid Meeting).

*Closed:* December 05, 2023, 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

*Agenda:* Working Lunch.

*Place:* National Institute Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), Rodbell Auditorium, 111 TW Alexander Drive, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709 (Hybrid Meeting).

*Closed:* December 05, 2023, 1:00 p.m. to 1:50 p.m.

*Agenda:* Meeting with Cores/Programs; Closed BSC Discussion and Completion of Individual Review Assignments by each Member; Closed Debriefing to NIEHS/DIR Leadership.

*Place:* National Institute Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), Rodbell Auditorium, 111 TW Alexander Drive, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709 (Hybrid Meeting).

*Closed:* December 05, 2023, 1:50 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

*Agenda:* BSC Discussion and Completion of Individual Review Assignments by each Member.

*Place:* National Institute Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), Rodbell Auditorium, 111 TW Alexander Drive, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709 (Hybrid Meeting).

*Closed:* December 05, 2023, 3:45 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

*Agenda:* Debriefing to NIEHS/DIR Leadership.

*Place:* National Institute Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), Rodbell Auditorium, 111 TW Alexander Drive, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709 (Hybrid Meeting).

*Contact Person:* Darryl C. Zeldin.

Any interested person may file written comments with the committee by forwarding the statement to the Contact Person listed on this notice. The statement should include the name, address, telephone number and when

applicable, the business or professional affiliation of the interested person.

In the interest of security, NIH has procedures at <https://www.nih.gov/about-nih/visitor-information/campus-access-security> for entrance into on-campus and off-campus facilities. All visitor vehicles, including taxicabs, hotel, and airport shuttles will be inspected before being allowed on campus. Visitors attending a meeting on campus or at an off-campus federal facility will be asked to show one form of identification (for example, a government-issued photo ID, driver's license, or passport) and to state the purpose of their visit.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.115, Biometry and Risk Estimation—Health Risks from Environmental Exposures; 93.142, NIEHS Hazardous Waste Worker Health and Safety Training; 93.143, NIEHS Superfund Hazardous Substances—Basic Research and Education; 93.894, Resources and Manpower Development in the Environmental Health Sciences; 93.113, Biological Response to Environmental Health Hazards; 93.114, Applied Toxicological Research and Testing, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: November 1, 2023.

**Miguelina Perez,**

*Program Analyst, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.*

[FR Doc. 2023-24507 Filed 11-3-23; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4140-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

**[FWS-R4-ES-2023-N085;  
FXES11140400000-245-FF04E00000]**

### Endangered Species; Recovery Permit Applications

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of receipt of permit applications; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, have received applications for permits to conduct activities intended to enhance the propagation or survival of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. We invite the public and local, State, Tribal, and Federal agencies to comment on these applications. Before issuing any of the requested permits, we will take into consideration any information that we receive during the public comment period.

**DATES:** We must receive written data or comments on the applications by December 6, 2023.

### ADDRESSES: *Reviewing Documents:*

Submit requests for copies of applications and other information submitted with the applications to Karen Marlowe (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**). All requests and comments should specify the applicant name and application number (e.g., Mary Smith, ESPER0001234).

*Submitting Comments:* If you wish to comment, you may submit comments by one of the following methods:

- *Email (preferred method):* [permitsR4ES@fws.gov](mailto:permitsR4ES@fws.gov). Please include your name and return address in your email message. If you do not receive a confirmation from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that we have received your email message, contact us directly at the telephone number listed in **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

- *U.S. mail:* U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Regional Office, Ecological Services, 1875 Century Boulevard, Atlanta, GA 30345 (Attn: Karen Marlowe, Permit Coordinator).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Karen Marlowe, Permit Coordinator, 404-679-7097 (telephone) or [karen\\_marlowe@fws.gov](mailto:karen_marlowe@fws.gov) (email). Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, invite review and comment from the public and local, State, Tribal, and Federal agencies on applications we have received for permits to conduct certain activities with endangered and threatened species under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and our regulations in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 50 CFR part 17. Documents and other information submitted with the applications are available for review, subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (5 U.S.C. 552a), and the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552).

### Background

With some exceptions, the ESA prohibits take of listed species unless a Federal permit is issued that authorizes such take. The ESA's definition of "take" includes hunting, shooting, harming, wounding, or killing, and also such activities as pursuing, harassing, trapping, capturing, or collecting.

A recovery permit issued by us under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the ESA authorizes the permittee to take endangered or threatened species while engaging in activities that are conducted for scientific purposes that promote recovery of species or for enhancement of propagation or survival of species. These activities often include the capture and collection of species, which would result in prohibited take if a permit were not issued. Our regulations

implementing section 10(a)(1)(A) for these permits are found at 50 CFR 17.22 for endangered wildlife species, 50 CFR 17.32 for threatened wildlife species, 50 CFR 17.62 for endangered plant species, and 50 CFR 17.72 for threatened plant species.

#### Permit Applications Available for Review and Comment

The ESA requires that we invite public comment before issuing these permits. Accordingly, we invite local,

State, Tribal, and Federal agencies, and the public to submit written data, views, or arguments with respect to these applications. The comments and recommendations that will be most useful and likely to influence agency decisions are those supported by quantitative information or studies. Proposed activities in the following permit requests are for the recovery and enhancement of propagation or survival of the species in the wild.

Permit application No.	Applicant	Species	Location	Activity	Type of take	Permit action
ES37492B-2 ..	Anthony Grow; Memphis, TN.	Mammals: Gray bat ( <i>Myotis grisescens</i> ), Indiana bat ( <i>Myotis sodalis</i> ), northern long-eared bat ( <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> ), Ozark big-eared bat ( <i>Corynorhinus townsendii ingens</i> ), and tricolored bat ( <i>Perimyotis subflavus</i> ); Crustaceans: Nashville crayfish ( <i>Orconectes shoupi</i> ).	Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.	Presence/probable absence surveys.	Mammals: enter hibernacula or maternity roost caves, capture with mist nets or harp traps, handle, identify, band, radio tag, and release; Crustaceans: capture, handle, identify, and release.	Renewal and amendment.
ES68773B-1 ..	Olivia Munzer; Raleigh, NC.	Indiana bat ( <i>Myotis sodalis</i> ), northern long-eared bat ( <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> ), and tricolored bat ( <i>Perimyotis subflavus</i> ).	Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.	Presence/probable absence surveys.	Capture with mist nets or harp traps, handle, identify, band, radio tag, swab, and release.	Renewal and amendment.
ES55292B-3 ..	University of Florida; Gainesville, FL.	Cape Sable seaside sparrow ( <i>Ammodramus maritimus mirabilis</i> ).	Florida .....	Demographic monitoring.	Capture, handle, identify, band, collect feathers, deploy data loggers in nests, and release.	Amendment.
ES027344-4 ...	Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests; Eatonton, GA.	Red-cockaded woodpecker ( <i>Picoides borealis</i> ).	Georgia .....	Population monitoring.	Monitor nest cavities and construct and monitor artificial nest cavities and restrictors.	Renewal.
ES84861C-1 ..	Power South Energy Cooperative; Andalusia, AL.	Choctaw bean ( <i>Obovaria choctawensis</i> ), fuzzy pigtoe ( <i>Pleurobema strodeanum</i> ), narrow pigtoe ( <i>Fusconaia escambia</i> ), southern kidneyshell ( <i>Ptychobranthus jonesi</i> ), and southern sandshell ( <i>Hamiota australis</i> ).	Alabama .....	Presence/probable absence surveys.	Capture, handle, identify, release, and salvage relic shells.	Renewal.

Permit application No.	Applicant	Species	Location	Activity	Type of take	Permit action
ES65968A-2 ..	Richard Dickey; Niskayuna, NY.	Alabama pearlshell ( <i>Margaritifera marrianae</i> ), Chipola slabshell ( <i>Elliptio chipolaensis</i> ), Choctaw bean ( <i>Obovaria choctawensis</i> ), fat threeridge ( <i>Amblema neisleri</i> ), fuzzy pigtoe ( <i>Pleurobema strodeanum</i> ), Gulf moccasinshell ( <i>Medionidus penicillatus</i> ), narrow pigtoe ( <i>Fusconaia escambia</i> ), Ochlockonee moccasinshell ( <i>Medionidus simpsonianus</i> ), oval pigtoe ( <i>Pleurobema pyriforme</i> ), purple bankclimber ( <i>Elliptioideus sloatianus</i> ), round ebonyshell ( <i>Fusconaia rotulata</i> ), shinyrayed pocketbook ( <i>Hamiota subangulata</i> ), southern kidneyshell ( <i>Ptychobranthus jonesi</i> ), southern sandshell ( <i>Hamiota australis</i> ), Suwannee moccasinshell ( <i>Medionidus walkeri</i> ), and tapered pigtoe ( <i>Fusconaia burkei</i> ).	Alabama, Florida, and Georgia ....	Presence/probable absence surveys and population monitoring.	Capture, handle, identify, mark, tag, release, and salvage relic shells.	Renewal.
ES25612A-3 ..	Stephen Samoray; Nashville, TN.	Tricolored bat ( <i>Perimyotis subflavus</i> ).	Colorado, New Mexico, and Texas	Presence/probable absence surveys, studies to document habitat use, population monitoring, and to evaluate potential impacts of white-nose syndrome or other threats.	Enter hibernacula or maternity roost caves, capture with mist nets or harp traps, handle, identify, band, radio tag, collect hair samples, swab, and release.	Amendment.
ES56515D-2 ..	Leslie Meade; Richmond, KY.	Tricolored bat ( <i>Perimyotis subflavus</i> ).	Colorado, District of Columbia, Florida, New Mexico, and Texas.	Presence/probable absence surveys, studies to document habitat use, population monitoring, and to evaluate potential impacts of white-nose syndrome or other threats.	Enter hibernacula or maternity roost caves, capture with mist nets or harp traps, handle, identify, band, radio tag, collect hair samples, wing punch, swab, and release.	Amendment.
ES94849B-3 ..	Copperhead Environmental Consulting, Inc.; Paint Lick, KY.	Tricolored bat ( <i>Perimyotis subflavus</i> ).	Colorado, District of Columbia, and New Mexico.	Presence/probable absence surveys, studies to document habitat use, population monitoring, and to evaluate potential impacts of white-nose syndrome or other threats.	Enter hibernacula or maternity roost caves, capture with mist nets or harp traps, handle, identify, band, radio tag, collect hair samples, wing punch, swab, and release.	Amendment.
ES78383C-1 ..	Joel Casto; Crawfordville, FL.	Red-cockaded woodpecker ( <i>Picoides borealis</i> ).	Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Texas, and Virginia.	Population management and monitoring.	Capture, band, monitor nest cavities, construct and monitor artificial nest cavities and restrictors, release, and translocate.	Renewal.
ES67197D-2 ..	Tyler Black; Chapel Hill, NC.	Dwarf wedgemussel ( <i>Alasmidonta heterodon</i> ).	Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, and Vermont.	Presence/probable absence surveys.	Capture, handle, identify, tag, release, and salvage relic shells.	Amendment.

## Public Availability of Comments

Written comments we receive become part of the administrative record associated with this action. 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. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public disclosure in their entirety.

## Next Steps

If we decide to issue a permit to an applicant listed in this notice, we will publish a notice in the **Federal Register**.

## Authority

We publish this notice under section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

**Nicole Rankin,**

*Acting Deputy Assistant Regional Director,  
Ecological Services, Southeast Region.*

[FR Doc. 2023–24494 Filed 11–3–23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4333–15–P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

[Docket No. FWS–R7–ES–2023–0101;  
FXES111607MRG01–234–FF07CAMM00]

### Marine Mammals; Incidental Take During Specified Activities; Proposed Incidental Harassment Authorization for Southcentral Alaska Stock of Northern Sea Otters in Cordova, Alaska; Draft Environmental Assessment

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of receipt of application; proposed incidental harassment authorization; draft environmental assessment; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, in response to a request under the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended, from the City of Cordova, Alaska, propose to authorize nonlethal incidental take by harassment of small

numbers of the Southcentral Alaska stock of northern sea otters (*Enhydra lutris kenyoni*) for 1 year from the date of issuance of the incidental harassment authorization. The applicant has requested this authorization for take by harassment that may result from activities associated with pile driving and marine construction activities in Cordova, Alaska. We estimate that this project may result in the nonlethal incidental take by harassment of up to 82 northern sea otters from the Southcentral stock. This proposed authorization, if finalized, will be for up to 30 takes of 5 northern sea otters by Level A harassment and 790 takes of 77 northern sea otters by Level B harassment. No lethal take is requested, or expected, and no such take will be authorized.

**DATES:** Comments on this proposed incidental harassment authorization and the accompanying draft environmental assessment must be received by December 6, 2023.

#### ADDRESSES:

**Document availability:** You may view this proposed incidental harassment authorization, the application package, supporting information, draft environmental assessment, and the list of references cited herein at <https://www.regulations.gov> under Docket No. FWS–R7–ES–2023–0101. Alternatively, you may request these documents from the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

**Comment submission:** You may submit comments on the proposed authorization by one of the following methods:

- **U.S. mail:** Public Comments Processing, Attn: Docket No. FWS–R7–ES–2023–0101, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, MS: PRB (JAO/3W), 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041–3803.

- **Electronic submission:** <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments to Docket No. FWS–R7–ES–2023–0101.

We will post all comments at <https://www.regulations.gov>. You may request that we withhold personal identifying information from public review; however, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. See Request for Public Comments for more information.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sierra Franks, by email at [R7mmmregulatory@fws.gov](mailto:R7mmmregulatory@fws.gov) or by telephone at 01–800–362–5148. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, MS 341, 1011 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, AK 99503. Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY,

TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

Section 101(a)(5)(D) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (MMPA; 16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) authorizes the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) to allow, upon request, the incidental, but not intentional, taking by harassment of small numbers of marine mammals in response to requests by U.S. citizens (as defined in title 50 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) in part 18, at 50 CFR 18.27(c)) engaged in a specified activity (other than commercial fishing) in a specified geographic region during a period of not more than 1 year. The Secretary has delegated authority for implementation of the MMPA to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (“Service” or “we”). According to the MMPA, the Service shall allow this incidental taking if we make findings that the total of such taking for the 1-year period:

- (1) is of small numbers of marine mammals of a species or stock;
- (2) will have a negligible impact on such species or stocks; and
- (3) will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of these species or stocks for taking for subsistence use by Alaska Natives.

If the requisite findings are made, we issue an authorization that sets forth the following, where applicable:

- (a) permissible methods of taking;
- (b) means of effecting the least practicable adverse impact on the species or stock and its habitat and the availability of the species or stock for subsistence uses; and

- (c) requirements for monitoring and reporting of such taking by harassment, including, in certain circumstances, requirements for the independent peer review of proposed monitoring plans or other research proposals.

The term “take” means to harass, hunt, capture, or kill, or to attempt to harass, hunt, capture, or kill any marine mammal. “Harassment” means any act of pursuit, torment, or annoyance which (i) has the potential to injure a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild (the MMPA defines this as “Level A harassment”), or (ii) has the potential to disturb a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild by causing disruption of behavioral patterns, including, but not limited to, migration, breathing, nursing, breeding, feeding, or