

available for review by request from the Program Manager for Restoration and Endangered Species Classification at the address listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice, subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a) and the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552).

Permit Number: TE-043628

Applicant: Institute for Applied Ecology, Corvallis, Oregon

The applicant requests a permit renewal with changes to take (capture, handle, and release) the Taylor's checkerspot butterfly (*Euphydryas editha taylori*), in conjunction with monitoring and habitat assessment activities, for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Public Availability of Comments

All comments and materials we receive in response to this request will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the address listed in the **ADDRESSES** section.

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.

Authority

We provide this notice under section 10 of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Dated: July 14, 2015.

Stephen Zylstra,

Acting Regional Director, Pacific Region, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 2015-18048 Filed 7-22-15; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

**[FWS-R1-ES-2015-N134;
FXES11130100000-156-FF01E00000]**

Endangered Species; Issuance of Permits

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of issuance of permits.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, have issued the following permits to conduct certain activities with endangered species

under the authority of the Endangered Species Act, as amended (Act).

ADDRESSES: Program Manager, Restoration and Endangered Species Classification, Ecological Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Pacific Regional Office, 911 NE. 11th Avenue, Portland, OR 97232-4181.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Colleen Henson, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, at the above address or by telephone (503-231-6131) or fax (503-231-6243).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: We have issued the following permits to conduct activities with endangered species in response to recovery and interstate commerce permit applications we received under the authority of section 10 of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). These permits were issued between July 1 and December 31, 2014. Each permit listed below was issued only after we determined that it was applied for in good faith, that granting the permit would not be to the disadvantage of the listed species, that the proposed activities were for scientific research or would benefit the recovery or the enhancement of survival of the species, and that the terms and conditions of the permit were consistent with the purposes and policy set forth in the Act.

Applicant	Permit number	Date issued	Date expires
Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific	096741	07/02/2014	07/01/2017
U.S. Fish And Wildlife Service, Region 1	702631	07/14/2014	07/13/2017
Renee Robinette Ha	09155B	07/16/2014	07/15/2017
Yakama Nation Wildlife Program	040238	07/17/2014	05/25/2017
Idaho Power Company	799558	08/07/2014	08/04/2018
Grette Associates, LLC	40879B	08/18/2014	08/17/2017
Directorate of Public Works, U.S. Army	043638	10/09/2014	10/08/2017
Hawaii Volcanoes National Park	018078	10/16/2014	10/15/2017
Hawaii Volcanoes National Park	739923	10/30/2014	08/22/2019
Kootenai Tribe of Idaho	798744	11/07/2014	09/28/2019
U.S. Geological Survey	21913A	11/24/2014	11/18/2018
Gifford Pinchot National Forest	019053	12/11/2014	12/10/2018
North Cascades National Park	13191A	12/11/2014	12/10/2018
Olympic National Park	048795	12/11/2014	12/10/2018

Availability of Documents

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 (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**).

Authority

We provide this notice under the section 10 of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Dated: July 14, 2015.

Stephen Zylstra,

Acting Regional Director, Pacific Region, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 2015-18053 Filed 7-22-15; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

**[FWS-HQ-IA-2015-N141;
FXIA16710900000-156-FF09A30000]**

Endangered Species; Marine Mammals; 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, marine mammals. With some exceptions, the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) prohibit 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 August 24, 2015. We must receive requests for marine mammal permit public hearings, in writing, at the address shown in the **ADDRESSES** section by August 24, 2015.

ADDRESSES: Brenda Tapia, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority, Branch of Permits, MS: IA, 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041; fax (703) 358-2281; or email DMAFR@fws.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Monica Thomas, (703) 358-2104 (telephone); (703) 358-2281 (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 street 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.*), and the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *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. Under the MMPA, you may request a hearing on any MMPA application received. If you request a hearing, give specific reasons why a hearing would be appropriate. The holding of such a hearing is at the discretion of the Service Director.

III. Permit Applications

A. Endangered Species

Applicant: Virginia Aquarium and Marine Center Foundation, Virginia Beach, VA; PRT-55108B

The applicant requests a permit to import one male and one female captive-bred false gharial (*Tomistoma schlegelii*) for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species through captive propagation.

Applicant: Brady Champion Ranch, LLC, Rochelle, TX; PRT-51308B

The applicant requests a permit authorizing interstate and foreign commerce, export, and cull of excess Barasingha (*Rucervus duvaucelii*), Eld’s deer (*Rucervus eldii*), and Red lechwe (*Kobus lechwe*) from the captive herd maintained at their 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.

Applicant: Lionshare Farm Zoological, LLC, Greenwich, CT; PRT-60641B

The applicant requests a permit to export one male and one female captive-bred cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*) for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species through reintroduction to the wild.

Applicant: California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, CA; PRT-58979B

The applicant requests a permit to import one skull of a wild brown hyena (*Parahyaena brunnea*), for the purpose of scientific research. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 1-year period.

Applicant: Recordbuck Ranch, Utopia, TX; PRT-64797A

The applicant requests a permit authorizing interstate and foreign commerce, export, and cull of excess Barasingha (*Rucervus duvaucelii*), Arabian oryx (*Oryx leucoryx*), and Red lechwe (*Kobus lechwe*) from the captive herd maintained at their 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.

Applicant: Brady Champion Ranch, LLC, Rochelle, TX; PRT-51130B

The applicant requests a captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for the species listed below to enhance species propagation or survival: Grevy’s zebra (*Equus grevyi*), Hartmann’s mountain zebra (*Equus przewalskii*), Barasingha (*Rucervus duvaucelii*), Eld’s brow-antlered deer (*Rucervus eldii*), Bontebok (*Damaliscus pygargus pygargus*), Cuvier’s gazelle (*Gazella cuvieri*), Arabian oryx (*Oryx leucoryx*), Red lechwe (*Kobus lechwe*), Seladang (*Bos gaurus*), and Banteng (*Bos javanicus*). This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Washington Park Zoo, IN;
PRT-58205B

The applicant requests a captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for the following species to enhance species propagation or survival: Ring-tailed lemur (*Lemur catta*) and Cottontop tamarin (*Saguinus oedipus*). This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History, Norman, OK; PRT-075249

The applicant requests renewal of their permit to export and reimport nonliving museum specimens of endangered and threatened species previously accessioned into the applicant's collection for scientific research. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Timothy Twietmeyer, Weston, FL; PRT-70086B

The applicant requests a permit to import a 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.

B. Endangered Marine Mammals and Marine Mammals

Applicant: Melissa McKinney, Storrs, CT; PRT-59633B

The applicant requests a permit to import and export wild walrus (*Odobenus rosmarus divergens*), (*Odobenus rosmarus rosmarus*), and polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) biological samples for the purpose of scientific research. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Concurrent with publishing this notice in the **Federal Register**, we are forwarding copies of the above applications to the Marine Mammal Commission and the Committee of Scientific Advisors for their review.

Brenda Tapia,

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

[FR Doc. 2015-18041 Filed 7-22-15; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Geological Survey

[GX15CC009UKWG00]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Request for Comments

AGENCY: U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of a new information collection, State Water Use Cooperative Funding Application

SUMMARY: We (the U.S. Geological Survey) will ask the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve the information collection (IC) described below. As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, and as part of our continuing efforts to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, we invite the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on this IC.

DATES: To ensure that your comments are considered, we must receive them on or before September 21, 2015.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments on this information collection to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, U.S. Geological Survey, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive MS 807, Reston, VA 20192 (mail); (703) 648-7197 (fax); or *gs-info_collections@usgs.gov* (email). Please reference 'Information Collection 1028-NEW, 'State Water Use Cooperative Funding Application' in all correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Melinda Dalton, USGS, at (678) 924-6637 or *msdalton@usgs.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The USGS is working with State Water Resource agencies to operate a Water Use Data and Research program (WUDR). Section 9508 of the SECURE Water Act directs the Secretary of the Interior to administer grants to State water resource agencies to assist in developing water use and availability datasets that are integrated with each appropriate dataset developed or maintained by the Secretary or grants that integrate any water use or water availability dataset of the State water resource agency into each appropriate dataset developed or maintained by the Secretary. Responsibility for administration of this State Water Use Grants program has been delegated to the U.S. Geological Survey. State Water Use Grants will be used to improve the collection and reporting of water use categories by State agencies, including

the inclusion of categories that have been discontinued in the past due to limited resources. The total authorized funding for the State Water Use Grants program is \$12,500,000 for a period of five years.

In FY15 grant funds will be awarded non-competitively, with all 50 states receiving awards (\$26,000 each) to develop workplans that outline priorities for use of grant funds, with the goal of States reporting, to the USGS, withdrawal and ancillary information for each major category of water use that improve national water withdrawal and consumptive use estimates. The USGS has developed a draft baseline standard table for all water use categories and will require that States identify current data collection levels (tiers) for each category as part of workplan development. States will be required to use these standards to identify categories for improvement in data collection and/or research activities that improve data estimation techniques nationally. For States that already meet the baseline standards, goals are provided in Tier 2 and 3 for additional data that would benefit national estimates and provide information for water availability studies by water managers, academia, federal, and or local agencies. In order to receive awards as part of the competitive process beginning in FY16, States must submit a completed workplan.

Beginning in FY16 grant funds will be announced and awarded as part of a competitive process that will be guided, annually, by a technical committee whose members will include representatives from the stakeholder community as well as USGS. State Grant funds will be coordinated with a single agency in each State and the USGS is working, through the USGS Regional Water Use Specialists, to identify which agencies will be the lead contact in each State. Collaboration and coordination with USGS personnel will be required as part of the Grants program. Data must be stored electronically and made available at the HUC-8 and county level in formats appropriate for existing USGS databases. Additionally, methods used for data collection (estimated values, coefficients, etc.) and a description of data quality assurance and control will be required.

II. Data

OMB Control Number: 1028-NEW.
Title: State Water Use Cooperative Funding Application.

Type of Request: New information collection.

Affected Public: State water-resource agencies who collect water use data.