

Individuals who want to attend the field trip must provide their own transportation and lunch. A schedule for the field trip will be available prior to departure. The council will return to the District Office approximately 1 p.m. for a business meeting. From 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., the council members and BLM support staff will host an open house for public input on the development of Standards and Guidelines for range reform. On February 15, the council will meet from 8 a.m. to approximately 4 p.m. at the Las Vegas District Office.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: The purpose of the council is to advise the Secretary of the Interior, through the BLM, on a variety of planning and management issues associated with the management of the public lands.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Lorraine Buck, Public Affairs Specialist, Las Vegas District, telephone: (702) 647-5000.

Michael F. Dwyer,
District Manager.

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[UT-912-06-0777-52]

Notice of Meeting of the Utah Resource Advisory Council

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Utah.

SUMMARY: The Utah Resource Advisory Council will meet on Friday, February 16, 1996 at the Airport Hilton Hotel, Lakeview Room, 5151 Wiley Post Way, Salt Lake City, Utah. The first half of the meeting will consist of a training session on rangeland ecology. The training will begin at 9 a.m. and conclude at 12 noon. The Council will reconvene at 1:00 p.m. to discuss various items including the development of standards and guidelines to promote rangeland health and other resource management issues affecting BLM programs within Utah and the West. A public comment period where members of the public may address the Council, is scheduled for 4:30 p.m. The meeting will conclude at approximately 5 p.m. All sessions of the Utah Resource Advisory Council meeting are open to the public.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Don Banks, Utah State Office, Bureau of Land Management, 324 S. State St., Suite 300, Salt Lake City, 84111; phone (801) 539-4021.

Dated: January 23, 1996.
G. William Lamb,
Utah BLM State Director.
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Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Receipt of Applications for Permit

The following applicants have applied 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.*):

PRT-810290

Applicant: International Wildlife Museum, Tucson, AZ.

The applicant requests a permit to import one taxidermied cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*) mount from the estate of a foreign individual to enhance the survival of the species. The cheetah was originally taken in 1992 as a personal sport-hunted trophy in Zimbabwe.

PRT-810330

Applicant: Mary Katherine Gonder, New York, NY.

The applicant requests a permit to import hair samples of chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes*) collected from sleeping nests and museum specimens in Nigeria for enhancement of the species through scientific research.

PRT-785441

Applicant: Zoological Society of San Diego, San Diego, CA.

The applicant requests a permit to import an additional captive-born female Persian fallow deer (*Dama dama mesopotamica*) from the Opel Zoo, Kronberg, Germany, to enhance the propagation of survival of the species through captive-breeding.

Written data or comments should be submitted to the Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 420(c), Arlington, Virginia 22203 and must be received by the Director within 30 days of the date of this publication.

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 to the following office within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of

Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 420(c), Arlington, Virginia 22203. Phone: (703/358-2104); FAX: (703/358-2281).

The Fish and Wildlife Service regrets that due to circumstances beyond its control, the Office of Management Authority's permitting process and other work have been significantly impacted by the recent partial Federal furlough and inclement weather. While the Fish and Wildlife Service is attempting to deal with these circumstances, please be aware that there will be delays in permit processing, response to informational inquiries, returning of phone calls, and other office activities. Your understanding and patience are greatly appreciated during this time.

The furlough of December 18 to January 5, 1996, followed by severe weather conditions the week of January 8, created a significant backlog of unprocessed permit applications, while delaying our ability to complete applications already received. The Service's Office of Management Authority processes more than 5,000 permits annually, or approximately 450 per month. Prior to the furlough, streamlined procedures had cut the processing time in half for certain permits. Due to these events, the time required to process permit applications temporarily has increased significantly.

Six hundred applications were pending at the time of the furlough, slightly more than our monthly average. During the intervening three weeks of Federal closure, 205 new applications and 114 new written requests for information were received. Due to this backlog, applications received after December 16 may require an additional 30 days beyond the normal 60-90 days. Please note that applications are being processed in date order. We anticipate needing the extra time to work through the 600 applications pending before the furlough and complete subsequent applications. Since our goal is to reduce the number of backlogged applications as quickly as possible, this activity is the office's priority until the backlog is reduced and will preclude work on other office commitments.

These circumstances also resulted in an increased volume of phone calls. We are returning calls as quickly as possible. To help us help you, leave a detailed voice mail message if a biologist is unavailable to take your call directly. You may fax specific questions to (703) 358-2281. If requesting an application, include your name, phone and fax numbers, type of activity and species. If inquiring about the status of a permit, include the date you mailed