

PRT-017229

Applicant: University of North Florida,
Jacksonville, FL

The applicant requests a permit to import preserved hatchling or egg specimens of: Green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*), up to 50s hatchlings and 25 undeveloped eggs; Hawksbill turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), up to 50 hatchlings and 18 undeveloped eggs; Leatherback turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*), up to 50 hatchlings, for scientific purposes.

PRT-691650

Applicant: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
Division of Law Enforcement, Arlington,
VA

The applicant requests renewal of a permit to import and export any Endangered or Threatened species for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the affected species through enhanced law enforcement capabilities.

The following applicants have applied 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).

PRT-017171

Applicant: Jerry Cotner, Richardson, TX

The applicant requests a permit to import a polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) sport-hunted from the Lancaster Sound polar bear population, Northwest Territories, Canada for personal use.

PRT-017419

Applicant: Dr. Darlene Ketten, Woods Hole
Oceanographic Institute, Woods Hole, MA

Permit Type: Take and import for scientific research.

Name and Number of Animals:

Dugong (*Dugong dugong*).

Summary of Activity to be

Authorized: The applicant requests a permit to obtain 3 heads for the purpose of scientific research as part of study on how the structural elements of marine mammal ears contribute to underwater hearing.

Source of Marine Mammals: Dugongs obtained post-mortem in the Torres Straits, Australia.

Period of Activity: Up to 5 years, if issued.

PRT-017421

Applicant: Donald E. Lenig, Lancaster, PA

The applicant requests a permit to import a polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) sport-hunted taken prior to April 30, 1994 from the Lancaster Sound polar bear population, Northwest Territories, Canada, for personal use.

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

Written data or comments, requests for copies of the complete application, or requests for a public hearing on this application should be sent to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203, telephone 703/358-2104 or fax 703/358-2281 and must be received within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice. 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.

Documents and other information submitted for these applications are available for review by any party who submits a written request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Rm 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203. Phone (703) 358-2104 or Fax (703) 358-2281.

Dated: September 17, 1999.

Kristen Nelson,

Acting Chief, Branch of Permits, Office of Management Authority.

[FR Doc. 99-24705 Filed 9-21-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Availability of Draft Habitat-Based Recovery Criteria for the Grizzly Bear (*Ursus arctos horribilis*) for Review and Comment

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: In 64 FR 38464, July 16, 1999, we announced the availability for public review of draft habitat-based recovery criteria for the grizzly bear (*Ursus arctos horribilis*) in the Yellowstone Ecosystem. Final habitat-based recovery criteria will be appended to the Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan. We solicited review and comment from the public on this draft information until September 14, 1999. This notice extends the comment period for 45 days, until October 30, 1999.

DATES: Comments on the draft habitat-based recovery criteria must be received on or before October 30, 1999, to ensure

that they will be considered when we finalize the criteria.

ADDRESSES: Persons wishing to review the draft habitat-based recovery criteria may obtain a copy by contacting the Grizzly Bear Recovery Coordinator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, University Hall, Room 309, University of Montana, Missoula, Montana 59812. Written comments and materials regarding this information should be sent to the Recovery Coordinator at the address given above. Comments may also be submitted by e-mail to:

FW6_grizzly@fws.gov. Please include the "Habitat Criteria" in the subject line of your message. Comments and materials received are available on request for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Christopher Servheen, Grizzly Bear Recovery Coordinator (see ADDRESSES above), at telephone (406) 243-4903.

Authority: The authority for this action is section 4(f) of the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. 1533(f).

Dated: September 15, 1999.

Terry Terrell,

Regional Director, Denver, Colorado.

[FR Doc. 99-24532 Filed 9-21-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Availability of Draft Habitat Conservation Plan, Receipt of Application for; and Intent To Issue, Incidental Take Permit for Installation of a 2,500-foot Television Coaxial Cable on Private Property in Garfield County, UT

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Availability, Receipt of Application for, and Intent to Issue Permit.

SUMMARY: South Central Utah Telephone Association (Applicant) has applied to the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) for an incidental take permit pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). The Applicant has been assigned permit number TE-017010. The request permit, which is for a period of 1 year, would authorize incidental take of the threatened Utah prairie dog (*Cynomys parvidens*). The proposed take would occur as a result of installation of a 2,500-foot television coaxial cable on a privately-owned

parcel of land located within Garfield County, Utah.

The Service has determined that issuance of the incidental take permit meets the criteria for a categorical exclusion under the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act, and that there is consequently no necessity for the development of an Environmental Assessment. The Applicant has prepared a Habitat Conservation Plan as part of the incidental take permit application. A determination of whether jeopardy to the species will occur and/or issuance of the incidental take permit, will not be made before 30 days from the date of publication of this notice. This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(c) of the Act and National Environmental Policy Act regulations (40 CFR 1506.6).

DATES: Written comments on the permit application must be received on or before October 22, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Persons wishing to review the permit application and/or Habitat Conservation Plan may obtain a copy by writing to the Assistant Field Supervisor, Utah Ecological Services Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 145 East 1300 South Street, Suite 404, Salt Lake City, Utah 84115. Documents will be available for public inspection by written request, or by appointment only, during business hours (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) at the above address.

Written data or comments concerning the permit application should be submitted to the Assistant Field Supervisor, Utah Ecological Services Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Salt Lake City, Utah (see **ADDRESSES** above). Please refer to permit number TE-017010 in all correspondence regarding these documents.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David McGillivray, Assistant Field Supervisor or Ted Owens, Wildlife Biologist, at the above U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service office in Salt Lake City, Utah (see **ADDRESSES** above) (telephone: (801) 524-5001, facsimile: (801) 524-5021).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 9 of the Act prohibits the "taking" of any threatened or endangered species, such as the threatened Utah prairie dog. However, the Service, under limited circumstances, may issue permits to take threatened or endangered wildlife species when such taking is incidental to, and not the purpose of, otherwise lawful activities. Regulations governing permits for threatened and endangered species are at 50 CFR 17.22.

Applicant

The Applicant plans to install a 2,500-foot television coaxial cable within a 10-foot right-of-way across private land parallel to State Route 12 near the junction of U.S. Highway 89 and State Route 12 (Red Canyon Junction), approximately 8 miles southeast of the town of Panguitch, Garfield County, Utah. The cable installation will provide television cable services to the local residents, motels, and recreational vehicle campgrounds located in the area. The installation will impact approximately 0.133 acre of occupied Utah prairie dog habitat, and the Applicant foresees an incidental take of a maximum of four (4) Utah prairie dogs as a result of direct mortality during installation. The Applicant proposes to minimize impacts to Utah prairie dogs through conducting a preconstruction information meeting for construction personnel and through minimization of the cable installation's footprint and the time spent working in occupied Utah prairie dog habitat. The Applicant proposes to compensate for the habitat disturbance resulting from cable installation by payment of \$900 per acre for each acre impacted, to be used for public land management actions for Utah prairie dog conservation and to implement recovery actions for conservation of the Utah prairie dog, through contribution to the Utah Prairie Dog Conservation Fund, managed by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

A no-action alternative to the proposed action was considered, consisting of foregoing the installation of the 2,500 television cable in Utah prairie dog habitat. The no-action alternative was rejected for reasons including loss of use of private property, resulting in significant economic loss to the Applicant.

Authority: The authority for this action is the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*)

Dated: September 9, 1999.

Terry Terrell,

Deputy Regional Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Denver, Colorado.

[FR Doc. 99-24684 Filed 9-21-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Issuance of Permit for Marine Mammals

On May 13, 1999 a notice was published in the **Federal Register**,

Vol.64, No.92, page 25899, that an application had been filed with the Fish and Wildlife Service by Ferris State University, MI, for a permit (PRT-838026) to import one donated, taxidermied polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) for the purpose of public display.

Notice is hereby given that on August 16, 1999, as authorized by the provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, *as amended* (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) the Fish and Wildlife Service authorized the requested permit subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

On, July 19, 1999 a notice was published in the **Federal Register**, Vol.64, No.137, page 38687, that an application had been filed with the Fish and Wildlife Service by Toledo Zoological Gardens, Toledo, OH, for a permit (014704) to import one live, captive-born female polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) for the purpose of public display and scientific study.

Notice is hereby given that on September 10, 1999, as authorized by the provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, *as amended* (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) the Fish and Wildlife Service authorized the requested permit subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

Documents and other information submitted for these applications are available for review by any party who submits a written request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Rm 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203. Phone (703) 358-2104 or Fax (703) 358-2281.

Documents and other information submitted with the application 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 above address within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice.

Dated: September 17, 1999.

Kristen Nelson,

Acting Chief, Branch of Permits, Office of Management Authority.

[FR Doc. 99-24706 Filed 9-21-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force Western Regional Panel Meeting

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.