

Authority: 5 U.S.C. appendix 2.

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Assistant Director—External Affairs.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[Docket No. FWS–HQ–IA–2022–0138;
FXIA16710900000–223–FF09A30000]

Marine Mammal Protection Act; Receipt of Permit Application

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service,
Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of permit
application; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), invite the public to comment on foreign or native species for which the Service has jurisdiction under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). With some exceptions, the MMPA prohibits activities with listed species unless Federal authorization is issued that allows such activities. This Act also requires that we invite public comment before issuing permits for any activity otherwise prohibited with respect to any species.

DATES: We must receive comments by December 28, 2022.

ADDRESSES:

Obtaining Documents: The application, application supporting materials, and any comments and other materials that we receive will be available for public inspection at <https://www.regulations.gov> in Docket No. FWS–HQ–IA–2022–0138.

Submitting Comments: When submitting comments, please specify the name of the applicant and the permit number at the beginning of your comment. You may submit comments by one of the following methods:

- *Internet:* <https://www.regulations.gov>.

Search for and submit comments on Docket No. FWS–HQ–IA–2022–0138.

- *U.S. Mail:* Public Comments Processing, Attn: Docket No. FWS–HQ–IA–2022–0138; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters, MS: PRB/3W; 5275 Leesburg Pike; Falls Church, VA 22041–3803.

For more information, see Public Comment Procedures under

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Brenda Tapia, by phone at 703–358–2185 or via email at DMAFR@fws.gov. 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:

I. Public Comment Procedures

A. How do I comment on submitted applications?

We invite the public and local, State, Tribal, and Federal agencies to comment on applications. Before issuing permits, we take into consideration any information that we receive during the public comment period.

You may submit your comments and materials by one of the methods in **ADDRESSES**. We will not consider comments sent by email or to an address not in **ADDRESSES**. We will not consider or include in our administrative record comments we receive after the close of the comment period (see **DATES**).

When submitting comments, please specify the name of the applicant and the permit number at the beginning of your comment. Provide sufficient information 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.

B. May I review comments submitted by others?

You may view and comment on others' public comments at <https://www.regulations.gov> unless our allowing so would violate the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a) or Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552).

C. Who will see my comments?

If you submit a comment at <https://www.regulations.gov>, your entire comment, including any personal identifying information, will be posted on the website. If you submit a hardcopy comment that includes personal identifying information, such as your address, phone number, or email address, you may request at the top of your document that we withhold this information from public review. However, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Moreover, 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.

II. Background

To help us carry out our conservation responsibilities for affected species, and in consideration of section 104(c) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (MMPA; 16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), we invite public comments on permit applications before final action is taken. With some exceptions, this Act prohibits certain activities with listed species unless Federal authorization is issued that allows such activities. Service regulations regarding permits for any activity otherwise prohibited by the MMPA with respect to any marine mammals are available in title 50 of the Code of Federal Regulations in part 18.

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

III. Permit Application

We invite comments on the following application.

Applicant: Alaska Veterinary Pathology Services, Eagle River, AK; Permit No. PER0032559

The applicant requests a permit to export samples collected from dead stranded polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*), Pacific walrus (*Odobenus rosmarus divergens*), and non-distinct population segment northern sea otter (*Enhydra lutris kenyoni*) for the purpose of scientific research. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

IV. Next Steps

After the comment period closes, we will make a decision regarding permit issuance. If we issue a permit to the applicant in this notice, we will publish a notice in the **Federal Register**. You may locate the notice announcing the permit issuance by searching <https://www.regulations.gov> for the permit number listed above in this document. For example, to find information about the potential issuance of Permit No. 12345A, you would go to [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov) and search for “12345A”.

V. Authority

We issue this notice under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16

U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), and its implementing regulations.

Brenda Tapia,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Geological Survey

[GR23RB00TU77E00; OMB Control Number 1028-NEW]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and Approval; Values Mapping for Planning in Regional Ecosystems (VaMPIRE) Public Participatory GIS Mapping Application

AGENCY: U.S. Geological Survey, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of information collection; request for comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA), the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) is proposing a new information collection.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before December 28, 2022.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function. Written comments can also be sent by mail to U.S. Geological Survey, Information Collections Officer, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS 159, Reston, VA 20192; or by email to gs-info_collections@usgs.gov. Please reference OMB Control Number 1028-NEW in the subject line of your comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request additional information about this Information Collection Request (ICR), contact Rudy Schuster by email at schusterr@usgs.gov, or by telephone at 970-226-9165. 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. You may also view the ICR at <http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the PRA and 5 CFR 1320.8(d)(1), we provide the general public and other Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on new, proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public’s reporting burden. It also helps the public understand our information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format.

A **Federal Register** notice with a 60-day public comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on April 28, 2022 (87 FR 25288). We received one comment asking to receive a copy of the draft ICR. We responded that we would send the ICR once it is complete.

As part of our continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burdens, we are again soliciting comments from the public and other Federal agencies on the proposed ICR that is described below. We are especially interested in public comment addressing the following:

- (1) Whether or not the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether or not the information will have practical utility;
- (2) The accuracy of our estimate of the burden for this collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- (3) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- (4) How the agency might minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.*, permitting electronic submission of response.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personally identifiable information (PII) in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your PII—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your PII from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Abstract: The USGS developed a Public Participatory GIS (PPGIS) mapping application to aid in gathering information from Bureau of Land Management (BLM) visitors about their uses of and values for public lands and waters. The BLM is mandated by the Federal Land and Policy Management Act of 1976 to manage public lands for multiple uses, including outdoor recreation and human use. This information collection would provide data on human uses of and values for public lands and waters for consideration during Federal planning, permitting, and management efforts. The PPGIS tool used to collect data is called the Values Mapping for Planning in Regional Ecosystems (VaMPIRE) application. VaMPIRE is a partnership with the BLM and is designed to gather spatially referenced data on the values people attach to places and the activities they do on BLM lands. The spatially referenced data can be used to identify landscape values; how proposed management actions might affect use and value; where potential conflicts might occur; and high-performing areas where multiple values can co-exist. The mapping application incorporates a survey designed to assess behavioral changes by the public based on land use and explores if visitors would change locations, activities, or frequency of visits given possible land-use change scenarios. VaMPIRE also identifies if there is an overall change in the value received from public lands under specified management changes.

This information collection would pilot test the use of VaMPIRE in three different locations, using different methodologies that are appropriate for each location and context. In the Moab (Utah) area, data will be collected online by emailing a link to the application and survey to visitors who reserved BLM campgrounds or permits in certain locations. In Mojave Trails National Monument (California), data will be collected online by emailing the link to interested-party email lists BLM maintains. In San Luis Valley (Colorado), data will be collected through in-person workshops to reach local community members.

Title of Collection: Public Participatory GIS mapping application and visitor survey.

OMB Control Number: 1028-NEW.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: New.

Respondents/Affected Public: Individuals (Visitors to Bureau of Land Management Lands).

Total Estimated Number of Annual Respondents: 1,333.