

public record. 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.

Abstract: The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703–712) designates the Department of the Interior as the primary agency responsible for managing migratory bird populations frequenting the United States and setting hunting regulations that allow for the well-being of migratory bird populations. These responsibilities dictate that we gather accurate data on various characteristics of migratory bird populations.

The Service's fall survey for the eastern population of the sandhill crane was established in 1979. It is implemented by State and Federal agencies and public volunteers from eight States in the Atlantic and Mississippi Flyways, as well as Ontario, Canada. Sandhill cranes are widely dispersed during the breeding and wintering seasons and are difficult to count. The optimal time to survey cranes is during the last week of October, when the majority of eastern population cranes breeding in Canada migrate to traditional staging grounds in the Great Lakes States (e.g., the Jasper-Pulaski Fish and Wildlife Area, in Medaryville, Indiana). Since the initial survey in 1979, crane numbers have increased to over 90,000 birds.

The information collected through this survey is vital in assessing the relative changes in the geographic distribution of the species. We use the information primarily to inform managers of changes in sandhill crane distribution and population trends. Without information on the population's status, we might promulgate hunting regulations that:

- Are not sufficiently restrictive, which could cause harm to the sandhill crane population, or
- Are too restrictive, which would unduly restrict recreational opportunities afforded by sandhill crane hunting.

Notifications for the survey are sent to volunteers, and data results are entered into the data portal (<https://www.fws.gov/epsandhill/>) in order to calculate numbers of sandhill cranes. This survey is conducted via an online survey platform to reduce cost, improve

data quality, and decrease respondent burden. This survey has no statistical design. We collect the following information in conjunction with the account setup process and survey data submission:

- Account setup process:
 - Email address,
 - Username,
 - Photo (optional),
 - Option for other users to contact the registrant,
 - Time zone,
 - First and last name,
 - Phone number, and
 - Start date.
- Survey data submission:
 - Data submission location via online map,
 - Date and time of observation,
 - Number of cranes,
 - Method (ground count or point count),
 - Habitat (agricultural field, sandbar, wetland, or mixed-wetland agricultural field), and
 - Any additional notes the user would like to submit.

Upon request, copies of the screenshots for the web survey are available by sending a request to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer at Info_Coll@fws.gov.

Title of Collection: Online Eastern Population Sandhill Crane Survey Data Entry Portal.

OMB Control Number: 1018–0185.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Respondents/Affected Public: Individuals and State agencies.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Respondents: 112.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 157.

Estimated Completion Time per Response: Varies from 3 minutes to 5 minutes, depending on activity.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 11.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

Frequency of Collection: One time for the initial registration, and on occasion for survey submission.

Total Estimated Annual Nonhour Burden Cost: None.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

The authority for this action is the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

Madonna Baucum,

Information Collection Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 2024–14710 Filed 7–3–24; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[Docket No. FWS–HQ–IA–2024–0116; FXIA1671090000–245–FF09A30000]

Foreign Endangered Species; Receipt of 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, invite the public to comment on applications to conduct certain activities with foreign species that are listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). With some exceptions, the ESA prohibits activities with listed species unless Federal authorization is issued that allows such activities. The ESA also requires that we invite public comment before issuing permits for any activity otherwise prohibited by the ESA with respect to any endangered species.

DATES: We must receive comments by August 5, 2024.

ADDRESSES: *Obtaining Documents:* The applications, 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–2024–0116.

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–2024–0116.

- **U.S. mail:** Public Comments Processing, Attn: Docket No. FWS–HQ–IA–2024–0116; 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 these applications. Before issuing any of the requested permits, we will 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 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), we invite public comments on permit applications before final action is taken. With some exceptions, the ESA prohibits certain activities with listed species unless Federal authorization is issued that allows such activities. Permits issued under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the ESA allow otherwise prohibited activities for scientific purposes or to enhance the propagation or survival of the affected species. Service regulations regarding prohibited activities with endangered species, captive-bred wildlife registrations, and permits for any activity otherwise prohibited by the ESA with respect to any endangered species are available in title 50 of the Code of Federal Regulations in part 17.

III. Permit Applications

We invite comments on the following applications.

Applicant: Zoological Subdistrict of the Metropolitan Zoological Park and Museum District dba Saint Louis Zoo, St. Louis, MO; Permit No. PER10867343

The applicant requests a permit to export two live, captive-born ring-tailed lemurs (*Lemur catta*) to Zoologico de Cali, Colombia, for the purpose of enhancing the propagation or survival of the species. This notification is for a single export.

Applicant: Cornell University Animal Health Diagnostic Center and NYS Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, Ithaca, NY; Permit No. PER10970319

On November 21, 2022, we published a **Federal Register** notice inviting the public to comment on an application for a permit to conduct certain activities with endangered species (87 FR 70860). The permit was issued on February 15, 2023, for activities to be conducted over a 1-year period. The permittee did not utilize their permit within the 1-year period and has applied for a renewal. We are opening a new comment period to allow the public the opportunity to review the information submitted as part of the renewal request for the import of biological samples collected from captive-bred African wild dogs (*Lycaon pictus*) for the purpose of

scientific research. This notification is for a single import.

Applicant: University of New Orleans, New Orleans, LA; Permit No. PER5817086

On February 9, 2024, we published a **Federal Register** notice inviting the public to comment on an application for a permit to conduct certain activities with endangered species (89 FR 9170). We are now reopening the comment period to allow the public the opportunity to review additional information submitted for the import of hair and blood samples collected from wild lowland tapir (*Tapirus terrestris*) for the purpose of scientific research. This notification is for a single import.

Applicant: Wild Wonders, Bonsall, CA; Permit No. PER10468252

The applicant requests a permit to purchase in interstate commerce for one captive-born cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*) from Metro Richmond Zoo, Moseley, Virginia, for the purpose of enhancing the propagation or survival of the species. This notification is for a single interstate commerce activity.

Applicant: University of Florida, Archie Carr Center for Sea Turtle Research, Gainesville, FL; Permit No. PER11113890

The applicant requests authorization to import biological samples of green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*), loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*), hawksbill sea turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), Kemp's ridley sea turtle (*Lepidochelys kempii*), olive ridley sea turtle (*Lepidochelys olivacea*), and leatherback sea turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*) for the purpose of scientific research. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 1-year period.

IV. Next Steps

After the comment period closes, we will make decisions regarding permit issuance. If we issue permits to any of the applicants listed 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 Endangered Species Act

of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *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

Fish and Wildlife Service

[Docket No. FWS-R3-ES-2024-0088; FXES1114030000-245-FF03E00000]

Draft Environmental Assessment and Proposed Habitat Conservation Plan; Receipt of an Application for an Amended Incidental Take Permit, Cardinal Point Wind Project, McDonough and Warren Counties, Illinois

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability; request for comment and information.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), have received an application from Cardinal Point Wind Farm, LLC (applicant), to amend its existing incidental take permit (ITP) under the Endangered Species Act, for its Cardinal Point Wind Project (project). The applicant requests that the ITP be amended to include an increased take authorization for the tricolored bat. We request public comment on the application, which includes the applicant's revised HCP, and the Service's draft supplemental environmental assessment, prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. The Service provides this notice to seek comments from the public and Federal, Tribal, State, and local governments.

DATES: We will accept comments received or postmarked on or before August 5, 2024.

ADDRESSES: *Obtaining Documents:* Electronic copies of the documents this notice announces, along with public comments received, will be available online in Docket No. FWS-R3-ES-2024-0088 at <https://www.regulations.gov>.

Submitting Comments: If you wish to submit comments on any of the documents, you may do so in writing by one of the following methods:

- *Online:* <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments on Docket No. FWS-R3-ES-2024-0088.

- *U.S. mail:* Public Comments Processing, Attn: Docket No. FWS-R3-ES-2024-0088; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; 5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: PRB/3W; Falls Church, VA 22041-3803.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kraig McPeck, Field Supervisor, Illinois-Iowa Ecological Services Field Office, by email at kraig_mcpeck@fws.gov or by telephone at 309-757-5800, extension 202; or Andrew Horton, Regional HCP Coordinator, by email at andrew_horton@fws.gov or by telephone at 612-713-5337. 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 (Service), have received an application from Cardinal Point Wind Farm, LLC (applicant), to amend its existing incidental take permit (ITP) for four bat species under the Endangered Species Act, for its Cardinal Point Wind Project (project). The applicant requests that the ITP be amended to include an increased take authorization for the tricolored bat. The taking will be incidental to the otherwise lawful activities associated with the project. The applicant will continue the original conservation program to minimize and mitigate for the unavoidable incidental take as described in their habitat conservation plan (HCP) and will now include additional mitigation for the tricolored bat as well as updated adaptive management measures. The Service requests public comment on the application, which includes the applicant's revised HCP, and the Service's draft supplemental environmental assessment, prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. The Service provides this notice to seek comments from the public and Federal, Tribal, State, and local governments.

Background

Section 9 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and its implementing regulations prohibit the "take" of animal species listed as endangered or threatened. Take is defined under the ESA as to "harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect "listed animal species," or to attempt to engage in such

conduct" (16 U.S.C. 1538). However, under section 10(a) of the ESA, we may issue permits to authorize incidental take of listed species. "Incidental take" is defined by the ESA as take that is incidental to, and not the purpose of, carrying out an otherwise lawful activity. Regulations governing incidental take permits for endangered and threatened species, respectively, are found in the Code of Federal Regulations at 50 CFR 17.22 and 50 CFR 17.32.

On June 27, 2023, we published a **Federal Register** notice announcing receipt of an application for an ITP from the applicant, and opened a 30-day comment period, which ended on July 27, 2023 (88 FR 41655). After determining that the application met the requirements of section 10(a) of the ESA and evaluating the effects of the proposed take pursuant to section 7 of the ESA, we determined that the permit issuance criteria of section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA were met and issued the requested ITP.

Applicant's Proposed Project

The applicant requests an amendment to the existing ITP for take of the federally endangered Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), federally endangered northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), the tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*; proposed for listing) and the unlisted little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*). The applicant determined through post-permit monitoring that take of tricolored bats at the 60-turbine wind project is very likely to exceed their currently permitted level; therefore, they are requesting a revised take authorization for this species only. The currently authorized take rate for the tricolored bat is 3 per year for the 6-year permit duration, for a total authorized ITP take of 18. The new requested take rate for the tricolored bat is 25 per year for the permit duration, to reflect changes to the project, bringing the total authorized ITP take to 150.

The Service requests public comments on the permit application, which includes an amended HCP, and a supplemental EA prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA; 42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*).

The applicant's HCP and amendments describe the activities that will be undertaken to implement the project, as well as the mitigation and minimization measures proposed to address the impacts to the covered species. Pursuant to NEPA, the supplemental EA analyzes the impacts the ITP amendment would