

activities with endangered species authorized by section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and our regulations governing the taking of endangered species in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 50 CFR part 17. Submit your written data, comments, or request for a copy of the complete application to the mailing address or email address shown in **ADDRESSES**.

Permit Applications

Permit Application Number: TE35517B

Applicant: Bryan Arnold, Illinois College, Jacksonville, IL

The applicant requests a permit renewal, with amendments to the existing permit to take (capture and release, conduct nonlethal sampling, and radio-tag) Florida bonneted bat (*Eumops floridanus*) and add the State of Florida. Proposed activities are for the recovery and enhancement of survival of the species in the wild.

Permit Application Number: 81974B

Applicant: Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL

The applicant requests a permit to take (conduct phylogeny studies) pallid sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*) and shovelnose sturgeon (*S. platyrhynchus*) in Illinois. Proposed activities are for the recovery and enhancement of survival of the species in the wild.

Permit Application Number: 81973B

Applicant: Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest and Northern Research Station, Washburn, WI

The applicant requests a permit to take (capture and release, conduct nonlethal sampling, band, and radio-tag) Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and northern long-eared bat (*M. septentrionalis*) in the States of Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania, Vermont, and Wisconsin. Proposed activities are for the recovery and enhancement of survival of the species in the wild.

Permit Application Number: 81968B

Applicant: Curtis Hart, Hudson, MI

The applicant requests a permit to take (capture and release, harass, conduct nonlethal sampling, band, trap, radio-tag, and salvage) Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), northern long-eared bat (*M. septentrionalis*), Virginia big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii virginianus*), and Ozark big-eared bat (*C. t. ingens*) in the States of Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland,

Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming. Proposed activities are for the recovery and enhancement of survival of the species in the wild.

Permit Application Number: TE697830

Applicant: Assistant Regional Director, Ecological Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bloomington, MN

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take listed species that occur within the States of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin for activities to recover the species and enhance the survival of the species in the wild.

Request for Public Comments

We seek public review and comments on these permit applications. Please refer to the permit number when you submit comments. Comments and materials we receive are available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the address shown 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.

Dated: January 27, 2016.

Lynn M. Lewis,

Assistant Regional Director, Ecological Services, Midwest Region.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R6-ES-2015-N246];
[FXES11130600000-167-FF06E00000]

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Recovery Permit Applications

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, invite the public to comment on the following applications to conduct activities intended to enhance the survival of endangered or threatened species.

DATES: To ensure consideration, please send your written comments by March 3, 2016.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments or requests for copies or more information by any of the following methods. Alternatively, you may use one of the following methods to request hard copies or a CD-ROM of the documents. Please specify the permit you are interested in by number (*e.g.*, Permit No. TE-XXXXXX).

- *Email:* permitsR6ES@fws.gov. Please refer to the respective permit number (*e.g.*, Permit No. TE-XXXXXX) in the subject line of the message.
- *U.S. Mail:* Ecological Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 25486-DFC, Denver, CO 80225.

- *In-Person Drop-off, Viewing, or Pickup:* Call (719) 628-2670 to make an appointment during regular business hours at 134 Union Blvd., Suite 645, Lakewood, CO 80228.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kathy Konishi, Recovery Permits Coordinator, Ecological Services, (719) 628-2670 (phone); permitsR6ES@fws.gov (email).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) prohibits certain activities with endangered and threatened species unless authorized by a Federal permit. Along with our implementing regulations at 50 CFR 17, the Act provides for permits and requires that we invite public comment before issuing these permits for endangered species.

A permit granted by us under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Act authorizes the permittees to conduct activities with U.S. endangered or threatened species for scientific purposes, enhancement of propagation or survival, or interstate commerce (the latter only in the event that it facilitates scientific purposes or enhancement of propagation or survival). Our regulations implementing section 10(a)(1)(A) for these permits are found at 50 CFR 17.22 for endangered wildlife species, 50 CFR 17.32 for threatened wildlife species, 50 CFR 17.62 for endangered plant species, and 50 CFR 17.72 for threatened plant species.

Applications Available for Review and Comment

We invite local, State, and Federal agencies and the public to comment on the following applications. Documents and other information the applicants have submitted with their applications are available for review, subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a) and Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552).

Permit Application Number TE85057B

Applicant: George Cunningham, Omaha, NE.

The applicant requests a permit to conduct presence/absence surveys for Topeka shiner (*Notropis topeka*) in Nebraska, Kansas, and South Dakota to conduct presence/absence surveys for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit Application Number TE047288

Applicant: National Park Service, Heartland Network, Republic, MO.

The applicant requests a renewal to an existing permit to continue presence/absence surveys for Topeka shiner (*Notropis topeka*) in Kansas and Minnesota for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit Application Number TE85664B

Applicant: Wingate Biological Solutions, LLC, Durango, CO.

The applicant requests a permit to conduct survey and monitoring activities for the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) in Colorado, Utah, New Mexico, and Arizona for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit Application Number TE056001

Applicant: East Dakota Water Development District, Brookings, SD.

The applicant requests a renewal to an existing permit to continue presence/absence surveys for Topeka shiner (*Notropis topeka*) in Kansas and Minnesota for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

National Environmental Policy Act

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), we have made an initial determination that the proposed activities in these permits are categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement (516 DM 6 Appendix 1, 1.4C(1)).

Public Availability of Comments

All comments and materials we receive in response to these requests

will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the address listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

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.*).

Michael G. Thabault,

Assistant Regional Director, Mountain-Prairie Region.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[LLCON00000 L10200000 DF0000.LXSS080C0000]

Notice of Public Meetings, Northwest Resource Advisory Council Meeting

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (FACA), the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Northwest Resource Advisory Council (RAC) will meet as indicated below.

DATES: The Northwest RAC has scheduled meetings August 18 and December 8, 2016, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. with public comment periods regarding matters on the agenda at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. A specific agenda for each meeting will be available prior to the meetings at http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/BLM_Resources/racs/nwrac.html.

ADDRESSES: The August 18 meeting will be held in Craig, Colorado, at the Craig Memorial Hospital on 750 Hospital Loop, Craig, CO 81625. The December 8 meeting will be held at the Courtyard by Marriott, 765 Horizon Drive, Grand Junction, CO 81506.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Chris Joyner, Public Affairs Specialist, Grand Junction Field Office, 2815 H Road, Grand Junction, CO 81506, or by

telephone at (970) 244-3097. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to contact the above individual during normal business hours. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to leave a message or question with the above individual. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Northwest RAC advises the Secretary of the Interior, through the BLM, on a variety of public land issues in northwestern Colorado.

Topics of discussion during Northwest RAC meetings may include management of Greater Sage-Grouse, working group reports, recreation, fire management, land use planning, invasive species management, energy and minerals management, travel management, wilderness, wild horse herd management, land exchange proposals, cultural resource management, and other issues as appropriate.

These meetings are open to the public. Subcommittees under this RAC may meet this year regarding travel management in the White River Field Office. Active subcommittees report to the NW RAC at each council meeting. Subcommittee meetings are open to the public. More information is available at http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/BLM_Resources/racs/nwrac.html. The public may present written comments to the RACs. Each formal RAC meeting will also have time, as identified above, allocated for hearing public comments. Depending on the number of persons wishing to comment and time available, the time for individual oral comments may be limited.

Ruth Welch,

BLM Colorado State Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

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Notice of Meeting of the Northwest Oregon Resource Advisory Council

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act and the Federal Advisory