

Wyoming ranchers with the opportunity to voluntarily conserve greater sage-grouse and its habitat while carrying out their ranching activities. Ranchers may apply for an enhancement of survival permit under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA), by agreeing to implement certain conservation measures in the Umbrella CCAA that apply to their properties. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, we also prepared a draft environmental assessment (EA) that analyzes the potential impacts to the human environment from the proposed Umbrella CCAA and alternatives to the action.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted by March 11, 2013.

**ADDRESSES:** Send written comments by U.S. mail to Tyler Abbott, Deputy Field Supervisor, Wyoming Ecological Services Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 5353 Yellowstone Road, Suite 308A, Cheyenne, WY 82009, or via email to [WYSagegrouseCCAA@fws.gov](mailto:WYSagegrouseCCAA@fws.gov). You also may send comments by facsimile to 307-772-2358. The draft CCAA and EA are available on our Mountain-Prairie Region Ecological Services Web site at [www.fws.gov/wyominges/](http://www.fws.gov/wyominges/). You also may review copies of these documents during regular business hours at the Wyoming Ecological Services Field Office (see address above). If you do not have access to the Web site or cannot visit our office, you may request copies by telephone at 307-772-2374 ext. 231 or by letter to the Wyoming Field Office.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Tyler Abbott, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 307-772-2374 ext. 231; [tyler\\_abbott@fws.gov](mailto:tyler_abbott@fws.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under a Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA), participating landowners voluntarily undertake management activities on their property to enhance, restore, or maintain habitat benefiting species that are proposed for listing or candidates for listing under the ESA, or those species that may become candidates. A CCAA, and the subsequent permits that are issued pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(A) of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), encourage private and non-Federal property owners to implement conservation efforts for species by assuring property owners that they will not be subjected to increased land use restrictions as a result of efforts to attract or increase the numbers or distribution of a listed species on their property if that species becomes listed under the ESA in the future. CCAA permit application

requirements and issuance criteria are found in 50 CFR 17.22(d) and 17.32(d).

On March 23, 2010, the Service determined that listing the greater sage-grouse (*Centrocercus urophasianus*) under the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1538) was warranted, but precluded by the need to address higher priority species first. As result, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, in coordination with the Wyoming Governor's Office, the Bureau of Land Management, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Wyoming Department of Agriculture, Wyoming Game and Fish Department, and the Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts, developed a draft statewide umbrella CCAA for ranch management. The intent of the umbrella CCAA is to use voluntary, proactive conservation measures to reduce or remove threats to the greater sage-grouse, thereby potentially reducing the need to list the species. The draft umbrella CCAA covers an area of approximately 17 million acres of privately owned lands within the range of the greater sage-grouse in Wyoming.

The draft umbrella CCAA contains a comprehensive menu of conservation measures designed to reduce or remove each identified potential threat to the greater sage-grouse that may occur on a ranching operation in Wyoming. This approach allows each interested rancher to select conservation measures specific to their operation, rather than require each participant to conform to one prescriptive action. A private landowner who wishes to enroll in the umbrella CCAA would develop a streamlined individual CCAA for the enrolled property. Partner agencies would assist the landowner in selecting the conservation measures from the umbrella CCAA that would address threats occurring on the property to be enrolled. Each landowner would submit their individual CCAA to the Service to apply for a section 10(a)(1)(A) permit for take of the sage-grouse incidental to conservation and ranching activities, should the species become listed.

The Service and other participating agencies have also prepared a draft EA that considers the potential impacts of implementing the umbrella CCAA and issuing assurances and individual permits to private landowners participating in the umbrella CCAA.

#### Public Availability of Comments

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 23, 2013.

**Michael Thabault,**

*Acting Regional Director, Mountain-Prairie Region, Denver, Colorado.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

**[FWS-R4-ES-2013-N007; 40120-1112-0000-F2]**

#### Receipt of Applications for Endangered Species Permits

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, invite the public to comment on the following applications to conduct certain activities with endangered species. With some exceptions, the Endangered Species Act (ESA) prohibits activities with listed species unless a Federal permit is issued that allows such activities. The ESA requires that we invite public comment before issuing these permits.

**DATES:** We must receive written data or comments on the applications at the address given below, by March 11, 2013.

**ADDRESSES:** Documents and other information submitted with the 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, 1875 Century Boulevard, Suite 200, Atlanta, GA 30345 (Attn: Cameron Shaw, Permit Coordinator).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Cameron Shaw, telephone 904/731-3191; facsimile 904/731-3045.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The public is invited to comment on the following applications for permits to conduct certain activities with endangered and threatened species pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) and our regulations in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 50 CFR part 17. This notice is provided under section 10(c) of the Act.

If you wish to comment, you may submit comments by any one of the following methods. You may mail comments to the Fish and Wildlife Service's Regional Office (see **ADDRESSES** section) or via electronic mail (email) to: *permitsR4ES@fws.gov*. Please include your name and return address in your email message. If you do not receive a confirmation from the Fish and Wildlife Service that we have received your email message, contact us directly at the telephone number listed above (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section). Finally, you may hand deliver comments to the Fish and Wildlife Service office listed above (see **ADDRESSES** section).

Before including your address, telephone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comments, 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 comments to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

**Permit Application Number: TE-91331A**

*Applicant:* Timothy Day, Pensacola, Florida.

Applicant requests authorization to take (capture, mark, translocate and release) Perdido Key beach mouse (*Peromyscus polionotus tryssillepsis*), Choctawhatchee beach mouse (*Peromyscus polionotus allophrys*) and Alabama beach mouse (*Peromyscus polionotus ammobates*) for the purpose of conducting presence/absence surveys and assisting in species recovery efforts. These activities will be conducted in Escambia and Walton Counties, Florida and Baldwin County, Alabama.

**Permit Application Number: TE-91366A**

*Applicant:* Dr. Paul Stewart, Troy, Alabama.

Applicant requests authorization to take (capture, translocate, collect voucher specimens, and release) 68 freshwater mussels species and 17 freshwater fish species in the State of Alabama.

**Permit Application Number: TE-91373A**

*Applicant:* Jonathan Miller, Troy, Alabama.

Applicant requests authorization to take (capture, translocate, collect voucher specimens, and release) 68 freshwater mussels species and 17

freshwater fish species in the State of Alabama.

**Permit Application Number: TE-84054**

*Applicant:* URS Corporation, Franklin, Tennessee.

Applicant requests amended authorization to take (capture, handle, and release) the Etowah darter (*Etheostoma etowahae*) and the Conasauga logperch (*Percina jenkinsi*) for the purpose of conducting presence/absence surveys in Georgia.

**Permit Application Number: TE-94714A**

*Applicant:* Natural Natives Inc., Seneca, South Carolina.

Applicant requests authorization to engage in interstate commerce (sell) 19 listed plant species.

**Permit Application Number: TE-206872**

*Applicant:* Joy O'Keefe, Terre Haute, Indiana.

Applicant requests amended authorization to take (capture, mark, collect tissues, salvage, attach scientific devices and release) Virginia big-eared bats (*Corynorhinus townsendii virginianus*) for the purpose of scientific research. These activities will be conducted within the states of Kentucky, North Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia.

**Permit Application Number: TE-54973**

*Applicant:* North Carolina State University, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Applicant requests renewed authorization to take (capture, hold, propagate in captivity and release) St. Francis Satyr butterflies for the purpose of scientific research and species recovery. These activities will occur in North Carolina.

**Permit Application Number: TE-94728A**

*Applicant:* Environmental Consulting Operations, Benton, Arkansas.

Applicant request authorization to conduct presence/absence surveys on the American burying beetle (*Nicrophorus americanus*) in the State of Arkansas.

**Permit Application Number: TE-95405A**

*Applicant:* Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia.

Applicant requests authorization to take (capture, mark, collect tissues, salvage, attach scientific devices and release) Indiana bats (*Myotis sodalis*) for the purpose of scientific research. These activities will be conducted at Fort Knox, Kentucky, and in Montgomery,

Giles, Pulaski, Bland and Tazewell Counties, Virginia.

**Permit Application Number: TE-95412A**

*Applicant:* Kentucky Department of Environmental Protection, Frankfort, Kentucky.

Applicant requests authorization to take (capture, translocate, collect voucher specimens, and release) 29 freshwater mussels species and 6 freshwater fish species while conducting surveys and scientific research in the State of Kentucky.

**Permit Application Number: TE-86220A**

*Applicant:* Florida Museum of Natural History, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida.

Applicant requests authorization to take (capture, translocate, temporarily house, propagate in captivity, and release) Schaus Swallowtail butterflies (*Heracles aristodemus ponceanus*) in the State of Florida.

Dated: January 31, 2013.

**Jacquelyn B. Parrish,**

*Acting Regional Director.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Bureau of Land Management**

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**Renewal of Approved Information Collection**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** 30-day notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has submitted an information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to continue the collection of information that enables the BLM to monitor compliance with timber export restrictions. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) previously approved this information collection activity, and assigned it control number 1004-0058.

**DATES:** The OMB is required to respond to this information collection request within 60 days but may respond after 30 days. For maximum consideration, written comments should be received on or before March 11, 2013.

**ADDRESSES:** Please submit comments directly to the Desk Officer for the Department of the Interior (OMB #1004-0058), Office of Management and