

Submitting Written Information or Questions

Interested members of the public may submit relevant information or questions for the Council to consider during the public meeting. Written statements must be received by the date above, so that the information may be made available to the Council for their consideration prior to this meeting. Written statements must be supplied to the Council Coordinator in both of the following formats: One hard copy with original signature, and one electronic copy via email (acceptable file formats are Adobe Acrobat PDF, MS Word, MS PowerPoint, or rich text file).

Giving an Oral Presentation

Individuals or groups requesting to make an oral presentation at the meeting will be limited to 2 minutes per speaker, with no more than a total of 30 minutes for all speakers. Interested parties should contact the Council Coordinator, in writing (preferably via email; see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**), to be placed on the public speaker list for this meeting. Nonregistered public speakers will not be considered during the meeting. Registered speakers who wish to expand upon their oral statements, or those who had wished to speak but could not be accommodated on the agenda, may submit written statements to the Council Coordinator up to 30 days subsequent to the meeting.

Meeting Minutes

Summary minutes of the conference will be maintained by the Council Coordinator (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**). They will be available for public inspection within 90 days of the meeting, and will be posted on the Council's Web site at <http://www.fws.gov/whhcc>.

Dated: July 20, 2015.

Stephen Guertin,
Deputy Director.

[FR Doc. 2015-20028 Filed 8-13-15; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[Docket No. FWS-R7-ES-2014-0060; FF07CAMM00 FXES11130700000]

Draft Polar Bear Conservation Management Plan

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of extension of public comment period.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service gives notice that the comment period on the draft Polar Bear Conservation Management Plan will be extended an additional 30 days. Since we announced the availability of the draft plan, we have seen significant public interest and have received a request from the State of Alaska for an extension of time to allow for public input.

DATES: To ensure consideration of your comments in our preparation of the final plan, we must receive your comments and information by September 19, 2015.

ADDRESSES: *Document availability:* The draft Polar Bear Plan is available for viewing at <http://www.fws.gov/alaska/pbrt/> or at www.regulations.gov at Docket No. FWS-R7-ES-2014-0060.

Comment submission: You may submit comments on the draft Polar Bear Plan by one of the following methods:

- *U.S. mail or hand-delivery:* Public Comments Processing, ATTN: FWS-R7-ES-2014-0060, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters, MS: BPHC, 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041-3803; or

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments to Docket No. FWS-R7-ES-2014-0060.

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.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mary Colligan, Chief, Marine Mammals Management, by telephone at 907-786-3800; by U.S. mail at Marine Mammals Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1011 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, AK 99503; or by email at mary_colligan@fws.gov. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 800-877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

In a final rule published in the **Federal Register** on May 15, 2008 (73 FR 28212), we, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, listed the polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) as a threatened

species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA) (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). In the July 6, 2015, **Federal Register** (80 FR 38458), we announced the availability of a draft Polar Bear Conservation Management Plan, which is designed to meet the recovery requirements of the ESA as well as the conservation management goals of the Marine Mammal Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*). We are currently soliciting public comment on this draft plan.

Since we announced the availability of the draft plan, we have seen significant public interest and have received a request from the State of Alaska for an extension of time to allow for public input. Providing additional time for full consideration of the objectives for conserving the polar bear is important to our overall management effort. Therefore, we extend the current 45-day comment period by an additional 30 days. All comments received by the date specified in **DATES** will be considered prior to approval of this plan.

For a description of the polar bear, taxonomy, distribution, status, breeding biology and habitat, and a summary of factors affecting the species, please see the final listing rule (73 FR 28212, May 15, 2008). For information regarding the draft plan, please see the July 6, 2015, notice of availability (80 FR 38458).

Authority

We publish this notice under ESA section 4(f) (16 U.S.C. 1533(f)).

Dated: July 31, 2015.

Karen P. Clark,

Acting Regional Director, Alaska Region, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 2015-20059 Filed 8-13-15; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R4-ES-2015-N086; 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 *September 14, 2015*.

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: James Gruhala, Permit Coordinator).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James Gruhala, 10(a)(1)(A) Permit Coordinator, telephone 404-679-7097; facsimile 404-679-7081.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The public is invited to comment on the following applications for permits to conduct certain activities with endangered and threatened species under 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 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 send them 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**). Finally, you may hand-deliver comments to the Fish and Wildlife Service office listed above (see **ADDRESSES**).

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 Applications

Permit Application Number: TE 125557-2

Applicant: Barbara Allen, Mobile, Alabama

The applicant requests renewal of her current permit to take (monitor, excavate, temporarily retain nestlings, release nestlings) green (*Chelonia mydas*), Kemp's ridley (*Lepidochelys kempi*), and loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*) sea turtles for the purpose of monitoring and protecting nests in Mobile and Baldwin Counties, Alabama.

Permit Application Number: TE 68773B

Applicant: Olivia Munzer, Cardno, Inc., Raleigh, North Carolina

The applicant requests a permit to take (mist-net, harp trap, handle, band, and outfit with radio transmitters) Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), gray bat (*Myotis grisescens*), Ozark big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii ingens*), Virginia big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii virginianus*) and the Florida bonneted bat (*Eumops floridanus*) for the purpose of conducting presence/absence surveys throughout the species respective range.

Permit Application Number: TE 079863-3

Applicant: Michael Gangloff, Boone, North Carolina

The applicant requests renewal of his current permit to take (hand collecting via wading and snorkeling, handle, non-lethal tissue clipping, releasing and translocating) 93 federally listed mollusks for the purpose of presence and absence surveys in the states of Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.

Permit Application Number: TE 088035-1

Applicant: Hilary Swain, Archibald Expeditions, Venus, Florida

The applicant requests renewal of her current permit to take (destroy, remove, harass, restore, and research) the endangered Florida perforate cladonia (*Cladonia perforata*), scrub mint (*Dicerandra frutescens*), snakeroot (*Eryngium cunefolium*), Highland's scrub hypericum (*Hypericum cumulicola*), scrub blazingstar (*Liatrix ohlingerae*), Britton's beargrass (*Nolina brittoniana*), wireweed (*Polygonella basiramia*), sandlace (*Polygonella myriophylla*), scrub plum (*Prunus geniculata*), Carter's mustard (*Warea carteri*), pigeon wings (*Clitoria*

fragrans), scrub buckwheat (*Eriogonum longifolium gnaphalifolium*), and papery whitlow-wort (*Paronychia chartacea*) for the purpose of conducting prescribed burns for habitat management, in the state of Florida.

Permit Application Number: TE 69912B-0

Applicant: John Mikos, Biotech Consulting Inc., Orlando, Florida

The applicant requests a permit to take (capture with live traps, handle, identify, and release) the federally listed Southeastern beach mouse (*Peromyscus polionolus niveiventris*), Perdido Key Beach Mouse (*Peromyscus polionotus trissyllepsis*), Choctawhatchee beach mouse (*Peromyscus polionotus allophrys*), and Anastasia Island beach mouse (*Peromyscus polioinotus phasma*) for the purpose of conducting presence/absence surveys in the state of Florida.

Permit Application Number: TE 040792-4

Applicant: Thomas Mims, United States Forest Service, New Ellenton, South Carolina

The applicant requests a permit to take (translocate, capture, mark, band, and monitor populations and nest cavities) the federally endangered red-cockaded woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*) for the purpose of attaining a viable population of the species in the states of Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, and South Carolina.

Dated: August 7, 2015.

Leopoldo Miranda,
Assistant Regional Director—Ecological Services, Southeast Region.

[FR Doc. 2015-20061 Filed 8-13-15; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

U.S. Geological Survey

[GX15.WB12.C25A1.00]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Request for Comments

AGENCY: U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Interior.

ACTION: Notice of a new information collection, Alaska Beak Deformity Observations.

SUMMARY: We (the U.S. Geological Survey) will ask the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve the information collection (IC) described below. As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of