

nourishment or transported off site for beneficial reuse at other project sites or to the landfill for disposal.

**No Action Alternative**—Under the No Action Alternative, restoration of the estuary would not be implemented. No removal of soil or vegetation would occur to restore or establish habitat within the project site. New or widened channel connections would not be implemented. Periodic removal of sand from the estuary's river mouth could continue to occur under separate approvals, but activities would be restricted to the river mouth and would not extend into the estuary.

#### EPA's Role in the EIS Process

Pursuant to the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) NEPA Regulations (40 CFR 1506.11), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) shall publish a notice of all EISs in the **Federal Register**. The EPA published notification of the DEIS/EIR in the **Federal Register** on August 19, 2022 (87 FR 51090).

Pursuant to section 309 of the Clean Air Act (CAA; 42 U.S.C. 7401 *et seq.*), NEPA, and the CEQ NEPA Regulations (40 CFR 1503.2), the EPA also reviewed and publicly commented on anticipated environmental impacts described in the DEIS/EIR. The EPA's comments, which are provided in Appendix D of the FEIS/EIR, focused primarily on three topics: (1) the need to develop, in coordination with the Southern California Dredged Material Management Team, additional information about the suitability of excavated sediments for placement at nearby beaches; (2) a request for additional information regarding the ongoing tribal consultation process for the project; and (3) a request for additional information to support the conclusions related to environmental justice. Responses to EPA's specific comments are also provided in Appendix D of the FEIS/EIR, and additional supporting documentation requested by the EPA has been incorporated into the appropriate sections of the FEIS/EIR.

In addition to this notice of availability, the EPA will also publish a notice in the **Federal Register** announcing the completion of the FEIS. A Record of Decision identifying the alternative selected for implementation will be published no sooner than 30 days after the EPA announces the availability of the FEIS in the **Federal Register**.

The EPA compiles a repository (EIS database) for EISs prepared by Federal agencies. The EIS database provides information about EISs prepared by Federal agencies, as well as EPA's

comments concerning the EISs. You may search for EPA comments on EISs, along with EISs themselves, at <https://cdxapps.epa.gov/cdx-enepa-II/public/action/eis/search>.

#### NEPA Compliance

On May 27, 2021, the Service published a notice of intent in the **Federal Register** (86 FR 28638) to prepare an EIS/EIR for the TETRP II Phase I project. The notice of availability of the draft EIS/EIR for public review and comment was published in the **Federal Register** on August 19, 2022 (87 FR 51124). A total of six comment letters were received during the public comment period for draft EIS/EIR. Commenters included the EPA, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, County of San Diego, San Diego Audubon Society, and two members of the public. In accordance with 40 CFR 1502.17(b), chapter 8 of the FEIS/EIR includes a summary presenting all alternatives, information, and analyses submitted by State, Tribal, and local governments and other public commenters for consideration by the lead and cooperating agencies in developing the FEIS. The comment letters and responses are provided in Appendix D of the FEIS/EIR. The responses indicate where additional information has been included in the FEIS/EIR in response to the comments received. The FEIS/EIR is available for public viewing (see **ADDRESSES**).

#### Authority

We provide this notice in accordance with the requirements of National Environmental Policy Act and its implementing regulations (40 CFR 1503.1 and 1506.6).

#### Jill Russi,

*Acting Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

[Docket No. FWS-HQ-IA-2023-0046; FXIA1671090000-234-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 May 1, 2023.

#### 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-2023-0046.

**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-2023-0046.

- **U.S. mail:** Public Comments Processing, Attn: Docket No. FWS-HQ-IA-2023-0046; 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:** Timothy MacDonald, by phone at 703-358-2185 or via email at [DMAFR@fws.gov](mailto: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.

*Endangered Species*

Applicant: Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, CA; Permit No. PER0706445

The applicant requests authorization to import up to 60 samples from wild loggerhead sea turtles (*Caretta caretta*), up to 290 samples from wild green sea turtles (*Chelonia mydas*), and up to 1,300 samples from hawksbill sea turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), from Jamaica, for the purpose of scientific research. This notification is for a single import.

Applicant: Fossil Rim Wildlife Center, Inc., Glen Rose, TX; Permit No. PER1200907

The applicant requests to renew their captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for the following species, to enhance the propagation or survival of the species. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Common name	Scientific name
Arabian oryx .....	<i>Oryx leucoryx.</i>
Maned wolf .....	<i>Chrysocyon brachyurus..</i>
Grevy's zebra .....	<i>Equus grevyi.</i>
Przewalski's horse ....	<i>Equus przewalskii.</i>
Hartmann's mountain zebra.	<i>Equus zebra hartmannae.</i>
Cheetah .....	<i>Acinonyx jubatus.</i>
Black-footed cat .....	<i>Felis nigripes.</i>
Red-crowned crane ...	<i>Grus japonensis</i>
Black rhinoceros .....	<i>Diceros bicornis.</i>
Southern white rhinoceros.	<i>Ceratotherium simum simum.</i>

Applicant: Burke Museum of Natural History, Seattle, WA; Permit No. PER0708373

The applicant requests authorization to export and re-import nonliving avian museum specimens of endangered species previously accessioned into the applicant's collection for scientific research. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Zoological Society of San Diego DBA San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance, San Diego, CA; Permit No. PER0884554

The applicant requests the renewal and amendment of their permit to export and re-import non-living museum and herbarium specimens of endangered and threatened species previously legally accessioned into the permittee's collection for scientific research. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Scott Swasey, Alturas, CA; Permit No. PER1322675

The applicant requests a permit to import a sport-hunted trophy of one male bontebok (*Damaliscus pygargus pygargus*) culled from a captive herd maintained under the management program of the Republic of South Africa, for the purpose of enhancing the propagation or survival of the species.

**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.

**Timothy MacDonald,**

*Government Information Specialist, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.*

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