

cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

#### Authority

The Service provides this notice under section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations and the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations (40 CFR 1500–1508 and 43 CFR 46).

#### Scott Sobiech,

Field Supervisor, Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office, Carlsbad, California.

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

[Docket No. FWS–HQ–IA–2024–0095; FXIA16710900000–245–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 July 10, 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–2024–0095.

*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–2024–0095.
- *U.S. Mail:* Public Comments Processing, Attn: Docket No. FWS–HQ–

IA–2024–0095; 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.

*Applicant: Duke University, Durham, NC; Permit No. PER10535315*

The applicant requests authorization to import biological samples acquired from wild chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes*), drill (*Mandrillus leucophaeus*), white-collared mangabey (*Cercocebus torquatus*), and guenons (*Cercopithecus spp.*), for the purpose of scientific research. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 1-year period.

*Applicant: USFWS Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office, Corpus Christi, TX; Permit No. PER10823753*

The applicant requests a permit to import one Kemp's ridley sea turtle (*Lepidochelys kempii*) from Rotterdam Zoo, Rotterdam, Netherlands, for the purpose of enhancing the propagation or

survival of the species. This notification is for a single import.

*Applicant: Saginaw Valley Zoological Society, Saginaw, MI; Permit No. PER10289648*

The applicant requests a captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for African penguin (*Spheniscus demersus*) and cotton-top

marmoset (*Saguinus oedipus*) to enhance the propagation or survival of the species. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

*Applicant: Lowry Park Zoological Society of Tampa Inc., Tampa, FL; Permit No. PER10793987*

The applicant requests to renew a 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
southern white rhinoceros .....	<i>Ceratotherium simum simum</i> .
Hartmann's mountain zebra .....	<i>Equus zebra hartmannae</i> .
African elephant .....	<i>Loxodonta africana</i> .
clouded leopard .....	<i>Neofelis nebulosa</i> .
great Indian rhinoceros .....	<i>Rhinocero unicornis</i> .
African penguin .....	<i>Spheniscus demersus</i> .
Asian tapir .....	<i>Tapirus indicus</i> .
Komodo Island monitor .....	<i>Varanus komodoensis</i> .

*Applicant: Delaware Museum of Nature and Science, Wilmington, DE; Permit No. 184718*

The applicant requests the renewal and amendment of their permit to export and re-import non-living museum 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.

**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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**DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

**Notice of Lodging of Proposed Consent Decree Under the Oil Pollution Act**

On June 3, 2024, the Department of Justice lodged a proposed Consent Decree with the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas in the lawsuit entitled *United States and the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission and the Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment, Division of Environmental Quality, as Agencies of the State of Arkansas v. ExxonMobil Pipeline Company LLC, et al.*, Case No. 4:24-cv-473-KGB.

The United States and the State of Arkansas filed a joint complaint in this action asserting claims under section 1002(a) and (b)(2)(A) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 ("OPA"), 33 U.S.C. 2702(a) and (b)(2)(A), and under State law, against ExxonMobil Pipeline Company LLC and Mobil Pipe Line Company seeking damages for injury to, destruction of, loss of, or loss of use of, natural resources, resulting from the March 29, 2013, discharge of oil from the Pegasus Pipeline into the environment in and around Mayflower, Faulkner County, Arkansas, that migrated to waters, wetlands, and ultimately to Lake Conway. The spill caused impacts to vegetation and sediments, as well to wildlife that were exposed to oil, and the loss of recreational use of Lake Conway. Federal and State natural resource trustees assessed the injuries.

Plaintiffs and Defendants negotiated a Consent Decree that resolves the claims in the complaint. The proposed Consent Decree provides for a total cash payment by Settling Defendants of \$1,755,082. Of

this total, Settling Defendants will pay \$1,300,000 to the Federal and State trustees for use in planning and performing restoration projects to redress the injuries and loss from the spill, \$115,000 to the Federal and State trustees (\$75,000 and \$40,000 respectively) for future oversight costs, and \$340,082 to reimburse the State trustees for past assessment costs.

The publication of this notice opens a period for public comment on the proposed Consent Decree. Comments should be addressed to the Assistant Attorney General, Environment and Natural Resources Division, and should refer to *United States and State of Arkansas v. ExxonMobil Pipeline Company LLC, et al.*, Case No. 4:24-cv-473-KGB, D.J. Ref. No. 90-5-1-1-10862/1. All comments must be submitted no later than thirty (30) days after the publication date of this notice. Comments may be submitted either by email or by mail:

To submit comments:	Send them to:
By email .....	<a href="mailto:pubcomment-ees.enrd@usdoj.gov">pubcomment-ees.enrd@usdoj.gov</a> .
By mail .....	Assistant Attorney General, U.S. DOJ—ENRD, P.O. Box 7611, Washington, DC 20044-7611.

Any comments submitted in writing may be filed by the United States in whole or in part on the public court docket without notice to the commenter. During the public comment period, the Consent Decree may be examined and downloaded at this Justice Department website: <https://www.justice.gov/enrd/consent-decrees>. If you require assistance accessing the Agreement and Order, you may request assistance by