

publishes a Notice, on a weekly basis, identifying unutilized, underutilized, excess and surplus Federal buildings and real property that HUD has reviewed for suitability for use to assist the homeless. Today's Notice is for the purpose of announcing that no additional properties have been determined suitable or unsuitable this week.

Dated: February 19, 1998.

**Kenneth C. Williams,**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Grant Programs.*

[FR Doc. 98-4858 Filed 2-26-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210-29-M

## DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-4322-N-01]

### Statement of Policy on Disclosure of Mortgage Loan Sales Information

**AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary, HUD.

**ACTION:** Notice of FOIA Mortgage Loan Sales Policy.

**SUMMARY:** This notice sets forth the policy of the Department of Housing and Urban Development regarding information that will be provided when responding to Freedom of Information Act requests for information on the Department's Mortgage Loan Sales Program. This notice sets forth that policy and its rationale.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** February 27, 1998.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Irwin P. Rajj, Assistant Managing Attorney, FOIA Division, Room 10250, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 Seventh Street SW, Washington DC 20410; telephone (202) 708-3866 (this is not a toll-free number). Speech or hearing impaired individuals may access this number via TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Information Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The purposes of the Department of Housing and Urban Development's mortgage loan sales program are to (1) reduce losses to the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) fund and provide the greatest return to U.S. taxpayers; (2) reduce the inventory of Department-held mortgages; (3) improve mortgage loan servicing and rental services for residents of projects by returning the mortgage loans secured by these mortgages to the private sector; and (4) improve the servicing of the Department's insured mortgages to minimize losses to the FHA fund. (See, also, the mortgage sales notices

published by HUD in the **Federal Register** on July 14, 1995 (60 FR 36336); July 24, 1996 (61 FR 38467); November 15, 1996 (61 FR 58585); and July 7, 1997 (62 FR 86298, July 7, 1997.)

This notice sets forth the Department's policy pertaining to the release of records regarding those bids that the Department or its contractors have received to date under its mortgage loan sale program. When requested to provide records pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), the Department will produce relevant records in its files including, where available: (1) All potential bidders receiving bid materials; (2) all successful bidders and their successful bids and the mortgage loans attributable to such bids; (3) all unsuccessful bidders and their unsuccessful bids and the mortgage loans attributable to such bids; (4) the aggregate proceeds the Department received from the sale; and (5) the aggregate number of bidders.

Members of the public submitting FOIA requests pursuant to this notice should be advised that many of the original relevant records pertaining to HUD's Mortgage Loan Sales Program were compiled by contractors, and were not in the custody of, or subject to the control of HUD. Therefore, HUD's files may not contain complete records pertaining to mortgage loan sales.

A significant period of time has elapsed between the Department's last mortgage sale and the present. Thus, release of these records does not have material adverse consequences upon the economic interests of the participants of those mortgage sales. Moreover, this policy strikes a balance among the Department's policy of disclosing as much information as possible to the public within the spirit of the FOIA and harm to the U.S. taxpayer by restricting the Department's ability to meet its policy objectives, as stated above, and the mandates of section 203(k) of the Housing and Community Development Amendments of 1978, as amended. See 12 U.S.C. 1701z-11.

Dated: February 20, 1998.

**Nicolas Retsinas,**

*Assistant Secretary for Housing Federal Housing Commissioner.*

[FR Doc. 98-4868 Filed 2-26-98; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Notice of Receipt of Applications for Permit

The following applicants have applied for a permit to conduct certain activities with endangered species. This notice is provided pursuant to Section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531, et seq.):

PRT-839466

*Applicant:* Richard Nelson Beckert, Addison, TX.

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

PRT-838345

*Applicant:* Columbus Zoological Gardens, Powell, OH.

The applicant requests a permit to import one male captive-born Pygmy chimpanzee (*Pan paniscus*) from Zoologico de Morelia, Morelia, Michoacan, Mexico for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species through captive propagation.

PRT-839520

*Applicant:* Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey, Vienna, VA.

The applicant requests a permit to export and reimport captive born Asian elephants (*Elephas maximus*), tigers (*Panthera tigris*), and a leopard (*Panthera pardus*) and progeny of the animals currently held by the applicant and any animals acquired in the United States by the applicant to/from worldwide locations to enhance the survival of the species through conservation education. This notification covers activities conducted by the applicant over a three year period.

PRT-839376

*Applicant:* Jeffrey Covey, Scottsdale, AZ.

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

PRT-839378

*Applicant:* Randolph S. Young, DDS, Yorba Linda, CA.

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

PRT-839359

*Applicant:* Robert H. Karbowski, Bena MN.

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

Written data or comments should be submitted to the Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203 and must be received by the Director on or before March 30, 1998.

Documents and other information submitted with these 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, Office of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203. Phone: (703/358-2104); FAX: (703/358-2281).

Dated: February 23, 1998.

**Mary Ellen Amtower,**

*Acting Chief, Branch of Permits, Office of Management Authority.*

[FR Doc. 98-4988 Filed 2-26-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Endangered Species Permit Applications

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service.

**ACTION:** Notice of receipt of permit applications.

**SUMMARY:** The following applicants have applied for a scientific research permit to conduct certain activities with endangered species pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 USC 1531 *et seq.*).

Permit No. 779910

*Applicant:* William E. Haas, San Diego, California

The applicant requests an amendment to his permit to: take (harass by survey; capture, mark, release; relocate) the southwestern arroyo toad (*Bufo microscaphus californicus*) in Orange, Riverside, San Diego, and Imperial Counties, California; take (locate and monitor nests; capture, band, color-band, release) the least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*) throughout its range; take (harass by survey) the light-footed clapper rail (*Rallus longirostris levipes*) in San Diego County, California; take (capture, measure, and release) the Pacific pocket mouse (*Perognathus longimembris pacificus*) throughout its range; and take (capture, measure, and release) the Stephens' kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys stephensi*) throughout its range in California in conjunction with presence or absence surveys, population monitoring, and ecological research for the purpose of enhancing their survival.

Permit No. 796012

*Applicant:* Foster Wheeler Environmental Corporation, Sacramento, California

The applicant requests an amendment to its permit to take (harass by survey, capture and release, collect voucher specimens) the Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus wootoni*) and San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta sandiegonensis*) throughout the species' range in California in conjunction with presence or absence surveys and scientific research for the purpose of enhancing their survival.

Permit No. 825576

*Applicant:* Richard N. Wales Jr., Tustin, California

The applicant requests a permit to take (capture, measure, and release) the southwestern arroyo toad (*Bufo microscaphus californicus*) in conjunction with ecological research in Orange, Los Angeles, San Diego, San Bernardino, and Riverside Counties, California, for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

Permit No. 804203

*Applicant:* Steve Myers, Riverside, California

The applicant requests an amendment to his permit to take (locate and monitor nests) the least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*) in conjunction with population monitoring and removal of brown-headed cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) eggs and chicks from parasitized nests throughout the species range in California, and take (capture, handle, and release) the San Bernardino kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys merriami parvus*) in conjunction with presence or absence surveys and population monitoring in San Bernardino and

Riverside Counties, California, for the purpose of enhancing their survival.

Permit No. 745541

*Applicant:* Stephen J. Montgomery, San Diego, California

The applicant requests an amendment to his permit to take (capture, handle, and release) the Amargosa vole (*Microtus californicus scirpensis*) in conjunction with life history studies in Inyo County, California, and the Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, Nevada, for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

Permit No. 839480

*Applicant:* Richard Zembal, Laguna Niguel, California

The applicant requests an amendment to his permit to take (harass by survey; capture, band, color-band, and release; collect eggs and capture juveniles; and translocate) the light-footed clapper rail (*Rallus longirostris levipes*) in Orange, San Diego, and Los Angeles Counties, California, in conjunction with ecological research, population monitoring, augmenting existing populations by translocating eggs, and developing a captive breeding protocol at the Chula Vista Nature Center, San Diego, California, for the purpose of enhancing its survival. The ecological and population monitoring were previously authorized under subpermit Zembrl-5.

Permit No. 838091

*Applicant:* Michael S. Cooperman, Corvallis, Oregon

The applicant requests a permit to take (capture, collect, and sacrifice) larvae of the Lost River sucker (*Deltistes luxatus*) and the shortnose sucker (*Chasmistes brevirostris*) in conjunction with ecological research and life history studies in southern Oregon for the purpose of enhancing their survival.

Permit No. 832945

*Applicant:* Lisa M. Kegarice, San Bernardino, California

The applicant requests an amendment to her permit to take (harass by survey) the Delhi Sands flower-loving fly (*Rhaphiomidas terminatus abdominalis*) in conjunction with presence or absence surveys throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

Permit No. 813545

*Applicant:* Brock Ortega, Encinitas, California

The applicant requests an amendment to his permit to take (harass by survey, collect and sacrifice) the Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus wootoni*), San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta*