

to bull trout in all recovery units. Additional objectives may be necessary to achieve recovery in some recovery units, which will be identified in the respective recovery unit chapters.

The draft recovery plan provides criteria to assess whether actions have resulted in the recovery of bull trout. The overall recovery criterion for bull trout in the coterminous United States is that all recovery units meet their criteria, as identified in the recovery unit chapters. Criteria specific to each recovery unit are presented in each draft recovery unit chapter. Individual chapters may contain criteria for assessing the status of bull trout and alleviation of threats that are unique to one or several recovery units. However, every draft recovery unit chapter contains criteria to address the following four characteristics: (1) The distribution of bull trout in identified and potential local populations in all core areas within the recovery unit; (2) the estimated abundance of adult bull trout within core areas in the recovery unit, expressed as either a point estimate or a range of individuals; (3) the presence of stable or increasing trends for adult bull trout abundance in the recovery unit; and (4) the restoration of passage at specific barriers identified as inhibiting recovery.

The draft recovery plan identifies specific tasks falling within the following seven categories as necessary to promote recovery: (1) Protect, restore, and maintain suitable habitat conditions for bull trout; (2) prevent and reduce negative effects of nonnative fishes and other nonnative taxa on bull trout; (3) establish fishery management goals and objectives compatible with bull trout recovery, and implement practices to achieve goals; (4) characterize, conserve, and monitor genetic diversity and gene flow among local populations of bull trout; (5) conduct research and monitoring to implement and evaluate bull trout recovery activities, consistent with an adaptive management approach using feedback from implemented, site-specific recovery tasks; (6) use all available conservation programs and regulations to protect and conserve bull trout and bull trout habitats; and (7) assess the implementation of bull trout recovery by recovery units, and revise recovery unit plans based on evaluations.

#### Public Comments Solicited

We solicit written comments on any aspect of the draft recovery plan described, including the estimated costs associated with the recovery tasks outlined in the implementation schedule in each draft recovery unit

chapter. All comments received by the date specified above will be considered in developing a final bull trout recovery plan.

**Authority:** The authority for this action is section 4(f) of the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. 1533 (f).

Dated: January 27, 2003.

**Anne Badgley,**

*Regional Director, Region 1, Fish and Wildlife Service.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Issuance of Permit for Marine Mammals

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

**ACTION:** Notice of issuance of permit for marine mammals.

**SUMMARY:** The following permits were issued.

**ADDRESSES:** Documents and other information submitted for these applications are available for review by any party who submits a written request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203; fax (703) 358-2281.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Division of Management Authority, telephone 703/358-2104.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On July 5, 2002, a notice was published in the **Federal Register** (volume 67 FR 44873), that an application had been filed with the Fish and Wildlife Service by Charles A. Dorrance for a permit (PRT-058414) to import one polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) sport hunted from the Northern Beaufort Sea polar bear population, Canada, for personal use.

Notice is hereby given that on January 15, 2003, as authorized by the provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, *as amended* (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) the Fish and Wildlife Service issued the requested permit subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

On July 9, 2002, a notice was published in the **Federal Register** (volume 67 FR 45530), that an application had been filed with the Fish and Wildlife Service by William A. Jardel, Jr., for a permit (PRT-054887) to import one polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) sport hunted prior to May 31, 2000, from the M'Clintock Channel polar bear population, Canada, for personal use.

Notice is hereby given that on January 15, 2003, as authorized by the provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, *as amended* (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) the Fish and Wildlife Service issued the requested permit subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

On December 24, 2002, a notice was published in the **Federal Register** (volume 67 FR 78504), that an application had been filed with the Fish and Wildlife Service by Scott B. Vee for a permit (PRT-065351) to import one polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) sport hunted from the Western Hudson Bay polar bear population, Canada, for personal use.

Notice is hereby given that on January 23, 2003, as authorized by the provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, *as amended* (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) the Fish and Wildlife Service issued the requested permit subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

Dated: January 24, 2003.

**Charles S. Hamilton,**

*Senior Permit Biologist, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

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**ACTION:** Notice of Issuance of Permit for Marine Mammals.

**SUMMARY:** The following permit was issued.

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**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Division of Management Authority, telephone (703) 358-2104.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On November 27, 2002, a notice was published in the **Federal Register** (67 FR 70962), that an application had been filed with the Fish and Wildlife Service by David M. McNeil for a permit (PRT-064723) to import one polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) sport hunted from the