

The applicant requests a permit to import six captive born Przewalski's horses (*Equus przewalskii*) from Germany, Switzerland, and Belgium for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species through breeding and reintroduction.

Marine Mammals

The public is invited to comment on the following applications for a permit to conduct certain activities with marine mammals. The applications were submitted to satisfy requirements of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), and the regulations governing marine mammals (50 CFR Part 18). Written data, comments, or requests for copies of the complete applications or requests for a public hearing on these applications should be submitted to the Director (address above). Anyone requesting a hearing should give specific reasons why a hearing would be appropriate. The holding of such a hearing is at the discretion of the Director.

Applicant: Sea World, San Diego, CA, PRT-134585, 134586

The applicant requests permits to take two non-releasable walrus (*Odobenus rosmarus*) for the purpose of public display. The permit numbers and animals are: 134585, Tessa; 134586, Bocce. The animals were recovered as orphaned calves in Alaska in 2004 and 2005. The Service has determined that these animals do not demonstrate the skills and abilities needed to survive in the wild and considers them non-releasable. The applicant is applying for a permit to permanently hold these animals for the purpose of public display.

Applicant: Seattle Aquarium, Seattle, WA, PRT-134587, 134588, 134589, 134590, 134591

The applicant requests permits to take five non-releasable northern sea otters (*Enhydra lutris kenyoni*) for the purpose of public display. The permit numbers and animals are: 134587, Lootas; 134588, Nuka; 134589, Aniak; 134590, Adaa; 134591, Chugach. Lootas was recovered as an orphaned pup in Alaska in 1997. Nuka and

Adaa were rescued as stranded pups in Alaska in 1989 and 2000. Aniak and Chugach were captive born in 2002 and 2005 from rescued parents. The Service has determined that these animals do not demonstrate the skills and abilities needed to survive in the wild and considers them non-releasable. The applicant is applying for a permit to permanently hold these animals for the purpose of public display.

Applicant: Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium, Tacoma, WA, PRT-134592, 134593, 134594, 134595
The applicant requests permits to take three non-releasable northern sea otters (*Enhydra lutris kenyoni*) and one non-releasable walrus (*Odobenus rosmarus*) for the purpose of public display. The permit numbers and animals are: 134592, Toleak; 134593, Homer; 134594, Kenai; 134595, ET. Toleak was recovered as an orphaned pup in Washington in 2005. Homer and Kenai were rescued in Alaska in 1989. The walrus, ET, was rescued as a stranded calf in Alaska in 1982. The Service has determined that these animals do not demonstrate the skills and abilities needed to survive in the wild and considers them non-releasable. The applicant is applying for a permit to permanently hold these animals for the purpose of public display.

Applicant: Oregon Coast Aquarium, Newport, OR, PRT-134596

The applicant requests a permit to take one non-releasable northern sea otter (*Enhydra lutris kenyoni*) for the purpose of public display. Kodiak was rescued as a stranded pup in Alaska in 1989. The Service has determined that this animal does not demonstrate the skills and abilities needed to survive in the wild and considers it non-releasable. The applicant is applying for a permit to permanently hold this animal for the purpose of public display.

Applicant: Buckley V. Chappell, Forney, TX, PRT-127902

The applicant requests a permit to import a polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) sport hunted from the Northern Beaufort Sea polar bear population in

Canada for personal, noncommercial use.

Dated: August 25, 2006.

Monica Farris,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Issuance of Permits

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of issuance of permits for endangered species.

SUMMARY: The following permits were issued.

ADDRESSES: 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: 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: Notice is hereby given that on the dates below, as authorized by the provisions of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), the Fish and Wildlife Service issued the requested permits subject to certain conditions set forth therein. For each permit for an endangered species, the Service found that (1) the application was filed in good faith, (2) the granted permit would not operate to the disadvantage of the endangered species, and (3) the granted permit would be consistent with the purposes and policy set forth in Section 2 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended.

Endangered Species

| Permit No. | Applicant | Receipt of application FEDERAL REGISTER notice | Permit issuance date |
|--|--|--|----------------------|
| 080831, 128998, 128999, 716917, 126707 | George Carden Circus, Intl | 71 FR 37602; June 30, 2006. | August 18, 2006. |
| | Kevin Keith aka Kevin Keith's Primal Instinct .. | 71 FR 37605; June 30, 2006 | August 18, 2006 |

Dated: August 25, 2006.

Monica Farris,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D.082906B]

Notice of Intent to Conduct Public Scoping Meeting and Prepare an Environmental Document for the Stanford University Habitat Conservation Plan, Palo Alto, CA

AGENCIES: Fish and Wildlife Service, (FWS), Interior; National Marine Fisheries Service, (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service (Services) advise interested parties of their intent to conduct public scoping meeting under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) necessary to gather information to prepare an environmental assessment (EA) or environmental impact statement (EIS), (collectively referred to as "environmental document"). The Services anticipate permit applications from Stanford University (Stanford) submitted under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) for the incidental take of federally listed species. The permit applications would be associated with the Stanford University Habitat Conservation Plan (Plan) at Stanford in Palo Alto, CA. We provide this notice to: describe the proposed Plan and possible alternatives; advise other Federal and state agencies, affected Tribes, and the public of our intent to prepare an environmental document; announce the initiation of a public scoping period; obtain information to assist the Services in determining whether to write an EA or EIS; and obtain suggestions and information on the scope of issues to be included in the environmental document.

DATES: A public meeting will be held on September 21, 2006, from 4 to 6 pm. Written comments should be received on or before October 11, 2006.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held on the Stanford Campus at Jordan Hall, 450

Serra Mall, Building 420, Room 040, Stanford, CA. Written comments or questions relating to the preparation of an environmental document and the NEPA process should be addressed to: Ms. Lori Rinek, Chief, Conservation Planning and Recovery Division, Fish and Wildlife Service, Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office, 2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605, Sacramento, CA 95825, facsimile 916-414-6713; Gary Stern, San Francisco Bay Region Team Leader, National Marine Fisheries Service, Santa Rosa Area Office, 777 Sonoma Avenue, Room 325, Santa Rosa, CA 95404, facsimile 707-578-3435; or Stanford.HCP@NOAA.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sheila Larsen, Fish and Wildlife Service or Lori Rinek, Chief, Conservation Planning and Recovery Division, Fish and Wildlife Service, at the address shown above or at 916-414-6600, or Gary Stern, National Marine Fisheries Service, at the address shown or at 707-575-6060.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Section 9 of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1532 *et seq.*) and implementing regulations prohibit the "taking" of fish and wildlife species listed as endangered or threatened. The term "take" is defined under the ESA to mean harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct (16 U.S.C. 1532(19)). Harm is defined by the FWS to include significant habitat modification or degradation where it actually kills or injures wildlife by significantly impairing essential behavioral patterns, including breeding, feeding, and sheltering (50 CFR 17.3). NMFS' definition of harm includes significant habitat modification or degradation where it actually kills or injures fish or wildlife by significantly impairing essential behavioral patterns, including breeding, feeding, spawning, migrating, rearing, and sheltering (64 FR 60727, November 8, 1999).

Section 10 of the ESA specifies requirements for the issuance of incidental take permits (permits) to non-Federal landowners for the take of endangered and threatened species. Any proposed take must be incidental to otherwise lawful activities, not appreciably reduce the likelihood of the survival and recovery of the species in the wild and minimize and mitigate the impacts of such take to the maximum extent practicable. In addition, an applicant must prepare a habitat conservation plan describing the impact that will likely result from such taking,

the strategy for minimizing and mitigating the incidental take, the funding available to implement such steps, alternatives to such taking, and the reason such alternatives are not being implemented. To obtain a permit, the applicant must prepare a habitat conservation plan that meets the issuance criteria established by the Services (50 CFR 17.22(b)(2) and 222.307). Should permits be issued, the permits would include assurances under the Services' "No Surprises" regulations [50 CFR 17.22(b)(5) and 17.32(b)(5)].

Currently, three federally listed species are proposed for coverage under the Plan, and one additional species that may be listed in the future is also proposed to be covered. The federally listed species are the threatened California red-legged frog (*Rana aurora draytonii*), California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*), and steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*). The one unlisted species proposed for coverage is the western pond turtle (*Clemmys marmorata*). Species may be added or deleted during the course of Plan development based on further analysis.

Proposed Plan

Stanford is a major research university that owns 8,180 acres of contiguous land in northern Santa Clara County and southern San Mateo County. These lands consist of both developed and undeveloped areas. Most of the urban facilities, including academic buildings, housing, roads, pedestrian/bicycle pathways, and recreational facilities are located in the central part of the campus. A generally undeveloped "Academic Reserve" outside this core academic area is used for low intensity academic uses. Stanford maintains three open water reservoirs: Lagunita, Felt Lake, and Searsville. Some of Stanford's lands are leased for interim non-academic purposes.

Activities proposed to be covered by the Plan (Covered Activities) are generally activities related to water management, academic uses, maintenance and construction of new urban infrastructure, recreational and athletic uses, campus management and maintenance, activities carried out by Stanford's tenants and future development.

The draft Plan to be prepared by Stanford in support of the permit applications will describe the impacts of take on proposed covered species, and will propose a conservation strategy to minimize and mitigate those impacts on each covered species to the maximum extent practicable. Components of a