

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 |
|--------------|--|--|----------------------|
| 111974 | Danny M. Vines | 70 FR 13416; March 15, 2006 | April 17, 2006 |
| 761887 | American Museum of Natural History | 71 FR 10701; March 2, 2006 | April 14, 2006 |

Dated: May 5, 2006.
Michael L. Carpenter,
Senior Permit Biologist, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.
 [FR Doc. E6-9048 Filed 6-9-06; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Receipt of Applications for Permit

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of applications for permit.

SUMMARY: The public is invited to comment on the following applications to conduct certain activities with endangered species.

DATES: Written data, comments or requests must be received by July 12, 2006.

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 within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice 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:

Endangered Species

The public is invited to comment on the following applications 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.*). Written data, comments, or requests for copies of these complete applications should be submitted to the Director (address above).

Applicant: George T. Markou, Mt. Arlington, NJ, PRT-124778

The applicant requests a permit to import the sport-hunted trophy of one male scimitar-horned oryx (*Oryx dammah*) culled from a captive herd in the Republic of South Africa, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species.

Dated: May 5, 2006.
Michael S. Moore,
Senior Permit Biologist, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.
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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Post Ranch Inn Habitat Conservation Plan, Monterey County, CA

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Post Ranch Limited Partnership (Applicant) has applied to the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) for an incidental take permit pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). The proposed permit would authorize take of the federally endangered Smith's blue butterfly (*Euphilotes enoptes smithi*) and federally threatened California red-legged frog (*Rana aurora draytonii*) incidental to otherwise lawful activities associated with the expansion and operation of an existing inn, which would remove 0.003 acre of Smith's blue butterfly habitat and 0.826 acre of California red-legged frog upland habitat within a 91.98 acre parcel in Big Sur, Monterey County, California.

We invite comments from the public on the permit application, which is available for review. The application includes a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), that fully describes the proposed project and the measures that the applicant would undertake to minimize and mitigate anticipated take of the Smith's blue butterfly and California red-legged frog, as required in section 10(a)(2)(B) of the Act.

We also invite comments on our preliminary determination that the HCP qualifies as a "low-effect" plan, eligible for a categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act. We explain the basis for this possible determination in a draft Environmental Action Statement, which is also available for public review.

DATES: Written comments must be received no later than July 12, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to Diane Noda, Field Supervisor, Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office, 2493 Portola Road, Suite B, Ventura, California 93003. Comments may also be sent by facsimile to (805) 644-3958.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jacob Martin, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, at the above address or by calling (805) 644-1766.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Document Availability

Please contact the Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office (see **ADDRESSES**) if you would like copies of the application, HCP, and Environmental Action Statement. Documents will also be available for review by appointment, during normal business hours, at the Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office (see **ADDRESSES**) or via the Internet at <http://www.fws.gov/ventura>.

Background

Section 9 of the Act and Federal regulations prohibit the "take" of fish or wildlife species listed as endangered or threatened, respectively. Take of listed fish or wildlife is defined under the Act to mean harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct. However, the Service, under limited circumstances, may issue permits to cover incidental take, *i.e.*, take that is incidental to, and not the purpose of, the carrying out of an otherwise lawful activity. Regulations governing incidental take permits for threatened and endangered species are found at 50 CFR 17.32 and 17.22, respectively. Among other criteria, issuance of such permits must not jeopardize the existence of federally listed fish, wildlife, or plants.