

and financial condition and thus affects the integrity of the PHAS score as a measurement of PHA performance;

Because of the way billing cycles work, there will always be some accounts payable. The question should be whether the PHA has the ability to pay off the accounts payable;

The physical indicator scoring system needs to be revised as it deducts points for some deficiencies disproportionately to their importance, and the scoring system should have an easily understandable point value for each deficiency based on a logical standard;

The physical inspection system continues to have numerous flaws including deducting points that are disproportionate to the value of the deficiency, failing to take into account differences in the size of properties and buildings consistently, including irrelevant and redundant deficiencies, and utilizing a complicated scoring system that lacks transparency. Deficiencies whose severity is minor can still be worth a lot of points, because they have high weights and criticality values. Instead of this system, HUD should develop one in which each deficiency is assigned an individual point value based upon a logical standard. The Department should also undertake a review to determine which deficiencies are not necessary and which could be consolidated. The scoring standard should account for proportionality. Unrealistic point deductions and unessential deficiencies should be eliminated.

PHAS in its entirety should be advisory as PHAs need more time to adjust and plan accordingly and the current schedule is unfair. Since it is clear that HUD recognizes the deficiencies in the interim rule, including inadequate training and timing, HUD should make all scores advisory for FY 2011 and 2012. The time allotted by HUD to agencies to meet the new PHAS standards was 24 work days for agencies with a fiscal year ending March 31st and 89 work days for agencies with a fiscal year ending June 30th. PHAs should be allowed one full year to prepare for the entire PHAS;

The entire PHAS protocol needs to be revised and simplified. The accounts payable indicator is unnecessary. The financial indicators do not measure what is most important, and the inspection protocol now well over a decade old is cumbersome, expensive to administer and adds little value to management of property. PHAS can be improved and can be supported with fewer resources. The Department should work more closely with local housing agencies and industry groups to arrive at

a better system that will be more useful and beneficial to housing agencies, residents, HUD and the public. The number of deficiencies should be reduced and similar ones consolidated;

The presence of brand new, more stringent indicators in the Financial, Management Operations, and Capital Fund subsystems (including the occupancy subindicator within the Capital Fund), in conjunction with the lack of time and training made available to housing authorities to learn about the changes in the system, are all cause for making scores issued under the interim rule advisory. Imposing these new standard puts PHAs' reputations at risk;

Having standards apply retroactively is not fair, and the Department in this notice recognizes that fact. This same logic applies to PHAS generally. Numerous other changes, in addition to the Capital Fund occupancy sub-indicator were made, and agencies had no more time to adjust to these changes than they did to the Capital Fund occupancy sub-indicator. This is particularly true with respect to the management indicator;

The scoring system is arbitrary and frustrating to work with and does not give a fair assessment of the condition of the property as it is intended to do. The system is complex and unwieldy, and can lead to excessive deductions for minor issues;

Health and safety deductions are "devastating" because they are worth too many points even if only a small item;

REAC inspectors should not nit-pick minor issues. REAC physical inspectors need to be aware of the cost to a PHA for findings of very little significance. Common sense should be used for the overall evaluation of a property. Major defects and safety issues should be written up—however some inspectors are not giving the property the overall scoring it should receive;

For physical inspections, the REAC inspector should accept all documentation provided by the PHA and then grade according to that. For example, if a PHA has documentation that it does not own a fence that runs along its property line then the inspector should not grade the fence instead of the inspector grading it and then the PHA having to appeal it. This is a waste of everyone's time;

PHAS should emphasize the units, since that is where residents actually live, but the units are only worth 35 percent of the overall score;

There should be ongoing collaboration with the Department in continuing to remedy the major issues in the interim rule;

Since HUD is asking PHAs to act more like private asset managers, the PHAs are asking that HUD do the same with respect to PHAs.

HUD Response: These comments concern matters outside the scope of the notice, which is directed only to a temporary change to the occupancy sub-indicator of the Capital Fund indicator.

Dated: April 5, 2013.

Sandra B. Henriquez,
Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-HQ-IA-2013-N086;
FXIA1671090000P5-123-FF09A30000]

Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permit

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of applications for permit.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, invite the public to comment on the following applications to conduct certain activities with endangered species. With some exceptions, the Endangered Species Act (ESA) prohibits activities with listed species unless Federal authorization is acquired that allows such activities.

DATES: We must receive comments or requests for documents on or before May 13, 2013.

ADDRESSES: Brenda Tapia, Division of Management Authority, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 212, Arlington, VA 22203; fax (703) 358-2280; or email DMAFR@fws.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brenda Tapia, (703) 358-2104 (telephone); (703) 358-2280 (fax); DMAFR@fws.gov (email).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Public Comment Procedures

A. How do I request copies of applications or comment on submitted applications?

Send your request for copies of applications or comments and materials concerning any of the applications to the contact listed under **ADDRESSES**. Please include the **Federal Register** notice publication date, the PRT-number, and the name of the applicant in your request or submission. We will

not consider requests or comments sent to an email or address not listed under **ADDRESSES**. If you provide an email address in your request for copies of applications, we will attempt to respond to your request electronically.

Please make your requests or comments as specific as possible. Please confine your comments to issues for which we seek comments in this notice, and explain the basis for your comments. Include sufficient information with your comments 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. We will not consider or include in our administrative record comments we receive after the close of the comment period (see **DATES**) or comments delivered to an address other than those listed above (see **ADDRESSES**).

B. May I review comments submitted by others?

Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the street address listed under **ADDRESSES**. The public may review documents and other information applicants have sent in support of the application unless our allowing viewing would violate the Privacy Act or Freedom of Information Act. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

II. Background

To help us carry out our conservation responsibilities for affected species, and in consideration of section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), along with Executive Order 13576, “Delivering an Efficient, Effective, and Accountable Government,” and the President’s Memorandum for the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies of January 21, 2009—Transparency and Open Government (74 FR 4685; January 26, 2009), which call on all Federal agencies to promote openness and transparency in Government by

disclosing information to the public, we invite public comment on these permit applications before final action is taken.

III. Permit Applications

A. Endangered Species

Applicant: Saint Louis Zoo, St. Louis, MO; PRT-94882A

The applicant requests a permit to re-export a biological sample from a deceased captive-born Somali wild ass (*Equus africanus somalicus*) that was held at San Diego Zoo until her death on May 3, 2010, for the purpose of scientific research.

Applicant: Centers for Disease Control, Atlanta, GA; PRT-94950A

The applicant requests a permit to import biological samples from wild-born captive held gorillas (*Gorilla gorilla*) in Cameroon for the purpose of scientific research on the incidence of disease.

Applicant: Jonathan Pauli, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI; PRT-94907A

The applicant requests a permit to import biological samples collected from wild Andean condors (*Vultur gryphus*) in Argentina for the purpose of scientific research. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Dark Horse Ent., Fredericksburg, TX; PRT-00453B

The applicant requests a captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for the barasingha (*Rucervus duvaucelii*), Eld’s deer (*Rucervus eldii*), scimitar-horned oryx (*Oryx dammah*), Arabian oryx (*Oryx leucoryx*), addax (*Addax nasomaculatus*), dama gazelle (*Nanger dama*), and red lechwe (*Kobus leche*) to enhance the species’ propagation or survival. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Dark Horse Ent., Fredericksburg, TX; PRT-00452B

The applicant requests a permit authorizing interstate and foreign commerce, export, and cull of excess barasingha (*Rucervus duvaucelii*), scimitar-horned oryx (*Oryx dammah*), Arabian oryx (*Oryx leucoryx*), addax (*Addax nasomaculatus*), dama gazelle (*Nanger dama*), and red lechwe (*Kobus leche*) from the captive herd maintained at their facility, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Larry Johnson, Boerne, TX; PRT-776134

The applicant requests renewal of their captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for the following families, genera, and species, to enhance their propagation or survival. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Families:

Bovidae
Cervidae
Equidae
Tapiridae

Applicant: Michael Tomb, Jackson, LA; PRT-01602B

The applicant requests a permit to import a sport-hunted trophy of one male bontebok (*Damaliscus pygargus pygargus*) 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.

Brenda Tapia,

Program Analyst/Data Administrator,

Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[LLCON06000-L16100000-DP0000]

Notice of Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area Advisory Council Meeting Cancellation and Change of Location

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Public Meeting Cancellation and Public Meeting Change of Location.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (FACA), notice is hereby given that the Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area Advisory Council meeting scheduled for May 1, 2013, at the Delta County Courthouse, Room 234, 501 Palmer Street, Delta, CO, has been cancelled. The location of a subsequent meeting scheduled for May 29, 2013, has been changed from the Mesa County Courthouse Annex, Multi-Purpose Room, 544 Rood Avenue, Grand Junction, CO, to the Bill Heddles Recreation Center, 530 Gunnison River Drive, Delta, CO. Notice of both