

Department's management and administration of the trust assets within a two-year period and offer recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior of how to improve in the future. The Commission will:

- (1) Conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the Department's management and administration of the trust administration system;
- (2) Review the Department's provision of services to trust beneficiaries;
- (3) Review input from the public, interested parties, and trust beneficiaries, which should involve conducting a number of regional listening sessions;
- (4) Consider the nature and scope of necessary audits of the Department's trust administration system;
- (5) Recommend options to the Secretary to improve the Department's management and administration of the trust administration system based on information obtained from the Commission's activities, including whether any legislative or regulatory changes are necessary to permanently implement such improvements; and
- (6) Consider the provisions of the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994 providing for the termination of the Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians, and make recommendations to the Secretary regarding any such termination.

Comprehensive Evaluation

The Commission's purpose is to provide a thorough evaluation of the existing Indian trust management and trust administration system to support a reasoned and factually based set of options for potential management improvements. Grant Thornton LLP in partnership with Cherokee Services Group has been awarded a contract to perform a comprehensive evaluation of the Department's management of the trust administration system in support of the Commission's efforts.

This evaluation will depend on a nationwide information-gathering effort to produce meaningful recommendations. Over the next few months the management consultant will be contacting individuals, tribes, and Interior bureaus and offices to discuss current approaches to trust management and recommendations for improvement. The management consultant will also be assessing past trust reform efforts and capturing current initiatives already underway which contribute to a more effective trust management effort.

The management consultant will be attending the upcoming Indian Trust Commission's meeting in Oklahoma

City and will be available to speak with if you wish to provide input and recommendations. The Commission encourages individuals to take the opportunity to provide Grant Thornton with your perspective on how the trust administration system currently operates. To contact Grant Thornton directly, you may send an email to Trust.Commission@us.gt.com.

Sovereignty Symposium 2013

Members of the Commission have been asked to sit on a panel to discuss the Trust Commission's work and share any draft recommendations regarding trust management and administration, and invite feedback from attendees. Members of the public will need to register separately and pay appropriate registration fees by visiting the Sovereignty Symposium 2013 Web page at www.thesovereigntysymposium.com. The Commission's panel session is scheduled for Thursday, June 6, 2013, from 1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Skirvin Hilton Hotel, One Park Avenue, Oklahoma City, OK 73102. The Commission would like the attendees of the Sovereignty Symposium to be aware that Grant Thornton, the management consultant, will be onsite Thursday, June 6, to interview allottees, beneficiaries, and tribal representatives. The Commission encourages individuals to take the opportunity to provide Grant Thornton with your perspective on how the trust administration system currently operates. To contact Grant Thornton directly, you may send an email to Trust.Commission@us.gt.com.

Public Meeting Details

On Friday, June 7, 2013, the Commission will hold a meeting open to the public. The following items will be on the agenda:

Friday, June 7, 2013

- Invocation
- Welcome, introductions, agenda review
- Commission operations reports and decision making
- Panel session regarding an update on leasing regulations and HEARTH Act implementation
- Gain insights and knowledge from invited speakers and attendees about the trust relationship, other trust models, and trust reform
- Review action items, meeting accomplishments and
- Closing blessing, adjourn

Written comments may be sent to the Designated Federal Official listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section above. All meetings are open to

the public; however, transportation, lodging, and meals are the responsibility of the participating public. To review all related material on the Commission's work, please refer to <http://www.doi.gov/cobell/commission/index.cfm>.

Dated: May 17, 2013.

David J. Hayes,
Deputy Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-HQ-IA-2013-N122;
FXIA16710900000P5-123-FF09A30000]

Endangered Species; Marine Mammals; 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, marine mammals, or both. With some exceptions, the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and [Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA)] prohibit 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 June 21, 2013. We must receive requests for marine mammal permit public hearings, in writing, at the address shown in the **ADDRESSES** section by June 21, 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.*), and the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *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. Under the MMPA, you may request a hearing on any MMPA application received. If you request a hearing, give specific reasons why a hearing would be appropriate. The holding of such a hearing is at the discretion of the Service Director.

III. Permit Applications

A. Endangered Species

Applicant: Thirsty River Ranch, Eden, TX; PRT-05058B

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*), and addax (*Addax nasomaculatus*) 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: Thirsty River Ranch, Eden, TX; PRT-05059B

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: Comanche Spring Ranch, New Iberia, LA; PRT-05055B

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: Comanche Spring Ranch, New Iberia, LA; PRT-05056B

The applicant requests a permit authorizing interstate and foreign commerce, export, and cull of excess barasingha (*Rucervus duvaucelii*) and scimitar-horned oryx (*Oryx dammah*) 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: Yang Li, Philadelphia, PA; PRT-05176B

The applicant requests a captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for the radiated tortoise (*Astrochelys radiata*) to enhance their propagation or survival. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: Zoological Society of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH; PRT-03413B

The applicant requests a permit for the export of bonobo (*Pan paniscus*), two animals, captive bred for the purpose of scientific research. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

B. Endangered Marine Mammals

Applicant: Dr. Graham Worthy, University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL; PRT-056326

The applicant requests renewal of the permit to take captive-held West Indian manatees (*Trichechus manatus*) and tissue specimens from stranded dead manatees for the purpose of scientific research on the physiological ecology of the manatee. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period. Concurrent with publishing this notice in the **Federal Register**, we are forwarding copies of the above applications to the Marine Mammal Commission and the Committee of Scientific Advisors for their review.

Brenda Tapia,

Program Analyst/Data Administrator, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.

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