

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R3-ES-2022-N013; FXES11130300000-223-FF03E00000]

Endangered and Threatened Species; Receipt of Recovery Permit Applications

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of permit applications; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, have received applications for permits to conduct activities intended to enhance the propagation or survival of endangered or threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. We invite the public and local, State, Tribal, and Federal agencies to comment on these applications. Before issuing any of the requested permits, we will take into consideration any information that we receive during the public comment period.

DATES: We must receive your written comments on or before May 20, 2022.

ADDRESSES:

Document availability and comment submission: Submit requests for copies of the applications and related documents, as well as any comments, by one of the following methods. All requests and comments should specify the applicant name(s) and application number(s) (e.g., TExXXXXX; see table in SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION):

Email: permitsR3ES@fws.gov. Please refer to the respective application number (e.g., Application No. TExXXXXX) in the subject line of your email message.

U.S. Mail: Regional Director, Attn: Nathan Rathbun, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services, 5600 American Blvd. West, Suite 990, Bloomington, MN 55437-1458.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nathan Rathbun, 612-713-5343 (phone); permitsR3ES@fws.gov (email). Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), prohibits certain activities with endangered and threatened species unless authorized by a Federal permit. The ESA and our implementing regulations in part 17 of title 50 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) provide for the issuance of such permits and require that we invite public comment before issuing permits for activities involving endangered species.

A recovery permit issued by us under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the ESA authorizes the permittee to conduct

[[Page 23537]]

activities with endangered species for scientific purposes that promote recovery or for enhancement of propagation or survival of the species. Our regulations implementing section 10(a)(1)(A) for these permits are found at 50 CFR 17.22 for endangered wildlife species, 50 CFR 17.32 for threatened wildlife species, 50 CFR 17.62 for endangered plant species, and 50 CFR 17.72 for threatened plant species.

Permit Applications Available for Review and Comment

We invite local, State, and Federal agencies; Tribes; and the public to comment on the following applications:

Application No.	Applicant	Species	Location	Activity	Type of take	Permit action
TE43541A.....	Francesca Cuthbert, Saint Paul, MN.	Piping plover (Charadrius melodus).	IL, MI, NY, PA, WI..	Conduct presence/absence surveys, document habitat use, conduct population monitoring, and evaluate potential impacts.	Capture, handle, release, band, and DNA sample.	Renew.
TE38835A.....	Kim Karn, Grand Rapids, MI.	Karner blue butterfly (Lycaeides melissa samuelis).	MI.....	Conduct presence/absence surveys, document habitat use, and conduct habitat management.	Collect, handle, and loss of habitat.	Renew and Amend.
TE06820A.....	Russel Benedict, Pella, IA.	Gray bat (Myotis grisescens), Indiana bat (M. sodalis), and northern long-eared bat (M. septentrionalis).	IL, IA, MO, NE.....	Conduct presence/absence surveys, document habitat use, conduct population monitoring, and evaluate potential impacts.	Capture, handle, harp trap, radio-tag, and release.	Renew.
TE65859D.....	Benjamin Schuplin, North Royalton, OH.	Gray bat (Myotis grisescens),	AL, AR, CN, DE, FL, GA, IL, IN, IA, KS,	Conduct presence/absence surveys,	Add new activity--radio-tag--to	Amend.

		Indiana bat (M. sodalis), and northern long-eared bat (M. septentrionalis).	KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NH, NJ, NY, NC, ND, OK, OH, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, VT, VA, WV, WI, WY.	document habitat use, conduct population monitoring, and evaluate potential impacts.	existing authorized activities: Capture, handle, and release.
TE69835D.....	Michigan State University, Hickory Corners, MI.	Add: new species-- Mitchell's satyr butterfly (Neonympha mitchellii mitchellii) -- to existing authorized species: Poweshiek skipperling (Oarisma poweshiek).	Add new States--AL, MS--to existing authorized State of MI.	Conduct presence/absence surveys, document habitat use, conduct population monitoring, captive propagate, conduct genomic studies, and evaluate potential impacts.	Add new activity -- Amend. -- to existing authorized activities: Capture, handle, hold, and release.

Public Availability of Comments

Written comments we receive become part of the administrative record associated with this action. 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 request in your comment that we withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Moreover, all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public disclosure in their entirety.

Next Steps

If we decide to issue permits to any of the applicants listed in this notice, we will publish a notice in the Federal Register.

Authority

We publish this notice under section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

Lori Nordstrom,
Assistant Regional Director, Ecological Services.
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