



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R4-ES-2023-N058; FXES11140400000-234-FF04E00000]

Endangered Species; 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 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 written data or comments on the applications by [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*].

ADDRESSES: *Reviewing Documents:* Submit requests for copies of applications and other information submitted with the applications to Karen Marlowe (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**). All requests and comments should specify the applicant name and application number (e.g., Mary Smith, ESPER0001234).

Submitting Comments: If you wish to comment, you may submit comments by one of the following methods:

- *Email (preferred method):* permitsR4ES@fws.gov. Please include your name and return address in your email message. If you do not receive a confirmation from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that we have received your email message, contact us directly at the telephone number listed in **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

- *U.S. mail:* U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Regional Office, Ecological Services, 1875 Century Boulevard, Atlanta, GA 30345 (Attn: Karen Marlowe, Permit Coordinator).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karen Marlowe, Permit Coordinator, 404-679-7097 (telephone) or *karen_marlowe@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: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, invite review and comment from the public and local, State, Tribal, and Federal agencies on applications we have received for permits to conduct certain activities with endangered and threatened species under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and our regulations in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 50 CFR part 17. Documents and other information submitted with the applications are available for review, subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (5 U.S.C. 552a), and the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552).

Background

With some exceptions, the ESA prohibits take of listed species unless a Federal permit is issued that authorizes such take. The ESA's definition of "take" includes hunting, shooting, harming, wounding, or killing, and also such activities as pursuing, harassing, trapping, capturing, or collecting.

A recovery permit issued by us under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the ESA authorizes the permittee to take endangered or threatened species while engaging in activities that are conducted for scientific purposes that promote recovery of species or for enhancement of propagation or survival of species. These activities often include the

capture and collection of species, which would result in prohibited take if a permit were not issued. 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

The ESA requires that we invite public comment before issuing these permits. Accordingly, we invite local, State, Tribal, and Federal agencies, and the public to submit written data, views, or arguments with respect to these applications. The comments and recommendations that will be most useful and likely to influence agency decisions are those supported by quantitative information or studies. Proposed activities in the following permit requests are for the recovery and enhancement of propagation or survival of the species in the wild.

Permit Application Number	Applicant	Species	Location	Activity	Type of Take	Permit Action
ES35594A-5	Alabama Power Company; Birmingham, AL	Canoe Creek clubshell (<i>Pleurobema athearni</i>), Coosa moccasinshell (<i>Medionidus parvulus</i>), ovate clubshell (<i>Pleurobema perovatum</i>), southern acornshell (<i>Epioblasma othcaloogensis</i>), triangular kidneyshell (<i>Ptychobranhus greenii</i>), and upland combshell (<i>Epioblasma metastrata</i>)	Alabama	Presence/probable absence surveys and population monitoring	Capture, handle, identify, tag, release, and collect relic shells	Renewal and amendment
ES237549-3	Cory Holliday; Gainesboro, TN	Gray bat (<i>Myotis grisescens</i>), Indiana bat (<i>Myotis sodalis</i>), and northern long-eared bat (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>)	Tennessee	Presence/probable absence surveys, studies to document habitat use, population monitoring, and white-nose syndrome surveillance	Enter hibernacula or maternity roosts, capture with mist nets or harp traps, handle, identify, band, radio tag, light tag, swab, collect hair samples, wing punch, and release	Renewal
ES80381A-3	Department of Defense (Army); Fort Campbell, KY	Gray bat (<i>Myotis grisescens</i>), Indiana bat (<i>Myotis sodalis</i>), northern long-eared bat (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>), and tricolored bat (<i>Perimyotis subflavus</i>)	Kentucky and Tennessee	Presence/probable absence surveys, studies to document habitat use, and population monitoring	Enter hibernacula or maternity roosts, capture with mist nets, handle, identify, band, radio tag, and release	Renewal and amendment
PER2789344-0	Glenn M. Rohrbach; Nashville, TN	Nashville crayfish (<i>Orconectes shoupi</i>)	Tennessee	Presence/probable absence surveys	Capture, handle, identify, and release	New

ES14105A-3	Breedlove, Dennis, and Associates, Inc.; Winter Park, FL	Red-cockaded woodpecker (<i>Picoides borealis</i>)	Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, and South Carolina	Population monitoring and management	Capture, handle, band, and monitor nest and artificial nest cavities	Renewal
ES37490B-2	Melissa Littrell; Lexington, KY	Gray bat (<i>Myotis grisescens</i>), Indiana bat (<i>Myotis sodalis</i>), northern long-eared bat (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>), and Virginia big-eared bat (<i>Corynorhinus townsendii virginianus</i>)	Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia	Presence/probable absence surveys and white-nose syndrome surveillance	Capture with mist nets or harp traps, handle, identify, band, radio tag, swab, collect hair samples, wing punch, and release	Renewal
ES088889-4	The Nature Conservancy; Kissimmee, FL	Florida scrub-jay (<i>Aphelocoma coerulescens</i>) and red-cockaded woodpecker (<i>Picoides borealis</i>)	Florida	Population monitoring and management	Florida scrub-jay: bait with unsalted peanuts, trap, handle, band, and release; red-cockaded woodpecker: capture, handle, band, construct and monitor artificial nest cavities and restrictors, release, and translocate	Renewal
ES27608B-2	McGehee Engineering	Gray bat (<i>Myotis grisescens</i>), Indiana bat (<i>Myotis sodalis</i>), and	Alabama	Presence/probable absence	Enter hibernacula or	Renewal

	Corporation; Jasper, AL	northern long-eared bat (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>)		surveys and population monitoring	maternity roost caves, capture with mist nets or harp traps, handle, identify, band, radio tag, and release	
ES48579B-5	Ecological Solutions, Inc.; Roswell, GA	Gray bat (<i>Myotis grisescens</i>), Indiana bat (<i>Myotis sodalis</i>), and northern long-eared bat (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>)	Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Vermont,	Presence/probable absence surveys, studies to document habitat use, population monitoring, and white-nose syndrome surveillance	Enter hibernacula or maternity roost caves, capture with mist nets or harp traps, handle, identify, collect hair samples, band, radio tag, light tag, swab, wing punch, and release	Renewal

			Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming			
ES54578B-3	Mary Frazer; Raleigh, NC	Gray bat (<i>Myotis grisescens</i>), Indiana bat (<i>Myotis sodalis</i>), northern long-eared bat (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>), tricolored bat (<i>Perimyotis subflavus</i>), and Virginia big-eared bat (<i>Corynorhinus townsendii virginianus</i>)	Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia,	Presence/probable absence surveys, studies to document habitat use, population monitoring, and white-nose syndrome surveillance	Enter hibernacula or maternity roost caves, capture with mist nets or harp traps, handle, identify, collect hair samples, band, radio tag, light tag, wing punch, and release	Renewal and amendment

			Wisconsin, and Wyoming			
ES119937-5	Susan Loeb; Clemson, SC	Gray bat (<i>Myotis grisescens</i>), Indiana bat (<i>Myotis sodalis</i>), northern long-eared bat (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>), and tricolored bat (<i>Perimyotis subflavus</i>)	Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia	Presence/probable absence surveys, studies to document habitat use, population monitoring, and white-nose syndrome surveillance	Enter hibernacula or maternity roost caves, capture with mist nets or harp traps, handle, identify, band, radio tag, collect hair samples, light tag, wing punch, and release	Renewal and amendment
ES37663B-2	Rebecca Ijames; Central City, KY	Gray bat (<i>Myotis grisescens</i>), Indiana bat (<i>Myotis sodalis</i>), and northern long-eared bat (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>)	Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, Ohio, and Tennessee	Presence/probable absence surveys, studies to document habitat use, and population monitoring	Capture with mist nets, handle, identify, band, radio-tag, and release	Renewal
PER3128179-0	Justin Hoffman, McNeese State University; Lake Charles, LA	Northern long-eared bat (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>) and tricolored bat (<i>Perimyotis subflavus</i>)	Kisatchie National Forest, Louisiana	Presence/probable absence surveys	Capture with mist nets and hand-held mesh nets, handle, identify, and release	New
ES64393C-2	Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc.; Raleigh, NC	Gray bat (<i>Myotis grisescens</i>), Indiana bat (<i>Myotis sodalis</i>), northern long-eared bat (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>), and Virginia big-eared bat (<i>Corynorhinus townsendii virginianus</i>)	Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Illinois,	Presence/probable absence surveys	Capture with mist nets, handle, identify, band, radio tag, and release	Renewal

			Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming			
ES88778B-3	John Lamb; Decherd, TN	Tricolored bat (<i>Perimyotis subflavus</i>)	Tennessee	Presence/probable absence surveys, studies to document habitat use, population monitoring, and white-nose	Enter hibernacula or maternity roost caves, capture with mist nets or harp traps, handle, identify, band, collect hair samples,	Amendment

				syndrome surveillance	radio tag, and release	
ES81353B-2	Stephanie Penk; Sylva, NC	Gray bat (<i>Myotis grisescens</i>), Indiana bat (<i>Myotis sodalis</i>), northern long-eared bat (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>), and tricolored bat (<i>Perimyotis subflavus</i>)	Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming	Presence/probable absence surveys, habitat use and assessment research, population dynamics evaluations, and migration research	Capture with mist nets and harp traps, handle, identify, band, radio tag, and release	Amendment

PER3315996 -0	Dominique DiLandro; Holly Springs, NC	Gray bat (<i>Myotis grisescens</i>), northern long-eared bat (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>), and tricolored bat (<i>Perimyotis subflavus</i>)	Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming	Presence/probable absence surveys, habitat use and roost selection research, and population dynamics studies	Enter roosts (bridges, culverts, and abandoned buildings), capture via mist nets and harp traps, handle, identify, band, radio tag, collect swabs and hair samples, and release	New
ES94704A-4	Dorothy Brown; Arden, NC	Mammals: Carolina northern flying squirrel (<i>Glaucomys sabrinus</i>)	Alabama, Arkansas,	Presence/probable absence	Carolina northern flying	Renewal and amendment

		<p><i>coloratus</i>), gray bat (<i>Myotis grisescens</i>), Indiana bat (<i>Myotis sodalis</i>), northern long-eared bat (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>), tricolored bat (<i>Perimyotis subflavus</i>), and Virginia big-eared bat (<i>Corynorhinus townsendii virginianus</i>); Reptile: Bog turtle (<i>Clemmys muhlenbergii</i>)</p>	<p>Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming</p>	<p>surveys, white-nose syndrome research, studies to document habitat use, population monitoring, and genetic sampling</p>	<p>squirrel: capture, handle, ear-tag, pit-tag, radio-tag, collect fur and tissue samples, and conduct den surveys; Bats: enter hibernacula or maternity roost caves, capture with mist nets or harp traps, handle, identify, collect hair samples, band, pit-tag, radio-tag, light-tag, wing-punch, swab for white-nose syndrome testing, and release; Bog turtle: capture, mark, pit-tag, and radio-tag</p>	
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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 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. 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 a permit to an applicant 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.*).

John Tirpak,
Deputy Assistant Regional Director,
Ecological Services,
Southeast Region.

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