



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R4-ES-2024-N002; FXES11140400000-245-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, via telephone at 404-679-7097 or via email at karen_marlowe@fws.gov. 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 definition of “take” in the ESA 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) of the ESA 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
ES065972-4	U.S. Forest Service; Russellville, AR	Tricolored bat (<i>Perimyotis subflavus</i>)	Ozark-St. Francis National Forests, Arkansas	Presence/probable absence surveys	Enter hibernacula and maternity roost caves; capture, handle, identify, band, radio-tag, and release	Amendment
PER5292605-0	Amanda Miller; Winchester, TN	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 and Tennessee	Presence/probable absence surveys	Capture, handle, identify, band, radio-tag, and release	New
PER5294766-0	Braci Gatlin; Moundville, AL	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, Georgia, Mississippi, and Tennessee	Presence/probable absence surveys	Capture, handle, identify, band, radio-tag, and release	New
ES62026D-3	Catherine Haase, Austin Peay State University; Clarksville, TN	Tricolored bat (<i>Perimyotis subflavus</i>)	Kentucky and Tennessee	Assess bat community structure and habitat use	Capture, handle, identify, band, radio-tag, and release	Amendment
ES02332D-4	Michelle Gilley; Mars Hill, 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>), Virginia big-eared bat (<i>Corynorhinus virginianus</i>), and Carolina northern flying squirrel (<i>Glaucomys sabrinus coloratus</i>)	Bats: Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri,	Bats: Presence/probable absence surveys, studies to document habitat use, and population monitoring; Carolina northern flying squirrel:	Bats: Capture, handle, identify, band, radio-tag, and release; Carolina northern flying squirrel: Capture, handle, identify, radio-tag, and release	Renewal and amendment

			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; Carolina northern flying squirrel: North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia	Presence/probable absence surveys and studies of home ranges, foraging behaviors, and roost tree preferences		
PER5521520-0	Sara Jeanine McLaughlin-Johnson; Kingsport, TN	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, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia	Presence/probable absence surveys	Enter hibernacula and maternity roost caves, capture, handle, identify, band, radio tag, and release	New
PER0037840-1	Cara Rogers; Ypsilanti, MI	Gray bat (<i>Myotis grisescens</i>), Indiana bat (<i>Myotis sodalis</i>), and tricolored bat (<i>Perimyotis subflavus</i>)	Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia,	Presence/probable absence surveys	Capture with mist nets, handle, identify, band, radio-tag, and release	Amendment

			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, Wisconsin, West Virginia, and Wyoming			
ES77472C-1	Streamtechs, LLC; Athens, GA	Amber darter (<i>Percina antesella</i>), blue shiner (<i>Cyprinella caerulea</i>), Cherokee darter (<i>Etheostoma scotti</i>), Conasauga logperch (<i>Percina jenkinsi</i>), Etowah darter (<i>Etheostoma etowahae</i>), and goldline darter (<i>Percina aurolineata</i>)	Georgia	Presence/probable absence surveys	Capture, identify, and release	Renewal

PER5971699 -0	Theresa Wetzel; Lexington, KY	Gray bat (<i>Myotis grisescens</i>), Indiana bat (<i>Myotis sodalis</i>), northern long-eared bat (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>), Ozark big-eared bat (<i>Corynorhinus (=Plecotus townsendii ingens)</i>), tricolored bat (<i>Perimyotis subflavus</i>), and Virginia big-eared bat (<i>Corynorhinus (=Plecotus townsendii virginianus)</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, Wisconsin, West Virginia, and Wyoming	Presence/prob able absence surveys	Enter hibernacula and maternity roost caves; capture, handle, identify, band, radio-tag, collect tissue samples, and release	New
ES97308A-2	John Harris; Scott, AR	Arkansas fatmucket (<i>Lampsilis powellii</i>), Curtis pearlymussel	Alabama, Arkansas,	Presence/prob able absence	Capture, collect tissue swabs,	Renewal and amendment

		<p>(<i>Epioblasma florentina curtisii</i>), fanshell (<i>Cyprogenia stegaria</i>), fat pocketbook (<i>Potamilus capax</i>), Higgins eye (<i>Lampsilis higginsii</i>), Louisiana pearlshell (<i>Margaritifera hembeli</i>), Louisiana pigtoe (<i>Pleurobema riddellii</i>), Neosho mucket (<i>Lampsilis rafinesqueana</i>), Ouachita fanshell (<i>Cyprogenia sp. cf aberti</i>), Ouachita rock pocketbook (<i>Arcidens wheeleri</i>), pink mucket (<i>Lampsilis abrupta</i>), rabbitsfoot (<i>Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica</i>), ring pink (<i>Obovaria retusa</i>), rough pigtoe (<i>Pleurobema plenum</i>), salamander mussel (<i>Simpsonaias ambigua</i>), scaleshell (<i>Leptodea leptodon</i>), sheepnose (<i>Plethobasus cyphus</i>), snuffbox (<i>Epioblasma triquetra</i>), speckled pocketbook (<i>Lampsilis streckeri</i>), spectaclecase (<i>Cumberlandia monodonta</i>), western fanshell (<i>Cyprogenia aberti</i>), and winged mapleleaf (<i>Quadrula fragosa</i>)</p>	<p>Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin</p>	<p>surveys, population estimate surveys, and DNA sampling</p>	<p>release, and salvage relic shells</p>	
ES81202C-1	Michael Maltba; Whitesburg, KY	<p>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>)</p>	<p>Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri,</p>	<p>Enter hibernacula and maternity roost caves, capture, handle, band, radio tag, collect hair samples, wing punch, and light tag</p>	<p>Presence/probable absence surveys and studies to document habitat use</p>	<p>Renewal and amendment</p>

			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			
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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

After the comment period closes, we will make decisions regarding permit issuance. If we issue permits to any of the applicants listed above in this notice, we will publish a subsequent notice in the *Federal Register*. You may locate the notice announcing the permit issuance by searching <https://www.regulations.gov> for the application number listed above in this document. Type in your search exactly as the application number appears above, with spaces and hyphens as necessary. For example, to find information about the potential issuance of Permit No. PER 1234567-0, you would go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and put “PER 1234567-0” in the Search field.

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.*).

Lawrence Williams,
Acting Deputy Assistant Regional Director,
Ecological Services,
Southeast Region.

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