



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R2-ES-2025-N037; FXES11130200000-256-FF02ENEH00]

Endangered Wildlife and Plants; 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, invite the public to comment on the following applications for a permit to conduct scientific research to promote conservation or other activities intended to recover and enhance endangered species survival. With some exceptions, the Endangered Species Act (ESA) prohibits certain activities that may impact endangered species, unless a Federal permit allows such activity. The ESA also requires that we invite public comment before issuing these permits.

DATES: To ensure consideration, please submit your written comments by [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*].

ADDRESSES: *Document availability:* Request documents from the contact in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

Comment submission: Submit comments by email to fw2_te_permits@fws.gov.

Please specify the permit application you are interested in by number (e.g., Permit Record No. PER1234567).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Katie Boyer, Acting Supervisor, Environmental Review Division, by phone at 737-932-1341, or via email at katie_boyer@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:

Background

With some exceptions, the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), prohibits activities that constitute take of listed species unless a Federal permit is issued that allows such activity. The ESA's definition of "take" includes hunting, shooting, harming, wounding, or killing, and also such activities as pursuing, harassing, trapping, capturing, or collecting.

The ESA and our implementing regulations in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at title 50, part 17, provide for issuing such permits and require that we invite public comment before issuing permits for activities involving listed species.

A recovery permit we issue under the ESA, section 10(a)(1)(A), authorizes the permittee to conduct activities with endangered or threatened species for scientific purposes that promote recovery or enhance the species' propagation or survival. These activities often include such prohibited actions as capture and collection. 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

Documents and other information submitted with these applications are available for review by any party who submits a request as specified in **ADDRESSES**. Our release of documents is subject to Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a) and Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) requirements.

Proposed activities in the following permit requests are for the recovery and

enhancement of propagation or survival of the species in the wild. 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. Please refer to the permit record number when submitting comments.

Table 1 – Permit Applications

Permit Record Number	Applicant	Species	Location	Activity	Type of Take	Permit Action
PER23398797	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 2/Ocelot Recovery; Alpine, Arizona	Ocelot (<i>Leopardus pardalis</i>)	Ohio, Texas	Captive propagation, bio-sample	Harass, harm	New
PER23398796	Bruhns, Wanda; Flagstaff, Arizona	Southwestern willow flycatcher (<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>)	Arizona, California, Colorado, New Mexico, Nevada, Texas, Utah	Presence/absence surveys, nest monitoring	Harass, harm	New
PER23188967	Norris, Thomas; Kyle, Texas	Golden-cheeked warbler (<i>Setophaga chrysoparia</i>)	Texas	Presence/absence surveys	Harass, harm	New
PER23249867	Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma; Durant, Oklahoma	Gray bat (<i>Myotis grisescens</i>), Indiana bat (<i>Myotis sodalis</i>), northern long-eared bat (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>)	Oklahoma	Presence/absence surveys, bio-sample	Harass, harm, capture	New
PER22884850	Jenkerson, Jeffrey; San Marcos, Texas	Texas hornshell (<i>Popenaias popeii</i>), Ouachita rock pocketbook (<i>Arcidens wheeleri</i>), Neosho mucket (<i>Lampsilis rafinesqueana</i>), scaleshell mussel (<i>Leptodea leptodon</i>), winged mapleleaf (<i>Quadrula fragosa</i>), dunes sagebrush lizard (<i>Sceloporus arenicolus</i>)	Arkansas, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas	Presence/absence surveys, relocations, trap	Harass, harm, capture	Amend
PER21892107	Vidal, Amanda; Leander, Texas	Golden-cheeked warbler (<i>Setophaga chrysoparia</i>)	Texas	Presence/absence surveys	Harass, harm	New
PER21921910	Lewis, Chancey; Cameron, Texas	Houston toad (<i>Bufo houstonensis</i>)	Texas	Presence/absence surveys	Harass, harm	Renew
PER21485967	Allira, Meagan; Norman, Oklahoma	Gray bat (<i>Myotis grisescens</i>), Indiana bat (<i>Myotis sodalis</i>)	Oklahoma	Presence/absence surveys	Harass, harm, capture	New
PER21344773	Edwards, Christine; St. Louis, Missouri	Texas trailing phlox (<i>Phlox nivalis ssp. Texensis</i>)	Texas	Presence/absence surveys, collection	Harm, collect	Renew
PER21344774	Tetra Tech, Inc. –	Southwestern willow flycatcher	Arizona	Presence/absence	Harass,	Amend

	Tucson; Tucson, Arizona	(<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>)		surveys	harm	
PER21266468	Frey, Jennifer; Radium Springs, New Mexico	New Mexico meadow jumping mouse (<i>Zapus hudsonius luteus</i>), Penasco least chipmunk (<i>Tamias minimus atristriatus</i>)	Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico	Presence/absence surveys, trap, capture, handle, tag, bio-sample	Harass, harm, capture	New
PER21344775	Leonard, Wendy; Helotes, Texas	Golden-cheeked warbler (<i>Setophaga chrysoparia</i>)	Texas	Presence/absence surveys	Harass, harm	Renew
PER21339358	Brown and Gay Engineers, Inc.; Frisco, Texas	Golden-cheeked warbler (<i>Setophaga chrysoparia</i>), lesser prairie-chicken (<i>Tympanuchus pallidicinctus</i>), dunes sagebrush lizard (<i>Sceloporus arenicolus</i>), Houston toad (<i>Bufo houstonensis</i>)	Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas	Presence/absence surveys,	Harass, harm	Renew
PER21344776	Dallas Zoo Management, Inc.; Dallas, Texas	Dunes sagebrush lizard (<i>Sceloporus arenicolus</i>), Houston toad (<i>Bufo houstonensis</i>), Barton Springs salamander (<i>Eurycea sosorum</i>), Texas blind salamander (<i>Eurycea rathbuni</i>)	Texas	Hold, handle, captive rearing, captive propagation, headstarting, captive breeding, educational display, reintroduction	Harass, harm, capture	Renew / amend
PER21894441	Hawks Aloft, Inc.; Albuquerque, New Mexico	Southwestern willow flycatcher (<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>)	New Mexico	Presence/absence surveys	Harass, harm	Renew
PER20350238	Morrison, Michael; Bishop, California	Golden-cheeked warbler (<i>Setophaga chrysoparia</i>)	Texas	Presence/absence surveys, band, trap, handle, nest search, camera monitoring,	Harass, harm, capture	Renew
PER20678521	Forstner, Michael; Seguin, Texas	Houston toad (<i>Bufo houstonensis</i>), Barton Springs salamander (<i>Eurycea sosorum</i>), Austin blind salamander (<i>Eurycea waterlooensis</i>), fountain darter (<i>Etheostoma fonticola</i>)	Texas	Presence/absence surveys, bio-sample, headstarting, reintroduction, translocation,	Harass, harm, capture, kill	Renew / amend

				capture, voucher specimen, captive propagation		
PER20350987	Terrell, Danielle; Austin, Texas	Golden-cheeked warbler (<i>Setophaga chrysoparia</i>)	Texas	Presence/absence surveys	Harass, harm	Amend
PER20285322	Borstein, Samuel; San Marcos, Texas	Leon Springs pupfish (<i>Cyprinodon bovinus</i>), Comanche Springs pupfish (<i>Cyprinodon elegans</i>), fountain darter (<i>Etheostoma fonticola</i>), Big Bend gambusia (<i>Gambusia gaigei</i>), Clear Creek gambusia (<i>Gambusia heterochir</i>), Pecos gambusia (<i>Gambusia nobilis</i>), peppered chub (<i>Macrhybopsis tetranema</i>), smalleye shiner (<i>Notropis buccula</i>), sharpnose shiner (<i>Notropis oxyrhynchus</i>)	Texas	Capture, trap, euthanize, bio-sample, voucher specimen, DNA sequencing	Harass, harm, capture, kill	New
PER22885812	Henson, Jeremy; Round Rock, Texas	Pink mucket (<i>Lampsilis abrupta</i>), fat pocketbook (<i>Potamilus capax</i>)	Arkansas	Presence/absence surveys	Harass, harm, capture	Amend
PER20370275	Joint Base San Antonio; Camp Bullis, Texas	Golden-cheeked warbler (<i>Setophaga chrysoparia</i>)	Texas	Presence/absence surveys, handle, band	Harass, harm, capture	Renew
PER20284844	Buckingham, Matthew; Lufkin, Texas	Houston toad (<i>Bufo houstonensis</i>), Guadalupe fatmucket (<i>Lampsilis bergmanni</i>), Texas fatmucket (<i>Lampsilis bracteate</i>), Guadalupe orb (<i>Cyclonaias necki</i>), Texas pimpleback (<i>Cyclonaias petrina</i>), Balcones spike (<i>Fusconaia iheringi</i>), false spike (<i>Fusconaia mitchelli</i>), Texas hornshell (<i>Popenaias popeii</i>)	Texas	Presence/absence Surveys, salvage	Harass, harm	New
PER21344777	Sonoran Institute; Tucson, Arizona	Gila topminnow (<i>Poeciliopsis occidentalis</i>)	Arizona	Presence/absence surveys, voucher specimen	Harass, harm, capture, kill	Renew
	Texas State University; San	Barton Springs salamander (<i>Eurycea sosorum</i>), Austin blind salamander	Texas	Presence/absence surveys, harry,	Harass, harm,	Renew

	Marcos, Texas	(<i>Eurycea waterlooensis</i>), Texas blind salamander (<i>Eurycea rathbuni</i>), fountain darter (<i>Etheostoma fonticola</i>), Comal Springs riffle beetle (<i>Heterelmis comalensis</i>), Comal Springs dryopid beetle (<i>Stygoparnus comalensis</i>), Peck's Cave amphipod (<i>Stygobromus pecki</i>), diamond tryonia (<i>Pseudotryonia adamantina</i>), Gonzales tryonia (<i>Tryonia circumstriata</i>), phantom tryonia (<i>Tryonia cheatumi</i>), phantom springsnail (<i>Pyrgulopsis texana</i>), Pecos amphipod (<i>Gammarus pecos</i>), Pecos assiminea snail (<i>Assiminea pecos</i>), diminutive amphipod (<i>Gammarus hyallelloides</i>), Coffin Cave mold beetle (<i>Batrisodes texanus</i>), ground beetle (<i>Rhadine exilis</i>), ground beetle (<i>Rhadine infernalis</i>), Helotes mold beetle (<i>Batrisodes venyivi</i>), Kretschmarr Cave mold beetle (<i>Texamaurops reddelli</i>), Tooth Cave ground beetle (<i>Rhadine persephone</i>), Cokendolpher cave harvestman (<i>Texella cokendolpheri</i>), Robber Baron Cave meshweaver (<i>Cicurina baronia</i>), Madla Cave meshweaver (<i>Cicurina madla</i>), Government Canyon Bat Cave meshweaver (<i>Cicurina vespera</i>), Government Canyon Bat Cave spider (<i>Tayshaneta microps</i>), Tooth Cave spider (<i>Tayshaneta myopica</i>), Tooth Cave pseudoscorpion (<i>Tartarocreagris texana</i>), Bee Creek Cave harvestman (<i>Texella reddelli</i>), Bone Cave harvestman (<i>Texella reyesi</i>),		herd, handle, trap, voucher specimen	capture, kill	
--	---------------	--	--	--------------------------------------	---------------	--

PER20454959	Kutz, Julie; Albuquerque, New Mexico	Southwestern willow flycatcher (<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>)	New Mexico	Presence/absence surveys	Harass, harm	New
PER22242412	USDA Forest Service – Carson National Forest; Taos, New Mexico	Southwestern willow flycatcher (<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>)	New Mexico	Presence/absence surveys	Harass, harm	Renew / amend
PER20454960	Bureau of Land Management, Taos Field Office; Taos, New Mexico	Black-footed ferret (<i>Mustela nigripes</i>), New Mexico meadow jumping mouse (<i>Zapus hudsonius luteus</i>), southwestern willow flycatcher (<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>)	New Mexico	Presence/absence surveys, trap, nest monitoring	Harass, harm, capture	New
PER20735572	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation – Phoenix; Glendale, Arizona	Wildlife: Desert pupfish (<i>Cyprinodon macularius</i>), Gila chub (<i>Gila intermedia</i>), spikedace (<i>Meda fulgida</i>), woundfin (<i>Plagopterus argentissimus</i>), Gila topminnow (<i>Poeciliopsis occidentalis</i>), Colorado pikeminnow (<i>Ptychocheilus lucius</i>), Yuma Ridgway's rail (<i>Rallus obsoletus yumanensis</i>), loach minnow (<i>Tiaroga cobitis</i>), razorback sucker (<i>Xyrauchen texanus</i>), southwestern willow flycatcher (<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>); Plants: Pima pineapple cactus (<i>Coryphantha scheeri</i> var. <i>robustispina</i>)	Arizona, New Mexico	Presence/absence surveys, nest monitoring, hold, voucher specimen	Harass, harm, capture, kill	New
PER21273610	Texas State Aquarium; Corpus Christi, Texas	Ocelot (<i>Leopardus pardalis</i>)	Texas	Transport, rehabilitation	Harass, harm, capture	Amend
PER23567771	Nueces County Coastal Parks; Corpus Christi, Texas	Hawksbill sea turtle (<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>), Kemp's ridley sea turtle (<i>Lepidochelys kempii</i>), leatherback sea turtle (<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>)	Texas	Hold, handle, tag, nest searching, egg collection, transport, captive	Harass, harm, capture	Amend

				incubation		
PER21593741	ACI Environmental Consulting; Austin, Texas	Texas hornshell (<i>Popenaias popeii</i>), Texas fatmucket (<i>Lampsilis bracteate</i>)	New Mexico, Texas	Presence/absence surveys, relocations	Harass, harm	Amend

Public Availability of Comments

All comments we receive become part of the public record associated with this action. Requests for copies of comments will be handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, National Environmental Policy Act, and Service and Department of the Interior policies and procedures. 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 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.

Authority

We provide this notice under section 10 of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

Leston Jacks,
Acting Regional Director,
Southwest Region,
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 2026-01250 Filed: 1/22/2026 8:45 am; Publication Date: 1/23/2026]