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## Billing Code 4333–15

### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

#### Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R6-ES-2018-N142; FXES11140600000-190-FF06E00000]

#### 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 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 by [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*].

**ADDRESSES:** *Document availability and comment submission:* Use one of the following methods to request documents or submit comments. Requests and comments should specify the applicant name(s) and application number(s) (e.g., **TE123456**):

- *Email:* permitsR6ES@fws.gov.
- *U.S. Mail:* Marjorie Nelson, Chief, Division of Ecological Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 134 Union Blvd, Suite 670, Lakewood, CO 80228.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kathy Konishi, Recovery Permits Coordinator, Ecological Services, 303–236–4224 (phone), or permitsR6ES@fws.gov (email). Individuals who are hearing or speech impaired may call the Federal Relay Service at 1–800–877–8339 for TTY assistance.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **Background**

The Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*; ESA), 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 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.

<b>Application Number</b>	<b>Applicant, City, State</b>	<b>Species</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Type of Take</b>	<b>Permit Action</b>
TE12174D-0	Joshua M. Allen, Easton, KS	Gray bat ( <i>Myotis grisescens</i> ), Indiana bat ( <i>Myotis sodalis</i> ), northern long-eared bat ( <i>Myotis septentrionalis</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, Wisconsin, and Wyoming	Presence/absence surveys, population monitoring, whitenose syndrome surveillance, and studies to document habitat use	Capture, handle, mark, biosampling, release	New
TE12893D-0	Alisa Halpin	Interior least tern ( <i>Sternula antillarum athalassos</i> )	Nebraska	Presence/absence surveys, nest monitoring	Harassment	New

TE070027-7	University of Nebraska	Interior least tern ( <i>Sternula antillarum athalassos</i> )	Nebraska	Presence/absence surveys, nest monitoring, banding	Capture, handle, harassment	Renew
TE13508D-0	Turner Endangered Species Fund	American burying beetle ( <i>Nicrophorus americanus</i> )	Nebraska, South Dakota	Presence/absence surveys	Capture, handle, harassment	New
TE61451C-1	Amy Hammesfahr	Indiana bat ( <i>Myotis sodalis</i> )	Minnesota	Presence/absence surveys	Capture, handle, mark, biosampling, release	Amend
TE96435A-3	Laura Steger	Southwestern willow flycatcher ( <i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i> )	Colorado	Presence/absence surveys	Harassment	Renew

### ***Public Availability of Comments***

Written comments we receive become part of the administrative record. 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. 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.*).

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**Nicole Alt,**

*Acting Assistant Regional Director,*

*Mountain-Prairie Region.*

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