

a copy of such documents to the following office within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice:

Applicant: Assistant Regional Director, Ecological Services, Fish and Wildlife Service, Southeast Region, Atlanta, Georgia, TE697819-2.

The applicant requests renewal of the existing authorization to take, or remove and reduce to possession, all wildlife and plant species listed as threatened or endangered in 50 CFR parts 17.11 and 17.12, from throughout these species' ranges in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky, Arkansas, Louisiana, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Activities authorized under this permit are for the purpose of enhancement of survival of the species which include but are not limited to collection of seeds, leaves, stems, and rhizomes; capture, release, and tracking using radio telemetry; and habitat disturbance while conducting population surveys and recovery activities.

Applicant: National Park Service-Buffalo National River, Superintendent Ivan D. Miller, Harrison, Arkansas, TE065726-0.

The applicant requests authorization to take (survey, capture, and release) the following endangered bats: Ozark big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii ingens*), gray bat (*Myotis grisescens*), and Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) while conducting presence/absence surveys in caves and abandoned mines. The proposed activities will take place in the Buffalo National River; Marion, Searcy, Baxter, and Newton Counties, Arkansas.

Applicant: John M. Alderman, Aquatic Endangered Species Biologist, Pittsboro, North Carolina, TE065756-0.

The applicant requests authorization to take (survey, capture, release, and collect relict shells) the following species: Tar River spiny mussel (*Elliptio steinstansana*), James spiny mussel (*Pleurobema collina*), dwarf wedgemussel (*Alasmidonta heterodon*), Appalachian elktoe (*Alasmidonta raveneliana*), littlewing pearly mussel (*Pegias fabula*), Waccamaw silverside (*Menidia extensa*), Cape Fear shiner (*Notropis mekistocholas*), and spotfin chub (*Cyprinella monacha*). Take may occur while conducting presence/absence or catch-per-unit-effort surveys. The proposed activities will take place in all river basins in North Carolina and South Carolina.

Applicant: Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, Phil Bass, Pearl, Mississippi TE065948-0.

The applicant requests authorization to take (survey, capture, release, and collect relict shells) the following

species: Cumberland combshell (*Epioblasma brevidens*), southern combshell (*Pleurobema decisum*), oranogenacre mucket (*Lampsilis perovalis*), black clubshell (*Pleuroblema curtum*), southern clubshell (*Pleuroblema decisum*), flat pigtoe (*Pleuroblema marshalli*), ovate clubshell (*Pleuroblema perovatum*), heavy pigtoe (*Pleuroblema taitianum*), inflated heelsplitter (*Potamilum inflatus*), Stirrupshell (*Quadrula stapes*), gulf sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus desotoi*), and bayou darter (*Etheostoma rubrum*). Take may occur while conducting biological assessment activities. All species recognized as threatened or endangered will be released immediately. The proposed activities will take place throughout the state of Mississippi.

Applicant: Environmental Resource Analysts, Inc., Joseph Freda, Auburn, Alabama TE065979-0.

The applicant requests authorization to take (survey, capture, measure, release, and collect relict shells) the following species: eastern indigo snake (*Drymarchon couperi*), purple bankclimber mussel (*Elliptioideus sloatianus*), shiny-rayed pocketbook mussel (*Lampsilis subangulata*), gulf moccasinshell mussel (*Medionidus penicillatus*), and oval pigtoe mussel (*Pleurobema pyriforme*). Take may occur while conducting presence/absence surveys in Clay County, Georgia. All species recognized as threatened or endangered will be released immediately. The proposed aquatic activities will take place in small creeks of the Chattahoochee River, including Drag Nasty Creek, Pataula Creek, Crooked Creek, Sany Branch, and Sandy Creek. Gopher tortoise burrows within the project area will be surveyed to determine the presence of the eastern indigo snake.

Applicant: U.S. Forest Service, Ozark-Saint Francis National Forests, Forest Supervisor, Russellville, Arkansas TE065972-0.

The applicant requests authorization to take (survey, monitor, capture, measure, release, and collect relict shells) the following species: gray bat (*Myotis grisescens*), Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), Ozark big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii ingens*), bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), interior least tern (*Sterna antillarum*), fat pocketbook (*Potamilus capax*), scaleshell (*Leptodea leptodon*), pink mucket (*Lampsilis abrupta*), pallid sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*), cave crayfish (*Cambarus aculabrum*), cave crayfish (*Cambarus zophonastes*), Magazine Mountain shagreen (*Inflectarius magazinensis*), American

burying beetle (*Nicrophorus americanus*), American alligator (*Alligator mississippiensis*), *Geocarpon minimum* (*Geocarpon*), and *Lesquerella filiformis* (Missouri bladderpod). Take may occur while conducting presence/absence surveys and during monitoring and management of the populations. The proposed activities will take place on the Ozark-Saint Francis National Forest; Baxter, Benton, Conway, Crawford, Franklin, Johnson, Lee, Logan, Madison, Newton, Phillips, Searcy, Stone, Van Buren, Washington, and Yell Counties, Arkansas.

Dated: February 21, 2003.

Sam D. Hamilton,
Regional Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Receipt of Endangered Species Recovery Permit Applications

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of permit applications.

SUMMARY: The following applicants have applied for a scientific research permit to conduct certain activities with endangered species pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, solicit review and comment from local, State, and Federal agencies, and the public on the following permit requests.

DATES: Comments on these permit applications must be received on or before April 3, 2003 to receive our consideration.

ADDRESSES: Written data or comments should be submitted to the Chief, Endangered Species, Ecological Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 911 NE. 11th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97232-4181 (fax: 503-231-6243). Please refer to the respective permit number for each application when submitting comments. All comments received, including names and addresses, will become part of the official administrative record and may be made available to the public.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Documents and other information submitted with these applications are available for review, subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act and Freedom of Information Act, by any party who submits a written request for