

(*Podocnemis expansa*) and yellow-spotted river turtles (*Podocnemis unifilis*) from Brazil and or Venezuela as well as return such samples to Brazil and or Venezuela for the purpose of scientific research. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a five-year period.

Applicant: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Laramie, WY, PRT-078822.

The applicant requests a permit to import live specimens, biological samples and salvage materials from captive-bred and/or wild specimens of black-footed ferret (*Mustela nigripes*) from Mexico, to enhance the survival of the species through completion of identified tasks and objectives mandated under the Black-Footed Ferret Recovery Plan. Biological samples and salvaged materials may include, but are not limited to, blood, tissue, feces, hair, whole or partial dead specimens. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a five-year period.

Applicant: George Carden Circus International, Springfield, MO, PRT-070854.

The applicant requests a permit to export and re-import one wild born Asian elephant (*Elephas maximus*) to worldwide locations for the purpose of enhancement of the species through conservation education. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a three-year period and the import of any potential progeny born while overseas.

Dated: October 24, 2003.

Charles S. Hamilton,

Senior Permit Biologist, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Issuance of Permits

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of issuance of permits for marine mammals.

SUMMARY: The following permits were issued.

ADDRESSES: 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 a copy of such documents to: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203; fax 703/358-2281.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Division of Management Authority, telephone 703/358-2104.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that on the dates below, as authorized by the provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the Fish and Wildlife Service issued the requested permits subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

MARINE MAMMALS

Permit number	Applicant	Receipt of application FEDERAL REGISTER notice	Permit issuance date
072829	Thomas M. Taylor	68 FR 40291; July 7, 2003	October 21, 2003.
076061	Jesus Mourra	68 FR 52608; September 4, 2003	October 23, 2003.

Dated: October 24, 2003.

Charles S. Hamilton,

Senior Permit Biologist, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force Northeast Regional Panel Meeting

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting of the Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Task Force Northeast Regional Panel. The meeting topics are identified in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** Section.

DATES: The Northeast Regional Panel will meet from 12 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 11, 2003, and 8:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. on Friday, December 12, 2003. Minutes of the meeting will be available for public inspection during

regular business hours, Monday through Friday.

ADDRESSES: The Northeast Regional Panel meeting will be held at the Kellogg Environmental Center, 500 Hawthorne Avenue, Derby, CT 06418. Phone 203-734-2513. Minutes of the meeting will be maintained by the Executive Secretary, Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force, Suite 810, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Arlington, Virginia 22203-1622.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Susan Snow-Cotter, 671-626-1202 or Sharon Gross, Executive Secretary, Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force, at 703-358-2308, or by e-mail, at sharon_gross@fws.gov

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. I), this notice announces a meeting of the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force Northeast Regional Panel. The Task Force was established by the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990. The Northeast Regional Panel was established on July 25, 2001, to advise and make recommendations to the

Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force on issues relating to the Northeast region of the United States. Geographically, the Northeast region is defined to include the jurisdictions of the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, and New York. The Northeast Regional Panel will discuss several topics at the meeting including: Updates from provinces and states; status reports from subcommittees on Ballast Water, Communication, Education, and Outreach, Policy and Legislation, and Science and Technology; the New England rapid assessment planning; updates on early detection and rapid response workshop and data management; ANS criteria for listing, establishing research priorities for invasive species in the Northeast, future training and workshop, and outreach project for the non-English speaking community; updates from the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force and National Invasive Species Council on national issues, reauthorization of the National Aquatic Invasive Species Act; updates on the development of a