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January 10~~2~~, 2012 Revised

(revisions underlined)

**Final Rule for Addax, Dama Gazelle and Scimitar-Horned Oryx**

Dear Rancher,

On January 5, 2012 the USF&WS published its Final Rule governing the breeding and taking/culling of addax, dama gazelle and scimitar-horned oryx. The exemption from permitting is being eliminated and the same two permits (Captive Bred and TAKE) that apply to barasingha, Arabian oryx, Eld's deer and red lechwe will apply to the three. The effective date is April 4. The purpose of this email is to help you with that change.

This letter is being sent to you on behalf of Conservation Force, Dallas Safari Club, Houston Safari Club, The Conklin Foundation and Texas Wildlife Association with **the intent of obtaining the permits for everyone in the community before the April 4, 2012 effective date of the regulation.**

Without the necessary permit, after April 4 it will be illegal to transfer or attempt to transfer one of the species out of state for commercial purposes or to take (hunt or cull) or attempt to take one of the animals. A permit will not be necessary to sell or trade wholly within the state, but certainly will be necessary to hunt. Commercial ~~Transfer~~ interstate and any form of taking/hunting is a "prohibited activity," thus a serious violation of law if the ranch owner does not have the necessary permits. If knowingly committed, the violation ~~would~~could be a felony. Conducting hunts before April 4 that are part of herd management continues to be lawful, but the purposeful killing off of a ranch herd is not. Ranchers would be ill advised to kill off their herds and should avoid that appearance.

If you already have a "Captive Bred" permit and/or a "TAKE" permit for barasingha, Eld's deer, Arabian oryx or red lechwe, then you merely have to file an application to amend your existing permit to include the new species. That application is attached as Attachment No.1 and is entitled *Reissuance, Renewal or Amendment of Permit*, Form 3-200-52. The USF&WS fee to amend the captive bred permit is \$100 and to amend the take permit is \$50. An Annual Report (Attachment No.6) must be attached but those are due soon anyway.

If you don't already have permits that you can simply amend, then you must file for the permits to conduct the prohibited activities. Applications for both are attached, Attachment No.2 (CAPTIVE BRED WILDLIFE Registration - CBW) and No.3 (TAKE OF ANIMALS). A Captive Bred permit is necessary to trade a listed species from state to state. A rancher must have both permits to conduct hunts of the species.

The permits cover the whole herd on the ranch. A separate permit is not necessary for each animal bred, sold or hunted. The hunter does not need a permit, i.e. he hunts and transports within the United States on the rancher's TAKE permit for the ranch herd.

The **Captive Bred** permit is now for five (5) (recent change) years and the **TAKE** permit is for one (1) year. If a renewal application is received by the USF&WS more than 30 days before its expiration date, then it

continues in effect until it is renewed or denied. On the other hand, ~~if the date of expiration passes before USF&WS receives the renewal application, if~~ renewal is requested less than 30 days before the expiration date then you cannot use the ~~expired~~ permit ~~past its expiration date~~ until it is renewed by the USF&WS. Avoid such gaps in coverage by filing to renew the permit or permits at least 30 days before expiration. A Renewal Application is attached, Attachment No.4, and is the same form as No.1 used to amend permits.

For a **TAKE** permit you must pledge to direct 510% or more of the gross price of the animal hunted to a suitable project in the country of origin of the species that enhances its survival or perpetuation in the wild. Those projects already exist and are maintained by Conservation Force. Conservation Force's leadership in IUCN on its Deer and Antelope Specialist Groups facilitates those 100% pass-throughs to key projects in the countries of origin.

Some pointers: You should attach one or more photographs to show there is some protective cover on your property. The diagram of the property should be drawn on an aerial map. A printed Google map is ideal for that (<http://maps.google.com>). On the **Take of Animals** application, Section G.7.d. asking for how the activities will enhance or benefit the wild population, you should state that you "pledge to contribute 510% or more of the revenue for each animal taken to Conservation Force's Ranching for Restoration Program."

We suggest you fax or email a PDF of your application(s) to Conservation Force at 504-837-1145 or [email@conservationforce.org](mailto:email@conservationforce.org) as soon as possible (early this week, if not today) so that we can proofread it and assist you. This is a free public service primarily provided by Conservation Force, the cost of which is being shared by the above-named organizations to facilitate this transition. An Authorization of Representation is also attached (Attachment No.5). Every effort will be made to file the applications and amendments within a week to protect your ownership interests and management options even though permits, periodic reporting and proof of enhancement of the species in the wild are now to be required. We tried to do this in advance but the USF&WS had asked us to wait until the Final Rule was decided.

This assistance should not suggest that every effort is not also being made to overturn or modify the Final Rule or improve the permitting process. This is a conservation effort for the species and a service to those who will ultimately determine the fate of the ranch herds while our other efforts to contend with the listings are continuing unabated.

Call John J. Jackson, III of Conservation Force at 504-837-1233 if there are any questions, but please complete the attached applications today.

Sincerely,



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John J. Jackson, III  
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