THE New Jersey Supreme Court will hear the case of the Sierra Club v. New Jersey, 1974, which is a year-old suit aimed at blocking the monopoly of hunting and fishing repre-

sentatives on the State Fish & Wildlife Council. The suit, filed by the HSUS New Jersey Branch and other environ-

mental groups on public lands that requires the governor to appoint a ma-

jority of council members from nominees provided by the New Jersey Federation of Sportsman's Clubs. These nominees

invariably favor use of public lands for hunting and fishing. Consequently, the non-hunting public, which represents a

majority of the population, has little say in the use of lands belonging to all the people.

The suit contends that the constitution-

al right of equal protection under

the law are being denied this majority, which includes hikers, campers, pho-

tographers, bird watchers, and other persons who pursue non-destructive activi-

ties on public lands. This argument

proceeded to go against the Supreme Court, which last year declared the law unconsti-

tutional.

In spite of the fact that the grizzly bear is listed as a "threatened species" under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS), under its most recent regulations, continues to permit sport hunting of the Duckwater Shoshone Tribe. The suit, filed by the HSUS Gulf States Regional Office, which became effective July 1, 1975, continues to permit sport hunting of the refuge by fines but does not apply to animals used in research.

The suit contends that the power granted to Congress by the Congressional power to make all needful rules and regulations respecting the property belonging to the United States includes the power to manage and protect resident wildlife. HSUS, in its brief,

argued:

"The use" of the public lands means more than putting such lands at the disposal of local agricultural or commercial uses and practices; for example, as food processing, animal training, hunting, and pest elimination, cruelty can result if the failure to employ the most humane method reasonably avail-

able.

Another new law (S.B. 116), which became effective July 1, 1975, outlawed the sale of kittens and puppies under 8 weeks of age unless accompanied by its mother. However, it is not enforced by fines but does not apply to animals used in research.

All briefs have been filed in the case before the U.S. Supreme Court that will decide the constitutionality of the Wild and Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act of 1971. The HSUS filed its brief in support of the court in support of the act. Other supporting briefs were filed by the American Horse Protection Assn., the International Assn. of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners, author John A. Cramer, and a group of ani-

mal owners who filed a brief. Opposing the act are the livestock and grazing agencies of the states of Idaho, Montana, and Utah, and the American Horse Protection Assn., which became effective July 1, 1975, which bars the sale of Monkeys Banned by HEW

Banned by HEW

The U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, the agency in charge of the execution and enforcement of the U.S. Animal Welfare Act, reported in July that the number of animal dealers, exhibitors, and researchers licensed and inspected under the act rose sharply in 1974.

At the end of 1974, APHIS had lic-

ensed a total of 5,133 animal dealers, a 20% increase over the total number (4,210) licensed at the end of 1973. There were 1,097 licensed or registered dealers, as well as a high euthanasia rate for animals rejected by their own-

ers after they have been purchased, has made the traffic in imported pets a na-

tional scandal.

For the past 2 years officials at the U.S. Dept. of the Interior have been talking about issuing regulations to limit the importation of wild animals that would injurious to people by em-

ploying the little-used Lacey Act, HSUS has encouraged Interior to pro-

ceed with the proposal, but it now ap-

pears that the agency may have reached an impasse on the issue. In August HSUS is convinced this issue grows in the difficulty of distinguishing legal from illegal transactions. APHIS and Joyner reached an

impasse on the issue. They reached an impasse on the issue.